



Reimagining the workplace for a new collaboration era

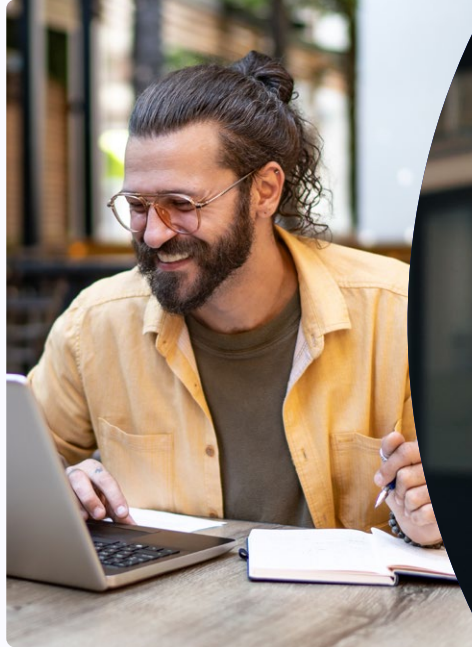
6 ways to transform collaboration experiences by connecting spaces, places and interfaces.





Hybrid working has become the standard. Organisations now need to create environments that feel seamless and consistent, wherever work happens. At the same time, this shift creates an opportunity to rethink how office space is used – focusing on delivering experiences people can't get at home and making the workplace a magnet rather than a mandate.

With the right design, technologies and support, today's workspaces can become flexible, collaborative environments that support greater productivity and minimise friction. They can also strengthen inclusivity by better meeting the needs of different employees, while helping organisations retain talent and reinforce culture.





Connecting spaces, places and interfaces

To optimise the working environment, wherever that may be, organisations must connect spaces, places and interfaces. These should be designed around people, delivering frictionless experiences that adapt to user needs, and engineered for business, with data-driven operations that improve the use of energy, assets and space.



At Computacenter, we define collaboration environments:

Spaces

The physical and digital environments where work happens, including the office, home or the coffee shop. The working experience should be frictionless and connected, regardless of the space.

Places

A space with a meaning; where culture and connection happen. Employees might choose to go to the office to collaborate or work from home to focus, or for in-depth work.

Interfaces

The digital layer that connects people to spaces and to each other. Interfaces should be intuitive and inclusive to support meeting equity.

When spaces, places and interfaces are seamlessly connected, organisations can maximise efficiency, enhance experiences and ensure everyone feels equally included.





Here are 6 ways organisations can transform employee experiences with connected spaces, places and interfaces:

1 Make the commute worth it

Most employees no longer travel to the office for routine tasks, but they come in for connection, collaboration and experiences they simply can't get at home. Before they commit to the commute, they want to know that it's worth it. This means knowing who else will be in, which spaces are available and that the environment will support the kind of work they need to do. Organisations need to give people a compelling reason to return and make it easy to plan a purposeful day in the office.

Computacenter helps organisations use Microsoft solutions to deliver this. For example, with Microsoft Places, employees can see which teammates plan to be in on a given day and reserve desks or rooms that are best suited to their work. This removes uncertainty, reduces wasted trips and gives them confidence that their day will be productive.

Employees may also choose to attend meetings in person for a more personal experience and the chance to connect informally with colleagues afterwards. With Computacenter and Microsoft Teams Rooms, organisations can transform meeting rooms into inclusive, high quality collaboration spaces, with features such as front row layouts, intelligent cameras and spatial audio, which are not usually available to employees at home.

As AI capabilities advance, planning the workday is set to become even more seamless. Integration across calendars, locations, bookings and analytics will automate reservations for desks, collaboration spaces, parking and travel, reducing friction and helping employees focus on the work that matters.



2

Improve inclusivity and meeting equity

Employees have different needs, preferences and working styles, and office spaces should be designed so everyone feels comfortable and able to contribute. This means creating workspaces that support the full range of neurodiversity, with lighting, acoustic and environmental controls, and ensuring the right resources are available for people with hearing or visual impairments. Then, every employee can focus and participate in ways that work for them.

Computacenter and Microsoft help organisations design work and collaboration spaces that meet these needs, ensuring everyone can hear and be heard in a meeting, whether they're in the room or joining remotely. Microsoft Teams Rooms and Teams include capabilities such as captions, audio optimisation and intelligent video framing to support meeting equity and reduce barriers to participation. Microsoft Copilot further enhances accessibility with transcription, summaries and live translation, while reducing meeting admin by generating agendas, capturing action and providing clear, concise next actions.



3

Eliminate inconsistent experiences

Global organisations struggle with inconsistent room standards, varying audio and video quality and fragmented systems. These issues can slow people down, waste time and leave employees feeling frustrated. They can also undermine the effectiveness of AI tools, as even the best transcription or meeting intelligence features rely on high quality audio and video to work properly.

Computacenter helps organisations address this by standardising room designs using Microsoft Teams Rooms, ensuring every space has the right mix of equipment to deliver a consistent, reliable experience. With unified collaboration through Teams and coordinated scheduling via Microsoft Places, organisations can create a seamless end-to-end experience that works the same way in every location.

Computacenter's Meeting Rooms as a Service helps organisations achieve and maintain these consistent standards from day one. With a predictable monthly cost and ongoing support, performance stays high.





4

Keep pace with the speed of technological change

Collaboration platforms and meeting room systems are rapidly evolving, especially as AI capabilities accelerate. For many organisations, it's challenging to keep up with constant updates, new integrations and emerging features.

Computacenter and Microsoft provide an integrated ecosystem across Teams, Teams Rooms, Microsoft Places and Microsoft 365, giving organisations a stable foundation that can evolve without disruption. Through its advice on collaboration strategies and managed meeting environments, Computacenter helps organisations stay adaptable, ensuring technology aligns with business priorities. With visibility into the latest collaboration tools and Microsoft's future roadmap, Computacenter can guide organisations on how to stay future-ready and make informed decisions about where to invest next.

5

Address digital skills and training gaps

Deploying new technology doesn't automatically lead to successful adoption. Without the right support, employees can miss out on valuable features, become frustrated or use tools inconsistently across teams. This challenge becomes even more significant with Copilot and other AI capabilities, which offer huge potential, but only when people understand how to integrate them into their daily workflows.

Computacenter provides structured training and clear communication to ensure collaboration tools enhance productivity rather than add complexity. Computacenter works directly with employees with practical guidance on how to use Microsoft technologies effectively, and provides assets such as quick-start guides and longer documentation to help people embed use of these solutions in their everyday work.



6

Continuously measure and redesign

Employee needs evolve quickly, and workplaces should evolve with them. To ensure every space is used effectively and every requirement is met, organisations need to track and understand how their rooms, collaboration spaces and digital interfaces are actually being used day to day.

Computacenter helps organisations build this insight through employee surveys, experience measurement and analytics solutions that track room usage and optimise space allocation.

Microsoft Places adds a greater layer of intelligence by analysing room utilisation based on both booking intent and actual occupancy. It highlights no-show rates, booking patterns and whether rooms are the right size or consistently over or under used. Using this data, organisations can identify the causes of ghost meetings – when a room is booked, but nobody turns up – and zombie meetings – when people turn up, but no room has been booked.

As well as providing organisations a data-driven view of how well their spaces support the way people really work and where they may benefit from redesign or reallocation, these insights also support sustainability reporting by highlighting opportunities to reduce energy consumption.



Bringing it all together for better collaboration experiences

Bringing these elements together creates a workplace where people can collaborate with confidence, whether they're in the office, at home or somewhere in between. By combining Microsoft's integrated ecosystem with Computacenter's expertise in design, deployment, training and ongoing optimisation, organisations can build environments that are consistent, inclusive and ready for the rapid pace of technological change. The result is a modern workplace that supports every employee's needs, makes the commute worthwhile and helps retain talent.



Get in touch

To find out more about how Computacenter can help your organisation connect spaces, places and interfaces to create experiences that bring people together, please contact your Computacenter Account Manager, call **01707 631000** or email **enquiries@computacenter.com**



Computacenter is a leading independent technology and services provider, trusted by large corporate and public sector organisations. We are a responsible business that believes in sustainable long-term value creation. We help our customers to source, transform and manage their technology infrastructure to deliver digital transformation, enabling people and their business. Computacenter plc is a public company quoted on the London Stock Exchange (CCC.L) and a member of the FTSE 250. Computacenter employs over 21,000 people worldwide. www.computacenter.com

