



Steve Sawtell  
President

## Voice & Data Systems Reports on Growth of Millennials in Workforce

*Leader in Business Community  
Educates Businesses on Working with  
Millennials*

Omaha, Ne And Council Bluffs, IA — July 28, 2016 — Voice & Data Systems, a leader in unified communications, is educating business owners on the best way to work with millennials in the modern workplace. As baby boomers continue to retire, younger generations have begun to flood the workplace, bringing a different set of values, codes of conduct and expectations. In order for business owners to achieve higher levels of success, they need to know how to effectively collaborate with a generation that is much different than theirs. While many business owners are quick to dismiss millennials as a passing notion, they may want to take a serious look at how this transition will affect their company. According to Time Magazine, “By 2025, 3 out of every 4 workers globally will be millennials.” This staggering statistic points to the heightened importance to understand the mindset of these young individuals who will one day become the driving forces behind the success of small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) across the nation.

“Due to the nature of the technology industry, we spend a significant amount of our time working with millennials,” states Steve Sawtell, President of Voice

& Data Systems. “We continue to see more and more of them entering the workforce, which can either be a blessing or a burden. They have a different set of ideals, a different upbringing and different view of the future. The key is to understand how to work with them, and unleash their potential to dramatically enhance the profitability of your organization.”

In order to get the most from millennials, it’s important to understand some of the key differences in mindset. In the rest of this article, Voice Smart Networks shares a few of their key recommendations to implement in order to keep millennials performing at their highest possible levels.

**Focus on mentorship, not authority.** In virtually every facet of life, millennials experienced a flat culture. From participation trophies in childhood sports to an excess of group assignments in school, millennials are increasingly unresponsive to hierarchical structures. Instead of focusing on authority to drive performance, focus on leading with mentorship. Most millennials are used to constant feedback and are looking for role models to pave the way for their future.

**Reward them in their way.** While other generations place significant value on financial success, millennials are motivated

differently. For example, millennials are leading the charge against the 9-to-5 workday with hopes of taking their work back from home or with them on the road. With more businesses making the shift to adapt to some form of telecommuting environment, consider what options you have to increase employee flexibility. With an abundance of cloud computing programs and tools available, there’s virtually no reason to deny these options for many jobs. Consider how these types of flexible arrangements could make a positive impact in the lives of your millennial staff members, and the positive ripple effects throughout the rest of your company. Instead of the annual raise, perhaps remote work agreements with a flexible work schedule will be the “bonus” of the future.

**Only Ask for Their Opinion When You Really Want It .** Millennials aren’t shy about sharing their ideas with corporate leadership. They’re just as comfortable walking into the CEO’s office and telling him “how we should fix things,” as they are reading an email on their smartphone. They’re used to speaking up, speaking out and being blunt with their communication. While this can be abrasive to some, consider this, the level of their informality in communication is a signal of trust.

In other words, the *less formal they are with you, the more they trust you*. This goes for internal operations as well as sales environments. Instead of being offended by their bluntness, view it as a shortcut to the heart of the matter from their perspective.

“There’s no doubt that working with millennials can be challenging,” states Sawtell. “However, the same can be said about individuals from virtually every generation. As leaders in the business community, our job is to learn how to speak their language so that *everyone* on the team can orchestrate their efforts in the same

direction. Our goal with this piece is to assist our fellow business owners, so they can increase their productivity and ultimately, their bottom line.”

### **About Voice & Data Systems**

Voice & Data Systems provides state-of-the-art unified communications technology to businesses in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro and surrounding communities. The company creates customized, turnkey solutions specific to their customer's business for telephone systems, data networks, video surveillance and

converged networking applications. Voice & Data Systems friendly, manufacturer-certified technicians are available 24/7 to serve business needs for communication systems as well as voice, data, fiber optic and video cabling, testing and troubleshooting. Their mission is to provide technology solutions that increase their customers' profitability, improve employee productivity, and give them a competitive advantage in their marketplace. For more information, please call (402) 571-9049 or visit [www.voicendata.net](http://www.voicendata.net).