

Press release TUM TALK IN HEILBRONN

"TUM. Think • Understand • Manage":

The skilled workforce of the future - a myth?

Discussions about a four-day work week, the shift from an employer market to an employee

market, and great uncertainties about whether Al-based systems will turn our everyday work-

ing lives upside down or cost jobs: these are topics that have dominated the headlines in recent

months. After the turmoil of the coronavirus pandemic, for one thing, the job market has reor-

dered itself, in terms of both the attractiveness of industries and the expectations of employees.

In many cases, employees are expected to work at eye level rather than in a hierarchy, and to

be flexible rather than rigidly structured. At the same time, demographic change is reducing

the number of people entering the labor market; at the same time, the number who will soon

leave it is increasing. Last but not least, technological advances mean that some jobs may

become redundant in the future and others will change fundamentally.

This interplay and juxtaposition of developments makes the question of the skilled workforce

of the future ever more pressing, and not just for medium-sized family businesses. Company

managers and HR experts are challenged to find alternative strategies for attracting, retaining

and training employees. In doing so, they must carefully consider which facts are relevant for

their own company, their own industry, their own region - and where myths from the media,

providers or consulting circles only cause more unrest.

Finding sustainable ways to secure a skilled workforce is a task for society as a whole, one

that is equally challenging for politics, business and science. At the Technical University of

Munich, too, numerous researchers are involved in developing and testing innovative ap-

proaches in interdisciplinary projects, and then taking them into the economy together with

companies.

All information is also available for download at https://www.chn.tum.de/who-we-are/press.

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