iBusiness

We live in a world where Technology is no longer a buzz word, or something that is only reserved for Businesses. Technology is all around us, integrated into our daily lives. The shrill sound of an Alarm clock in the morning has been replaced by a more electronic sound, or if it suits you better, your favorite song. The traditional newspaper is being replaced by Apps that can be downloaded to your phone, to get the latest news by the push of a button. The adoption of new technology into our daily lives has happened so fast, and without us giving much thought to it. But what does this mean for the future?

Recently, schools have started implementing the use of Ipad's into their teaching curriculum. For the school goers, the adoption of the technology is immediate, as technology is something that has always been there. Instead of lunging around a 2 ton School-case, pupils can now happily showcase the cover of their Ipad. Instead of making summaries about the days work after school, pupils can now take highlighted class notes and transform them into Flash Cards. Teachers can give the class notes directly to students, and information can be explored in a new, interactive way.

When this generation enters the Market place, the Business world would already have transformed into something we can hardly start imagining now. Technology would probably be more than just three-dimensional, and more than just intelligent. This means that Businesses would need to start changing, and changing fast. In the famous words of Charles Darwin, "It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to change." Business Organisations would need to breed a culture of adaptability, not only to survive, but to thrive. Tom Davenport defines corporate culture in Management Review as "the DNA of an organization, invisible to the naked eye, but critical in shaping the character of the workplace. It controls the form and function of what the organization ends up being." To change the culture of a company is not a process that can be done overnight. Managers and Supervisors are the ones that need to identify the need for change, and then lead this change. It is therefor critical to understand our role as leaders, or change agents, in these rapidly changing times. As Change Agents, we need to adopt faster, smarter, and work harder to drive the exiting new way of thinking and doing Business.

By Lindy Hartzenberg