

No Facebook at work in most US companies

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The logo of social networking website 'Facebook' is displayed on a computer screen. More than half of US companies do not allow employees to visit social networks such as Facebook, MySpace or Twitter while at work, according to a new survey.

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Fifty-four percent of the chief information officers (CIOs) for 1,400 companies surveyed across the United States said workers were "prohibited completely" from visiting social networks while on the job.

Nineteen percent said employees were allowed to visit social networks "for business purposes only" while 16 percent said they allowed "limited personal use."

Ten percent of those surveyed said there were no restrictions on visiting

social networks at work.

The survey of 1,400 companies with at least 100 employees was released this week and was conducted by an independent research firm for Robert Half Technology, a California-based provider of information technology professionals. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.6 percent.

Dave Willmer, executive director of Robert Half Technology, said "using [social networking sites](#) may divert employees' attention away from more pressing priorities, so it's understandable that some companies limit access.

"For some professions, however, these sites can be leveraged as effective business tools, which may be why about one in five companies allows their use for work-related purposes," he said.

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