

Is 2024 the year we unlock Alnternal Communications?

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Annual performance reviews are so 2023. In 2024, if you're not strategising ways to create a more connected, engaged, and empowered workforce, powered by Al and driven by hyper-personalisation and real-time feedback, you're speaking to the past, not the future. It's time to look ahead to get ahead.



Think back 10 years, then just two. Remember how often you used the words "feedback", "engagement" or "experience" when speaking about employees? Exactly. In the ever-evolving and fast-changing landscape of internal communications, staying ahead of the curve is not a strategy; it's a necessity.

As we kick-off the new year, the dynamics of workplace communication are poised for a seismic shift, with the convergence of AI, immersive technologies, and a people-centric approach set to redefine the way we connect, engage, and inspire employees to bring their best selves to work.

Understanding the trends driving this is key to creating internal communications strategies that speak to 2024 and beyond.

Internal communications trends that will start redefining workplace interactions:

1. **Al-driven insights**: The use of Al in internal communications is not new, but its potential to decode the intricate landscape of employee sentiments is reaching new heights.

Using advanced algorithms to sift through vast datasets and provide real-time insights into the collective mood of the workforce is coming. In fact, decoding employee sentiments and leveraging AI to analyse communication patterns and employee sentiments will become a game changer.

Not only will this empower companies to respond proactively, addressing concerns before they escalate, it will enable them to take steps to enhance overall employee satisfaction.

And in a world where talent retention is as critical as recruitment, understanding and addressing the pulse of the workforce is paramount.

2. Chatbots: Want to foster a culture of accessibility while breaking down hierarchical barriers? Enter the Chatbot.

Integrating Al-driven chatbots into internal communication platforms can empower employees to access information, resolve queries, and receive updates whenever, and wherever they need them. This not only streamlines communication but also makes information more accessible to more people, on demand.

3. **Real-time feedback loops**: The days of annual, even quarterly performance reviews are numbered. A recent Gallup survey revealed that 70% of employees would work harder if they felt their efforts were recognised in real-time.

So it's no surprise that real-time feedback loops, facilitated by Al-driven systems, will become the norm.

This kind of instant feedback enables employees to course-correct more quickly, while fostering a culture of continuous improvement and agility within organisations.

4. **Hyper-personalisation**: In a world where personalisation is king, connecting on a "deeper" level with your employees will become the norm. By tailoring messages to individual preferences and work styles you can create a more intimate connection between employees and the brand.

And when you start using AI algorithms to anticipate what content resonates most with each team member, suddenly you move beyond communications to conversations.

5. **Inclusive language AI**: In the future, AI will play a pivotal role in promoting inclusivity. Advanced language models will be programmed to detect and rectify biased language, ensuring that internal communications reflect a commitment to diversity and inclusion.

It's not just about words, it's about creating a workplace where everyone feels seen and heard.

6. **Video-first culture**: From CEO updates to team achievements, visual storytelling will be the preferred medium for Internal Communications going forward.

A video-first culture not only caters to the short attention spans of the digital era and new digital-first generations but also adds a personal touch, making leaders more relatable and communication more impactful.

7. **Employee Generated Content (EGC)**: In the TikTok era of user-generated content, the old model of top-down communication is fast-fading. Employee-generated content continues to take the spotlight, empowering team members to share their experiences, ideas, and even achievements.

This not only fosters a sense of ownership but also enriches the organisational narrative with diverse perspectives and alternative narratives.

8. **Gamification**: How do you turn mandatory and mundane work tasks into engaging challenges? Gamification. By injecting an element of gamification into internal communications, you can leverage fun elements like points, badges, and leader boards to add a layer of competition and motivate employees to participate in company-wide initiatives. It's a win win.

When and how these trends become the norm in your organisation ultimately depends on you. The key, of course, is to make sure that your internal communications strategy knows how to strike a balance between human engagement and Al efficiency in a way that resonates with your people, workplace culture, and business strategy.

Because, at the end of the working day, these tools will only be as effective as the strategy that drives and supports them to connect, engage and empower your people.

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