# The Office Of The Future Has Arrived

New facility helps "anywhere advisors" envision how they can harness technology to get on the path to high performance\*

It's sometimes easy to forget just how far technology has come and how it has transformed the way many financial services professionals manage their businesses today. While it may seem otherwise, many of the

gadgets, applications, and social media tools that have become part of advisors' daily work lives didn't even exist 10 years ago. These include the iPhone® (released in 2007), Android™ devices (2008) the iPad® (2010), Facebook® (2004) and Twitter® (2006).

Given the transformative power of technology, forward-thinking advisors and home office professionals may want consider how they can better harness existing and evolving technology both now and in the future. To make it easier to envision this future, Fidelity Institutional recently unveiled its "Office of the Future" at Fidelity's Smithfield, Rhode Island campus.

Fidelity's Office of the Future provides an opportunity to get a firsthand look at how technology that already exists can help advisors enhance their interactions with clients and employees. The office in Smithfield includes four rooms that each demonstrate different ways in which technology trends are impacting the industry. These trends include mobile communications, pervasive video, evolving interfaces, cloud computing, social media, big data and gamification (which applies game-design interactions to nongame applications to make them more fun and engaging). Those who

go.fidelity.com/officeofthefuture.

are unable to take a physical tour can view a virtual tour of the Office of the Future at

"Investors today expect technology woven into everything they do, and that includes their financial advice," says Ed O'Brien, senior vice president and head of platform technology at Fidelity Institutional. "For advisors, using technology is not about abandoning what they do so well, which is providing financial advice. It's about finding that sweet spot that brings together human touch with technology. With Fidelity's Office of the Future, we show advisors how to do that."

Most advisors today understand that technology is critical to their efforts to engage with younger clients and prospects, as well as older clients. According to a recent Fidelity Insights on Advice<sup>1</sup> research study, 66 percent of advisors believe that technology is becoming a key part of their strategy for success. Likewise, the investors that many advisors are trying to attract, which includes those from Generation X (born between 1965 and 1979) and Generation Y (born after 1980), also agree that technology is important for effective communication, collaboration, and accessibility.

- \*The theme "on the path to high performance" is not intended to connote investment returns.
- 1. The 2013 Fidelity® Insights on Advice study was an online, blind survey (Fidelity not identified) fielded during the period of August 8–21, 2013. Participants included 813 advisors from across multiple firm types who work primarily with individual investors and manage a minimum of \$10 million in individual or household investable assets. Firm types included a mix of banks, broker-dealers, independent broker-dealers, insurance companies, regional broker-dealers, RIAs, and wirehouses, with findings weighted to reflect industry composition.

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> Ed O'Brien, Senior Vice President and Head of **Platform Technology** at Fidelity Institutional



The Office of the Future provides an opportunity to see how the latest technology innovations can be implemented today. Whether you visit in person or watch the virtual tour, you will be guided through four rooms, each of which highlights innovative technologies that allow today's "anywhere advisor" to work smarter, with increased efficiency and collaboration:

## **The Briefing Room**

Here visitors will get an overview of the tour and how technology is being implemented at the office, at home or on the go. Specific tools showcased in the briefing room include:

#### **Panoramic Teleconferencing Cameras**



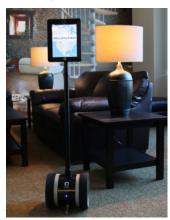
These cameras offer a 360-degree high-definition view of live video or presentations. They mimic a person's panoramic vision and ability to control what they see, allowing for a more immersive, realistic experience for remote users. This allows people in remote locations to feel that they are "in the room" as an active participant in meetings.

## **Gesture Interface Controllers**



These devices enable users to navigate their computers by using hand or body motions, rather than a keyboard or mouse, allowing for a more natural user interface. This offers the potential to deliver presentations that are more dramatic and engaging and makes it easier to engage with a computer and a client at the same time.

## **Telepresence Robots:**



These mobile video-conferencing robots allow you to roam your office freely from a remote location, interacting with employees and clients much as you would if you were there in person. This allows you to be "present" in an office while you are physically at another location, which helps increase your geographic reach and accessibility.

**Tabletop Tablets** 



These larger screen tablet computers (usually 18 inches or more) combine features of a PC desktop, a tablet and even a coffee table into one machine. Their flat orientation allows multiple users to operate the device and makes it easier for advisor teams to access information and collaborate on client presentations and reports. They are also ideal for "gamification" programs targeted to Gen X/Y clients and their colleagues, which use game-playing features to make presentations and training more fun and compelling.

#### The Home Office

Advances in cloud computing allow advisors to conduct much of their business from the comfort of a home office or to deliver their advice directly to

clients' living rooms. Specific tools showcased in the home office include:

#### Smart TVs with Videoconferencing



Televisions that are capable of connecting to the Internet and to home or office computers enable you to provide large-screen videoconferences. These screens can also be used for training purposes or as a more affordable option to traditional teleconferencing services. They also enable your clients to attend meetings with you from the comfort of their own homes.

## The Collaborative Office

According Fidelity *Insights on Advice* research, 63% of advisors believe that recent technology developments have helped make their relationships with clients more collaborative. The Office of the Future showcases technology that eases this collaboration, including:

**Workspace Pods** 



These modular workstations allow you to seat three or more people around their perimeter. This allows users to collaborate and communicate more freely while optimizing office space. Users can also plug in their own portable hardware into these workstations.

## **Enhanced Displays**



These large display screens feature Ultra High Definition (UHD) resolution that makes it easier to read text and financial information on-screen. These screens create a crisper, more realistic viewing experience, with touch-screen capability. This enables you to offer a more immersive experience in presentations and videoconferencing. The touch screen allows you to create an interactive white board-type experience for presentations and training.

## HD Video production studio



An in-house studio allows you to create and deliver high-definition video programs to clients and employees. This may allow you to have more control over costs, quality, timing and content of production. An in-house studio may reduce your production time and enable you to create more video content that can be tailored to specific client and employee needs.

#### **Mobile Zone**

Today's "anywhere advisor" can be productive from virtually any location that offers an Internet connection. The Office of the Future demonstrates tools that enable you to transform any location into a fully functioning work environment, including:

## Wearable Technology Devices



This category includes eyeglasses and watches that have smartphone features, such as Internet search, voice controls, data storage and "augmented reality" projections. These devices can be synched with smartphones or tablets to receive email messages and phone calls. By providing a lightweight, wearable computer right in front of your eyes or on your arm, you may be able to access data and communicate with clients and colleagues more easily.

**Electronic Keyboards** 



These Bluetooth enabled, pocket-sized projectors produce a virtual keyboard that you can use on any flat surface. This allows you to convert almost any area into a desktop-like workstation. The added portability can help make it easier to update documents and presentations and conduct research on the go without having to lug around a laptop.

**Electronic Pens** 



Bluetooth-enabled "smart" pens can turn your handwriting into digital files, along with the ability to share these notes with others as PDF files. These pens can also turn handwritten notes into reminders,

calendar events and contacts on your mobile devices. An audio feature synchronizes with the handwriting feature to enable you to play audio by tapping on handwritten notes. This may be an excellent tool for those who write faster than they type on a mobile device.

**Tabletop Tablet Bot** 



These small robots are designed to hold an iPad® or tablet device and serve as a mobile telepresence device. They can be controlled via smartphones and are highly portable. Because they are significantly smaller than full-size telepresence robots, clients may find them less intimidating.

### **Schedule Your Tour**

If you plan to be in the Boston or Providence area, please reach out to your Fidelity Relationship Manager to schedule your tour of Fidelity's Office of the Future.

Otherwise, take a virtual tour at go.fidelity.com/officeofthefuture and contact your Fidelity Relationship Manager with any additional questions about how you can harness technology to get your firm on the path to high performance.



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