

Empowered JAPAN Executive Steering Committee was established in 2018, "To realize a world where everyone can work and learn, from anywhere, at anytime." To promote the true value of workstyle innovation including telework, the committee has been coordinating symposiums in both Tokyo and regional cities. And in collaboration with various local governments, Microsoft, and partners, the committee has been serving as an advisor to provide telework training for both corporate and individuals. In response to the spread of infection of corona virus (COVID-19) and the government announcement on February 25, 2020, which included the request to citizens to telework, the steering committee made the decision to launch a series of free webinars starting from March 17, 2020, to provide practical information for individuals and organizations across the nation, to telework and/or practice online education.

Category: IT tools and environment

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Speaker:

Shuichi Mine

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Business Group, Service Planning

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Mr. Mine is from Fukuoka. He entered Saga University in 2014. He developed and verified the product as a part-time job at Optim Saga Head Office while he was in school. After graduating from University, joined Optim Tokyo head office. From the initial phase of his career, he has been involved in product planning such as Optimal Biz, a mobile device management service. Also he holds seminars regarding workstyle innovation and regular study sessions with partner companies. He shares extensive knowledge of MDM / Optimal Biz.

Introducing MDM to teleworking terminals / Introducing to Optimal Biz / Optimal Biz Remote

OPTIM Corp. has a head office on the Saga University campus. This is the first attempt in Japan for a company listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange to set up a head office within a national university. Mr. Mine, who had been working part-time at OPTIM since he was a student at the university, joined them as a full-time employee after graduation, and has been working for corporate sales of the Optimal Biz tool ever since. Optimal Biz is an MDM (Mobile Device Management) tool and has a No. 1 share in Japan.

Currently, telework is spreading rapidly and has various benefits, however, there are also risks in using smartphones and laptops outside the company, Mr. Mine pointed out. MDM is a mechanism that reduces the risks and takes appropriate measures in case of an emergency.

"There are three main risks: information leakage when a device is lost or stolen, unauthorized use of unsafe apps or websites unrelated to work, and high device maintenance costs. Although these risks may also occur inside the company, the chances are higher when the device is used outside. If a list of customers is leaked, it will be shared on the Internet and cause a serious problem." (Mr. Mine)

In order to solve these issues and provide a safe telework environment for both employees and the administrator, it is crucial to have MDM. Optimal Biz is a low-cost MDM tool that can be installed on your device.



Empowered JAPAN Webinar Report

According to Mr. Mine, Optimal Biz has four main features: information leakage measures, device function restrictions, application

management, and terminal setup.



"The first feature against information leakage includes the Password Policy Setting, Remote Lock, Remote Wipe, etc. We know information leakage can be prevented by turning on the screen lock of a terminal, however, sometimes a user does not set a password or uses a simple password. With Optimal Biz, the administrator can set the length and complexity of passwords, and operations when the user fails to unlock." (Mr. Mine)

Remote Lock is a feature that locks the terminal from the Optimal Biz administrator site, and similarly, Remote Wipe can initialize the terminal and delete data from the same site. Note that the user cannot cancel these features.

The second feature is the device function restriction. The user can only use apps that are authorized by the administrator.

"It is called whitelisting. For example, the Apple Store can be hidden on an iPhone. However, the administrator may be overwhelmed with many requests for adding certain apps, which are required for working, from employees. If you want to avoid such a situation, you can try blacklisting instead. With this setting, the administrator can set apps to block beforehand. A list of apps installed on each terminal can be viewed from the Optimal Biz administrator site." (Mr. Mine)

The third feature is application management and primarily used for distributing apps. It allows the administrator to distribute apps required for work to each terminal at once, and even silent installation is available.

The last feature is terminal setup, which allows the administrator to setup Wi-Fi, proxy, VPN, etc. in a large number of terminals at once. With this feature, the cost of management can be reduced.

If a user and the administrator want to share the screen of each terminal, install Optimal Biz Remote. It allows the administrator to remotely support those who do not have advanced IT skills. Also, the administrator can view and delete a document that the user is currently creating. "This is not a teleworking example, but I've heard that a client in the construction industry was sharing a blueprint on his/her terminal with a site foreman." (Mr. Mine)

Currently, OPTiM is providing the Optimal Biz app for free for a limited time as a measure against the spread of COVID-19. The app can be installed on up to 100 devices per corporation and used as a cloud-type service that does not require server installation. We wish the tool can help you to achieve safe, secure, and comfortable telework.