

## Grading Spaces: U.S. Workers Give Their Offices, Cubicles a 'C+'

### *Logitech Survey Shows There's Plenty of Room for Improvement in Personal Workspace*

**FREMONT, Calif. - March 1, 2004** - While corporate office workers may be expected to do extraordinary work, most rate their workspace as rather ordinary - or in some cases, much worse. A new Logitech (Nasdaq: LOGI) business survey, conducted by Connecticut-based Directive Analytics, asked 1,003 U.S. office workers to grade their workspace design - 42 percent rated their cubicle or office as a "C," while another 10 percent scored it a "D," and 4 percent said their space was a complete failure with an "F." Only 6 percent of the respondents gave their space an "A" rating.

Those surveyed spend an average of 37.5 hours a week in their workspace, whether in an office, cubicle or shared space. In all, office workers gave their respective spaces a 2.3 Grade Point Average. Not exactly honor-roll worthy.

"Whether because of clutter, lack of personal input, or poor computer systems, U.S. office workers are often displeased or see room for improvement with the state of their workspace," said Brenda Batenburg, senior manager of market research for Logitech. "With a little more control of layout and furniture - and some better computer systems and peripherals - workers tend to feel happier and even more valued. The overall design of the workspace is critical when considering just how much time people spend in their workspace, and what's expected of them."

Of those who graded their workspace as a "C" or below, 59 percent of them said they would feel more valued by their employers if they had more say in defining their work environment. The vast majority of workers - 84 percent - said their comfort level in the workspace could be improved.

Other notable findings include:

- On average, those surveyed spend 14.2 hours more per week in their workspace than in their living room/family room, and 65 percent say the overall design of their workspace is of equal importance to the design of their living room/family room.
- According to the study, 7 percent went so far as to say their desk was a safety hazard; 6 percent were embarrassed by their space; another 9 percent wouldn't want their mother to see where they work; and 3 percent dread going to work because of the condition of their space.
- Nearly half of women surveyed (46 percent) and 32 percent of men said their emotional state was closely tied to the condition of their workspace.

- Lack of privacy proved to be the No. 1 annoyance (43 percent) in the personal workspace, while 24 percent noted too many cords on the desktop as bothersome.
- Only 24 percent of respondents said they felt their workspace was an accurate representation of themselves, 25 percent said they have little or no ability to change their workspace, while 78 percent said it is important to be able to personalize their workspace.
- Productivity was closely tied to the condition of the workplace, as 60 percent of respondents (and 70 percent of women) said they feel more productive when their workspace is clean/tidy.
- Paper is the biggest cause for clutter in the workplace (61 percent), while file folders (36 percent) and cords from computer peripherals (35 percent) rank among the top clutter-causing agents.
- Twenty-three percent of respondents said they would like more control in choosing their computer peripherals, while 30 percent want more input in choosing their computer system.

Logitech is conducting a cubicle makeover contest during March. Grand-prize winners will receive personalized advice from a professional design consultant and a prize package of equipment and furniture worth \$530. Five second-prize winners will receive a suite of Logitech products with a retail value of \$300. To enter, participants can visit [makeover.logitech.com](http://makeover.logitech.com) to complete an online questionnaire about the state of their workspace, then register to win.

### **About this survey**

This survey was conducted by Directive Analytics and fielded to 1,003 members of the Greenfield Online Internet-based research panel. The respondents were screened to work at least 30 hours per week in a corporate setting, and all use a computer at work.

### **About Logitech**

Founded in 1981, Logitech designs, manufactures and markets personal interface products that enable people to effectively work, play, and communicate in the digital world. With corporate headquarters through its U.S. subsidiary in Fremont, California, and regional headquarters through local subsidiaries in Switzerland, Taiwan and Hong Kong, Logitech International is a Swiss public company traded on the Swiss Stock Exchange (LOGN) and in the U.S. on the Nasdaq National Market System (LOGI). The company has manufacturing facilities in Asia and offices in major cities in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific.