

Next Gen GM

BUILDING THE BRIDGES TO NEW RELATIONSHIPS



In the second week of March, the World Health Organization declared the pandemic of COVID-19 and people began to show real concern here in Brazil.

Some were already avoiding hugs; many were already adept to alcohol gel. Honestly, I was excited about all the changes that life was bringing me and was disregarding the risks. I was concluding an important cycle of my life and getting ready to start a new journey, full of new challenges and opportunities...

What I did not imagine is how this journey would start.

The eve of my first day at a new job, I received a call from my manager, saying that the company would start worldwide home office working. I got tense and the fear that my contract would be cancelled crossed my mind for a little bit. To my happy surprise, my start date was only postponed one day, but my first day of work was completely not what I imagined...

I was very happy to be starting my new contract, regardless of the scenario, but it was odd to arrive to an empty office, with only a very kind receptionist to greet me, with a kit full of treats before my manager came to the office for our first official conversation.



The handshakes were suspended and the distance consciously maintained, but besides that my smile was overflowing!

Yes, I always try to see the positive side of everything and even in the face of unprecedented chaos and zero certainties, I was facing my new normal, my new reality and my new challenges.

In our first conversation, we had to review and rethink almost everything that we had planned during the long interview process. I have not asked him yet, but I think my excitement and proposals for action in the face of uncertainty left my new manager surprised!

Numerous days have passed and after hundreds of virtual meetings, both national and international, I still have not worn my new badge, had lunch with my new colleagues or laughed over an espresso.

The big majority of my new colleagues know me only through my computer screen and I have lost count of how many people have asked me, “what is the challenge of starting a new contract in a home office”.

Well, it is a challenge and I cannot find the best words to describe everything that this whirlwind involves. Starting in a new company in a normal setting is already full of challenges, as the “new” is always filled with the unknown. In my new normal I need to find creative ways to approach people virtually, make myself known, show my potential and conquer my new space. Honestly, it is an incredible experience and I could not predict that I would learn so much in such a short time!

Now, with extremely generous colleagues I am building new bridges and finding ways to contribute and collaborate.

COVID-19 is still here, I do not know when to expect my first official day at the office will be and when I will be able to really meet my new team. Even so, thinking about it thrills me even more!

I see this whole cycle as a great opportunity for development, a precious and unique moment that I can build a foundation with a good structure for my role and my new relationships. I have no doubt that when this is over, the restart will be incredible, the retreat time will be worthwhile, as we will be able to do even more when we are physically together.

Everything is temporary, time passes in one way or another and we are responsible for our sowing...

What will you plant now, to harvest at the end of this season?

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