

# **Thriving in a Change Era**

## **A Framework to Build and Sustain Highly Adaptable Workforces**

**TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF  
100 MILLION PEOPLE.**

**GUIDING THE WAY PEOPLE SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE THE FUTURE OF WORK  
BY MEASURING AND IMPROVING ADAPTABILITY, AT SPEED AND SCALE**

# Thriving in a Change Era

## A Framework to Build and Sustain Highly Adaptable Workforces



**ROSS THORNLEY**  
Co-Founder & CEO, AQai

*"The AQ Guy"*



### Developing change agility

- The age of **DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION** – Peter Diamandis 6 D's
- **Three Horizon Thinking** Framework



### Leveraging Exponential Change

- Exploration & Exploitation
- How to deploy and scale adaptability programs

# The pace of change is accelerating

*(Covid 19 has catapulted us into a new future reality)*

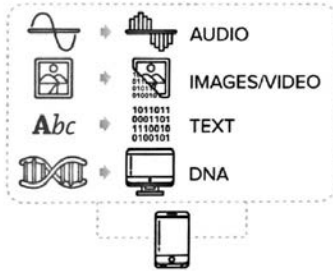
Driven by Industry 4.0; technological displacement of workforces, is radically changing how we work, where we work and what we do...

We are in an adapt or die world, *and many can't keep up*

This is driving an economic and mental health pandemic  
Risking burnout, and breakdown

# Peter Diamandis

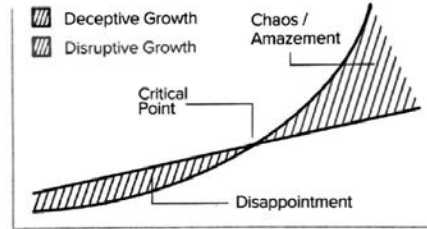
## 6 D's of Exponentials



Digitized



Dematerialized



Deceptive - Disruptive

	ENIAC	iPhone 7
YEAR	1946	2016
SPEED	1 x .001 Ghz	4 x 2.38 Ghz
WEIGHT	30 Tons	138 grams
COST	\$500,000	\$850

Demonetized



Democratized

GO DEEPER HERE:



<http://bit.ly/2fi5n56>

# BUSINESS MODEL ADAPTION & INNOVATION



**Bank of America**



Small Business Loan Approvals	Automatic allocation of inactive capital	Min balance for wealth management	Primary business model	Active Customers
2 SEC	INSTANT	\$0.14	PLATFORM 0 BRANCHES	700M
20 DAYS	NEVER	\$3M	PRODUCTS 4000+ BRANCHES	70M

# WALMART USING VR TO TRAIN EMPLOYEES WITH REAL-LIFE SITUATIONS

DEPLOYING 1,000's OF  
OCULUS GO HEADSETS IN  
31 TRAINING ACADEMIES



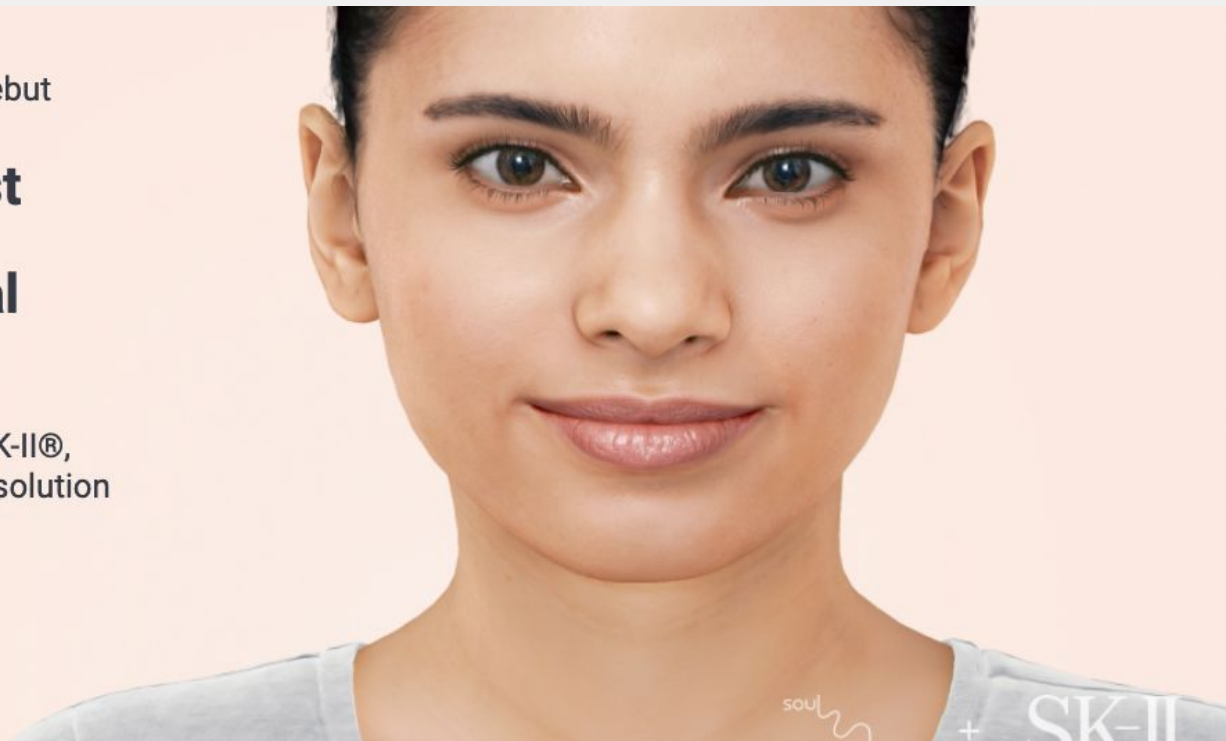
The background is a solid dark blue. On the right side, there are several large, organic, wavy shapes in a bright orange color. These shapes are layered, with some appearing in front of others, creating a sense of depth. The overall aesthetic is modern and tech-oriented.

**YOUR NEXT HIRE  
MIGHT JUST BE A  
DIGITAL HUMAN...**

Soul Machines™ & P&G Debut

## **The World's First Autonomously Animated Digital Influencer**

YUMI will be the face of SK-II®,  
P&G's premium skin care solution

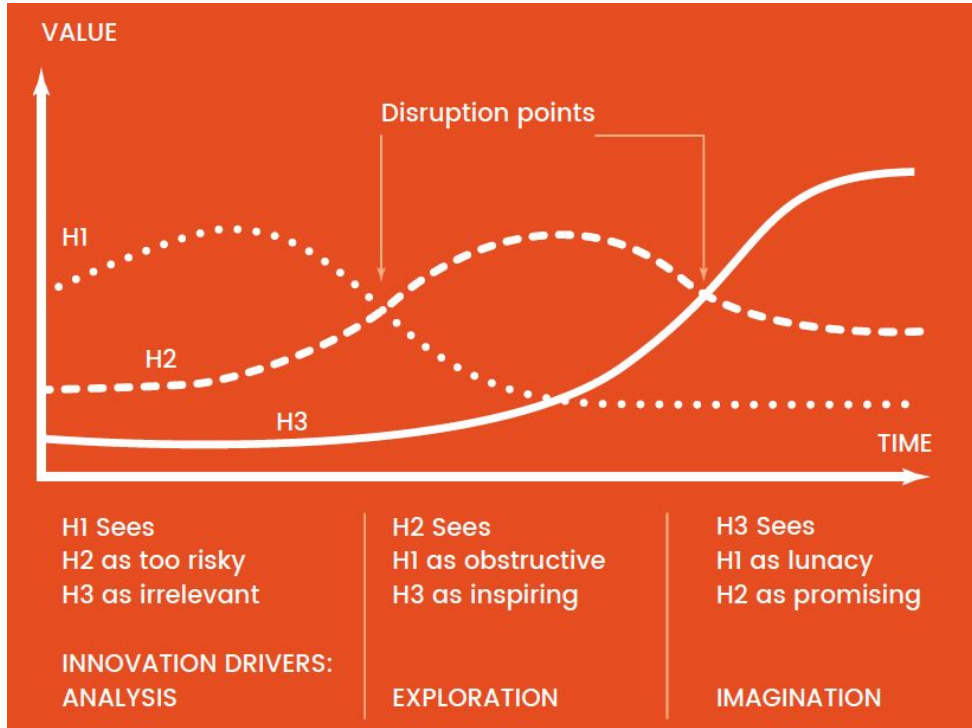




The background is a dark blue gradient. It features several abstract geometric elements: a large, semi-transparent dark blue circle in the center; a smaller, semi-transparent circle with a fine grid pattern to its upper right; and several thin, light blue curved lines and arcs scattered across the scene.

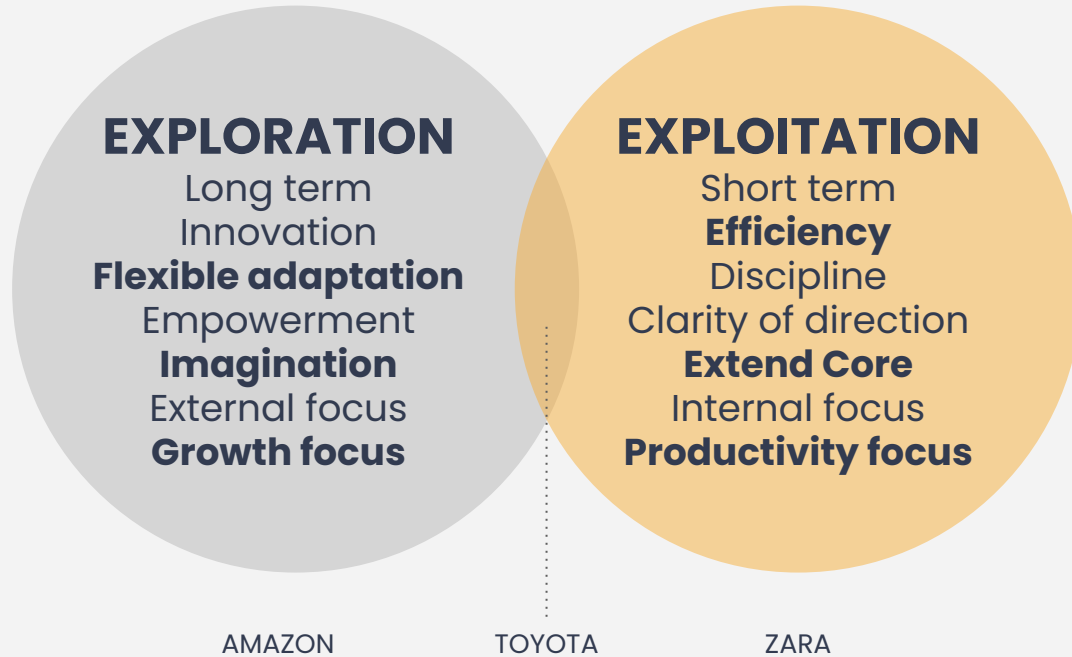
**WELCOME TO  
SOUL MACHINES**

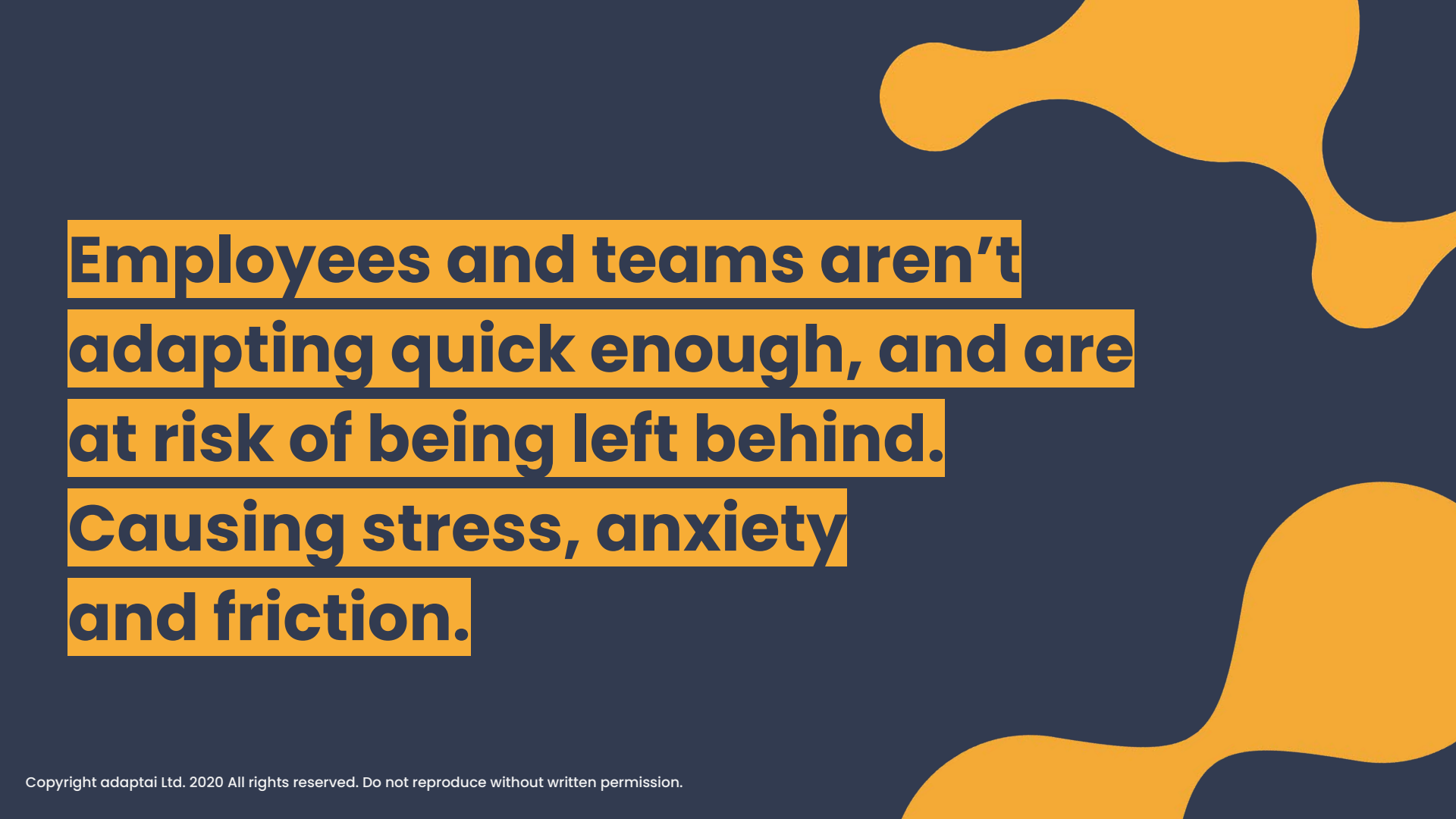
# Three Horizon Thinking Framework



- **H1 – Operators extend the core**
- **H2 – Business builders develop new opportunities**
- **H3 – Visionaries create viable options**

# 2% of companies that excel at innovation & efficiency (Exploration & Exploitation)



The background is a solid dark blue. On the right side, there are several large, organic, wavy shapes in a bright orange color. These shapes are abstract and fluid, resembling liquid or smoke. The text is positioned on the left side, overlaid on the blue background.

**Employees and teams aren't  
adapting quick enough, and are  
at risk of being left behind.  
Causing stress, anxiety  
and friction.**

What Got  
You Here  
Won't Get  
You There

MARSHALL GOLDSMITH  
WITH MARK REITER



**The changes ahead will be  
very, very different**

**We need a new operating system for change**

# First, let's map the landscape

*What has Changed?*

*What's brand new?*

*What has stayed the same?*

***How prepared do you feel  
your people, teams and  
workforce are for the 1-3  
years ahead?***

☐

*Not very*

☐

*We will get through*

☐

*Highly*

☐

*Extremely*

# Next, let's map the impact

*Productivity (Yours, Your team - up/down?)*

*Radical Innovation (Yours, Your team - up/down?)*

*Mental Wellbeing? (Yours, Your team - up/down?)*

# The Global Work-From-Home Experiment

- Employee morale and wellbeing most at risk
- Socially disconnected
- Isolation, fear & anxiety increase
- New processes, creation & training
- Zoom fatigue – harder to read emotions
- Burning platform – forcing re-imagination
- Many industries will not ‘recover’
- Risk of being left behind & ‘left-out’
- Short term ‘coping’ – *What new structures and environments are required for the long term*

What now?

Building **forward better**





The slide features three large, organic, orange-colored shapes in the corners: one in the top-left, one in the top-right, and one in the bottom-right. The main text is centered on a light gray background.

# FORWARD BETTER

*Transforming change  
management*


# Thinking about your thinking...

*Three areas of challenge*


- 1.** What **flexibility do you need in your workforce** to meet demand and supply, in the short term?
- 2.** How best to sustain potential demand for **remote working in the longer term?**
- 3.** What are the **future expectations that people will have of their employers** coming out of this crisis?

# THRIVING IN EXPONENTIAL CHANGE

	+	SKILLS	+	INCENTIVES	+	RESOURCES	+	ACTION PLAN	+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	CONFUSION & MESS
VISION	+		+	INCENTIVES	+	RESOURCES	+	ACTION PLAN	+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	ANXIETY & STRESS
VISION	+	SKILLS	+		+	RESOURCES	+	ACTION PLAN	+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	RESISTANCE
VISION	+	SKILLS	+	INCENTIVES	+		+	ACTION PLAN	+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	FRUSTRATION
VISION	+	SKILLS	+	INCENTIVES	+	RESOURCES	+		+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	CHAOS
VISION	+	SKILLS	+	INCENTIVES	+	RESOURCES	+	ACTION PLAN	+		=	SLOW CHANGE
VISION	+	AQ SKILLS	+	INCENTIVES	+	RESOURCES	+	ACTION PLAN	+	EXPERIMENTATION	=	RAPID CHANGE



**What does**  
**ADAPTABILITY**  
**mean to you?**





## What is Adaptability?

## AQ Adaptability Quotient

### Adaptability

*"As a disposition and skill, adaptability is essential to an individual's psychological health, social success, and academic or workplace achievement."*

(National Institutes for Health, 2015)


*"Adaptability is the capacity to adjust one's thoughts and behaviours in order to effectively respond to uncertainty, new information, or changed circumstances."*

(Martin, Nejad, Colmar, & Liem, 2013)

### AQ – a metric of adaptability

*"Measuring the abilities, characteristics, and environmental factors which impact the successful behaviours and actions of people, and organisations to effectively respond to uncertainty, new information, or changed circumstances."*

(Decoding AQ, 2020)



**Why our**  
**ADAPTABILITY**  
**and more importantly,**  
**our AQ matters...**

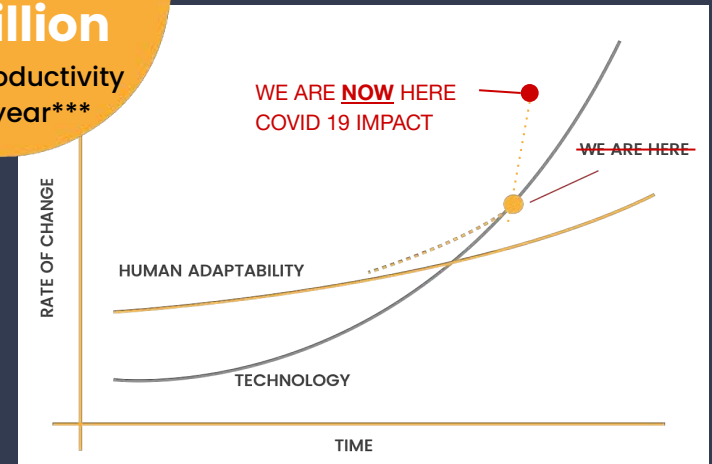
**40%** of jobs  
that exist today  
will **not exist in  
10 years time\***

**375 million**  
may need to switch  
occupations and  
learn new skills\*\*

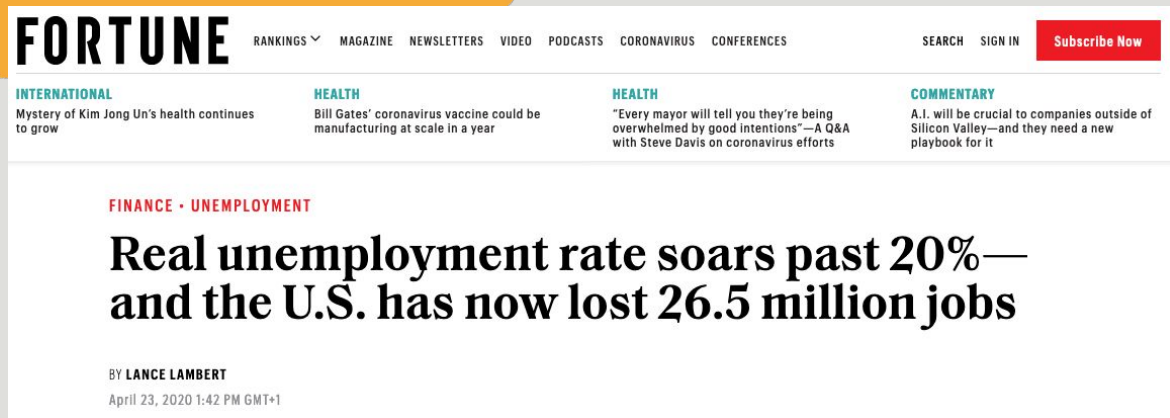
**Problem:** Rapid change, increased uncertainty, anxiety and stress is resulting in catastrophic economic and mental health impact for millions failing to adapt fast enough.

**Depression & anxiety** cost the  
global economy  
**\$1 trillion**  
in lost productivity  
every year\*\*\*

**61%**  
of employees  
have experienced  
mental health  
problems due  
to work\*\*\*\*



# ADAPT OR DIE



The image shows the Fortune magazine website header and a snippet of an article. The header includes the Fortune logo, navigation links for Rankings, Magazine, Newsletters, Video, Podcasts, Coronavirus, and Conferences, a Search bar, a Sign In link, and a Subscribe Now button. Below the header, there are four sections: International (Mystery of Kim Jong Un's health continues to grow), Health (Bill Gates' coronavirus vaccine could be manufacturing at scale in a year), Health (Every mayor will tell you they're being overwhelmed by good intentions—A Q&A with Steve Davis on coronavirus efforts), and Commentary (A.I. will be crucial to companies outside of Silicon Valley—and they need a new playbook for it). The main article snippet is titled "Real unemployment rate soars past 20%—and the U.S. has now lost 26.5 million jobs" by Lance Lambert, dated April 23, 2020, 1:42 PM GMT+1.

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**INTERNATIONAL**  
Mystery of Kim Jong Un's health continues to grow

**HEALTH**  
Bill Gates' coronavirus vaccine could be manufacturing at scale in a year

**HEALTH**  
"Every mayor will tell you they're being overwhelmed by good intentions"—A Q&A with Steve Davis on coronavirus efforts

**COMMENTARY**  
A.I. will be crucial to companies outside of Silicon Valley—and they need a new playbook for it

**FINANCE • UNEMPLOYMENT**

## Real unemployment rate soars past 20%—and the U.S. has now lost 26.5 million jobs

BY **LANCE LAMBERT**  
April 23, 2020 1:42 PM GMT+1



**77% of CEOs report not finding workers with the skills they need as the no.2 threat to their business. Sighting, neither technical or digital skills, but **human skills as most important and hardest to find, with adaptability in the top 5.****

*PWC 20th Anniversary CEO Survey.*

## NO INDUSTRY IS SAFE FROM DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

The level of work displacement is unprecedented. The pressure for people upskill & reskill to find new employment is a global and industry wide problem.



Who is next?...

*Training and supporting people to improve their adaptability will drive a positive, healthy future for all. Shifting from risk of collapse and survival to growth and thriving happiness.*



# GROWTH & DEMAND

- EVEN BEFORE COVID19

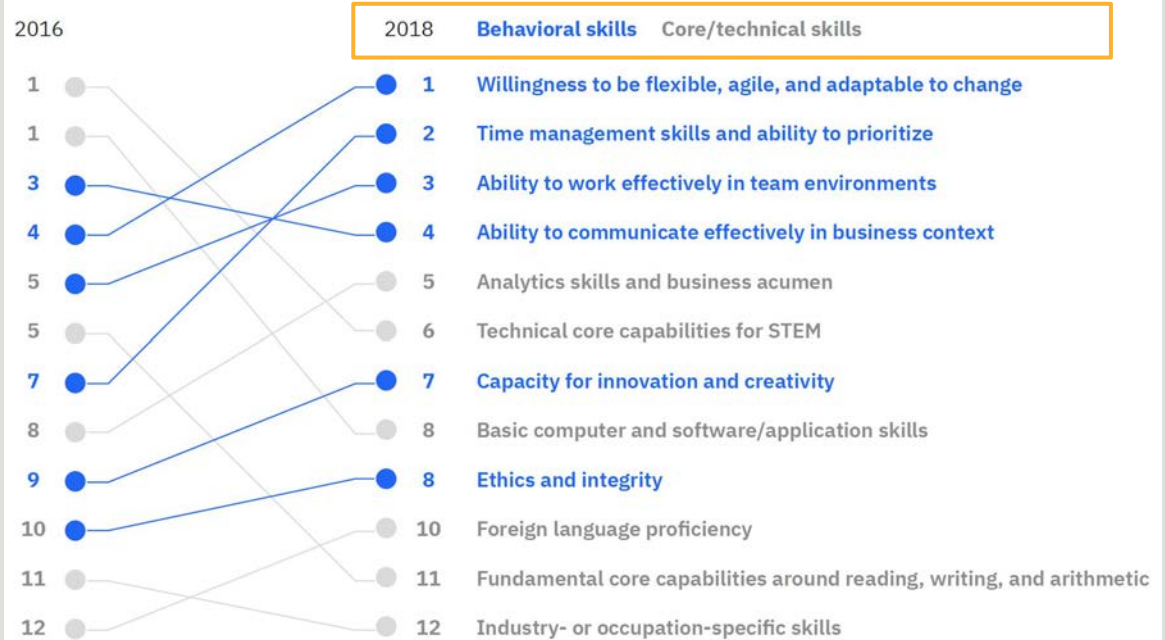
## Most in-Demand Capabilities

1. **Adaptability**
2. **Culture fit**
3. **Collaboration**
4. **Leadership**
5. **Growth Potential**
6. **Prioritisation**



Source LinkedIn Emerging Jobs Report 2017/18

Executives now point to behavioral skills as the most critical for members of the workforce today

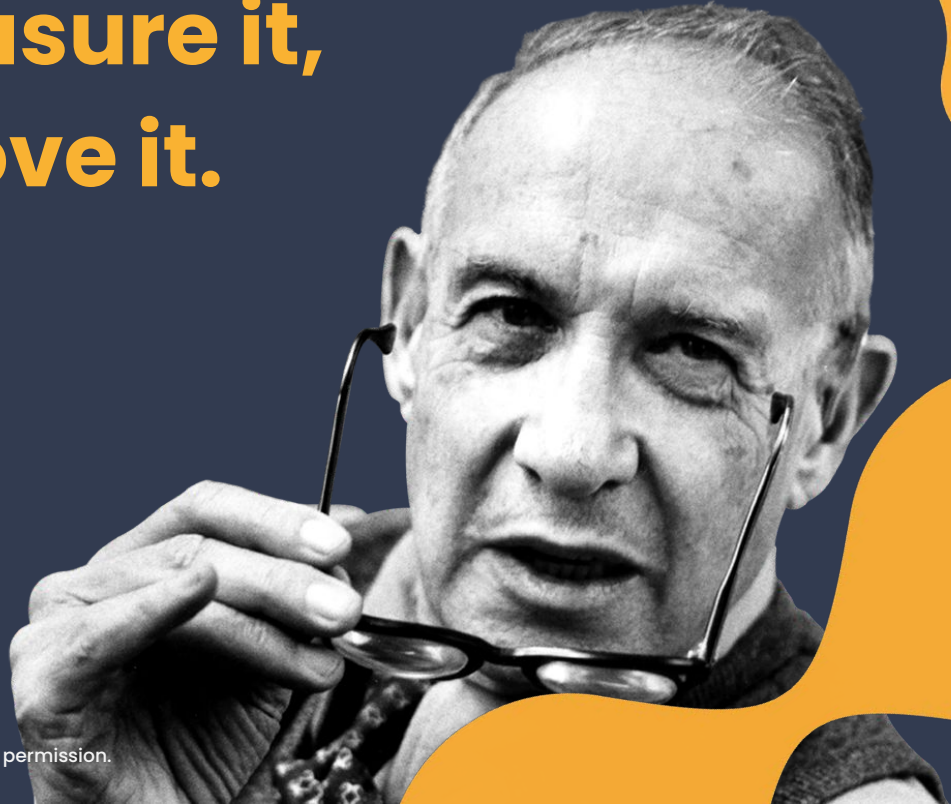


Sources: 2016 IBM Institute for Business Value Global Skills Survey; 2018 IBM Institute for Business Value Global Country Survey.

# REMEMBER...

If you can't **measure** it,  
you can't **improve** it.

Peter Drucker.



\*image from [www.pngwave.com](http://www.pngwave.com)

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# A focus on adaptability transforms every area of your people and workforce

Employees and teams aren't adapting quick enough, and are at risk of being left behind. Causing stress, anxiety and friction.

## 1. Employee Wellbeing

Anxiety/stress reduction & resilience building

Shifts in positions, titles, needs → related to what the company requires next.

'Role shelf-life'

## 2. Adaptable Leadership Development

## 3.

Reduce Redundancies & support ethical exits

## 5.

Digital Transformation / Change Programs

## 4. Employee Job change and augmentation reskilling

## 6. Accelerating Innovation initiatives

identifying the right talent from the offset

## 7. Return to work safely

Adapting to new procedure changes

# Radical RE-THINK – to survive & thrive

We require the most adaptable workforces  
and companies we have ever seen...

To grow and thrive, we must ensure our new  
recruits, teams, organization and collaboration  
partners develop skills of high adaptability (AQ).

# Deploying adaptability programs, at scale

✓ **MEASURE** – Get your data baseline

## OUR AQme assessment...

1. **Who** adapts and why?
2. **How** and to what degree does someone adapt?
3. **When** does someone adapt?

# Deploying adaptability programs, at scale



## Get Personal – Act Fast

1. **Align communications** and messaging to individual motivators and styles
2. **Engage** by learning the language of AQ
3. **Cultivate** a resilient & experimental mindset

# Deploying adaptability programs, at scale



Measure employees, applicants and leaders' adaptability in a **unique and engaging way**



**Instant**, personalised dashboard **report**



AI and machine learning for **Predictive actionable insights**



Complete your first assessment in **under 30 mins.**

# Act now, before it's too late...

## Our model of AQ – THE ADAPTIVOTIC TABLE

*Transforming the way people and organisations adapt to change*

### AQ ABILITY

*How and to what degree do I adapt?*



- 1. Grit
- 2. Mental Flexibility
- 3. Mindset
- 4. Resilience
- 5. Unlearn

### AQ CHARACTER

*Who adapts and why?*



- 6. Emotional Range
- 7. Extraversion
- 8. Hope
- 9. Motivation Style
- 10. Thinking Style

### AQ ENVIRONMENT

*When does someone adapt to what degree?*



- 11. Company Support
- 12. Emotional Health
- 13. Team Support
- 14. Work Environment
- 15. Work Stress

*AI Predictive Optimisation*



- 16. Change Readiness index
- 17. Reskill Index

**Scientifically valid measures of the 17 dimensions of adaptability**







# Act now, before it's too late...

***How prepared for the  
future **COULD** your  
people, teams and  
workforce be, if you  
developed their AQ?***

☐

*Not very*

☐

*About the same*

☐

*Highly*

☐

*Extremely*



# What influences stress at work?

When the below increases from *Low* to *Medium*

Average *stress increases* by...



Average *stress decreases* by...



Focus on the biggest impact...

Opportunity to **Cultivate a resilient & experimental mindset**



### 1 in 3 with low adaptability

A substantial share show low adaptable behavior and can benefit greatly from interventions



### Baby Boomers have lower adaptability

Older employees have a substantially higher share of employees with low adaptability



### Unlearn Ability\* can boost adaptability by 40%

Our predictive model identified Unlearn Ability as the most important skill to improve adaptability



### 1 in 4 employees experience high overwork

Burnout in the workplace can limit effective behavior for change and result in turnover

Leverage  
the Power of  
**'UNLEARNING'**  
and letting go...

**\*Unlearn Ability** - Unlearning is the ability to be able to rethink the status quo, reassess skills, or adjust old methodologies that are no longer relevant. It represents the balance between learning new things, and disregarding old data. It encompasses an open mindedness to try new ways of doing things even if they outmode previous ideas or knowledge.

# Power of 'UNLEARNING' and letting go...

*Processes, services, behaviours, actions, clients, propositions*

*Taking inspiration from Dan Sullivans' 4 c's model (Commitment, courage, capability & confidence).*

**COMMIT:** *Identify what is no longer working/serving you, write a list and star your top 3. 'the stop doing list'*

*Start small and COMMIT to 'let-go' of one per day or week.*

*What is no longer delivering success?*

## ACTION

### **COURAGE -**

Once a week share a positive focus story with your colleague/team, where you stopped something from your list

# Power of 'UNLEARNING' and letting go...

*Processes, services, behaviours, actions, clients, propositions*

*Taking inspiration from Dan Sullivans' 4 c's model (Commitment, courage, capability & confidence).*

**NEW CAPABILITIES** – Identify 2 or 3 new skills, technologies, processes, behaviours, or software, to run a rapid experiment with – start small.

*What am I willing to experiment with to affect the results I want?*

*What could I try for the first time?*

*What would be actionable within 48 hours?*

## ACTION

**CONFIDENCE** – Once a week share a positive focus story from the experiment you took, why you selected this and your next action. This will help you breakthrough and achieve extraordinary results.

Helpful questions for this are:

- *What am I grateful for as a result of the experiment?*
- *How can I build from this with a simple next action?*

# Only look to deploy adaptability programs if...

1. You proactively want to expand the **support for the mental health and wellbeing of your workforce**. Recognising they need help to successfully navigate the massive changes ahead.
2. You **see innovation not just as needed but as a critical competitive advantage** that will become evermore valuable through each market change.
3. You recognise we are living in a VUCA\* world, and **invest in the learning and development of your people**. To provide relevant and happy futures, for both **your people and your organisation**. *\*(volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity)*

# Invest in your future success now

1. 30% Saving on AQme  
~~\$65~~ \$46  
[ACCESS HERE](#)

2. 50% Saving AQteam Special Offer  
10 assessments for the price of 5  
~~\$650~~ \$325  
[ACCESS HERE](#)

3. Access the  
Global Benchmark  
AQ index report

4. For a copy of this deck, email  
ross@aqai.io

CODE: AZTC

CODE: AZTC-TEAM

**OFFERS END**  
**NOVEMBER**  
**30th**

CONTACT  
ross@AQai.io



**AQai**<sup>®</sup>  
ADAPTABILITY

# THANK YOU

**AQai**  
ADAPTABILITY  
ASSESSMENTS & COACHING



**ROSS THORNLEY**  
**Co-Founder & CEO, AQai**

*"The AQ Guy"*

[ross@aqai.io](mailto:ross@aqai.io)

*"Entrepreneur and 'AQ' Pioneer.  
Author of Moonshot Innovation & AQ Decoded. Ross's  
work is opening up new frontiers in HrTech and  
EdTech.*

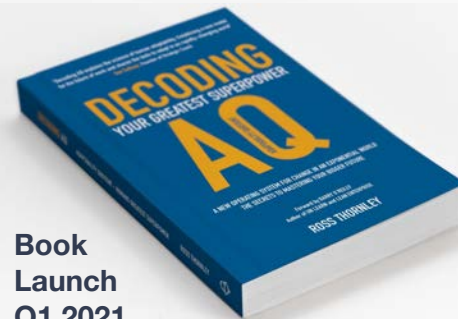
*Leveraging conversational AI and predictive  
analytics his company's platform enables people,  
teams and organisations to successfully navigate  
accelerating change.*

*His ability to contextualise diverse and complex  
subjects, inspire and engage audiences makes him  
a highly sought after international speaker."*

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**



Amazon



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# Start now, together we can build your highly resilient and adaptable workforce, delivering your future success



**Identify** high-adaptors to secure your future



Invest in **adaptable leadership development**



**Promote effectively**, by matching AQ competencies to roles



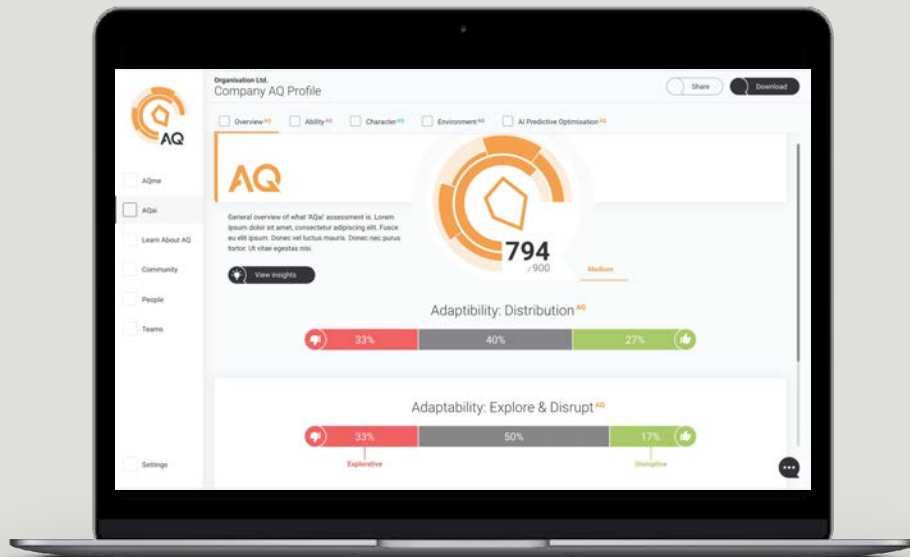
Identify those at risk early and provide **support to reskill and upskill**



Build more **effective innovation teams** to drive breakthroughs



**Reduce workplace stress** and overwhelm



**Improve alignment** and speed up on-boarding for **mergers and re-structures**



**Drive transformational change - boost change management success**



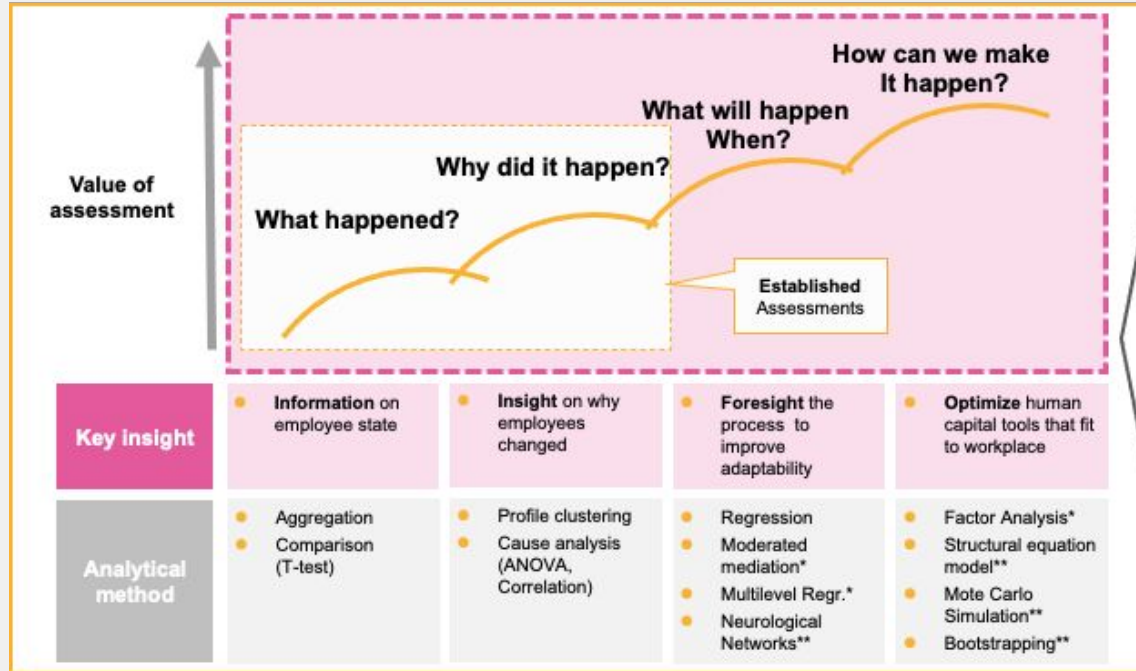
**Executive readiness**

Our **BIG WHY** - Massive Transformational Purpose (MTP)

To unlock the secrets of  
**human adaptability,**  
ensuring **no-one is left behind**  
in the fastest period  
of change in history.

*To Inspire and unite the best of humanity*

# Thus the AQ assessment is integrated into advanced analytics and AI models



- The AQ core differentiator: We can **predict and optimize** tools for maximum impact
- Having an **output measure** the model links **adaptability** to business
- Data can be used to build **personalized programs of interventions**, coaching and training

Source: Gartner Institute; \* only in Beta 2.0; \*\* only in commercial launch

# Supporting the Global Goals 2030 agenda



THE GLOBAL GOALS

