

Global fintech giant Finastra transformed the way colleagues and clients connect with Virtual Collaboration

HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ **8,800+** hours of travel and flight time redirected into more productive workflows
- ✓ **33%** decrease in internal travel over the course of the four-month long campaign
- ✓ **\$3.7M** in YOY savings on travel that was avoided or redirected to virtual meetings

CHALLENGES

Global fintech firm Finastra set out to create a robust Virtual Collaboration infrastructure to reduce internal travel, ensure business continuity, increase employee productivity, and drive program savings.

When Finastra announced a major sustainability initiative in 2019 – to bring the company to carbon neutrality by 2030 – the need for cutting-edge solutions to reduce non-essential travel became clearer than ever. With the help of experts at Advito, the Finastra Travel team was ready to meet the challenge, ensuring the right tools and communications were in place for would-be travelers to remain productive, safe, and satisfied from anywhere in the world.

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HOW TO LEAD AN EFFECTIVE VIDEO CONFERENCE
FROM THE TRAVEL TEAM

Without traveling to meet in person, virtual meeting technologies can provide the tools you need to lead an effective remote meeting while saving on travel costs and minimizing you and your team's impact on the environment.

- 1. Assign small tasks ahead of the meeting**
Encourage active participation over passive listening. Keep all meeting attendees accountable by asking everyone to prepare something for the meeting.
- 2. Designate a note-taker to keep track of commitments**
Don't just record meeting minutes. The note-taker should call out in bold text when someone is asked to do a specific thing or volunteers to take on a task.
- 3. Mandate use of video**
When you know your fellow meeting attendees can see you, you're more inclined to give your full attention. As soon as cameras are turned off, attendees may start checking their emails and phone.
- 4. Don't just present – engage**
Meeting leaders have just as much an obligation to engage attendees as attendees owe their presenters. Use a mix of polls, quizzes, Q&A, and other interactive tools to keep attendees engaged.

SOLUTION

Advito's first step was to assess Finastra's meeting practices. How often were employees traveling for internal meetings? And when? The team discovered that in 2018, nearly 43% of travel was for internal meetings rather than client-facing or revenue generating travel. For Finastra's travel manager, Mauro Ruggiero, the answer was to run an integrated campaign to promote replacing internal travel with virtual meetings. The campaign's aim was to set new expectations for travelers and make it clear when it is necessary to travel, and when it isn't. It also aimed to educate travelers on ways to increase productivity with the right virtual tools, leading to increased satisfaction and improved work-life balance.

By coordinating efforts with the Facilities, IT, CSR and leadership teams, the Travel Team was at the forefront of company-wide behavior change. After building the business case and creating the strategy to shift behavior and reduce travel, the Advito team created adoption campaigns with key messaging centered around contributing to sustainability initiatives and realizing significant cost savings. Together, the Finastra Travel team and Advito set ambitious goals and put regular measurements in place to ensure they stayed on track and produced tangible results for all stakeholders.



"The Advito team made it easy to set our goals, track our progress, and measure our success – and shout that success to leadership."

*Mauro Ruggiero
Director, Global Travel Management*

THE RESULTS

Over the course of the campaign, the Finastra Travel team was able to cut travel spend by nearly 50%. Travelers were quick to adopt the virtual tools, and the percentage of internal travel decreased from 43% at the onset of the campaign to just 9.8% at the end of the four months.

Year over year that meant:

11%

**Reduction in travel in
2019 vs. 2018**

\$3.7M

**Reduction in
travel spend**

2,500

**Less flights taken in
2019 than 2018**

4M KG

**Less carbon
emissions**

"Our travelers are excited to contribute to the success of our sustainability initiatives," said Ruggiero. "And even more importantly, our early transition to Virtual Collaboration has allowed for business continuity as employees shift to working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has ensured that our employees can conduct business safely and stay healthy, and that's the most important thing we could ask for."

Advito is breaking boundaries in corporate travel. With a powerful, intelligence-driven framework that dynamically manages supplier spend and traveler behavior, travel programs can continuously run in balance and at peak performance, keeping the needs of all stakeholders met. With smart analytics, unique supplier strategies and integrated traveler engagement, we'll elevate your program to reach new levels of savings and satisfaction. Contact us today at advice@advito.com, or for more information visit www.advito.com.