

No Break From E-Mail



It is now more difficult for workers to switch off from work. Many workers answer or write e-mails going to and from work, at lunchtime and at home. A lot of people check their work e-mail on vacation to other countries. This is changing for workers of the German carmaker Daimler. They can choose to not receive e-mail when they are on holiday. Employees will be able to relax on the beach and not answer problems in their inbox. They can auto-delete all work e-mail while on vacation. Daimler says it wants workers to enjoy family time or "me time" while on vacation.

A Daimler spokesman told reporters that staff worked better when they returned from holiday feeling refreshed. He said staff should return feeling refreshed and motivated. A human resources officer said: "Our employees should relax on holiday and not read work-related emails." The Daimler 'Mail on Holiday' system sends a reply that says: "Your e-mails will be deleted....If you want me to read this e-mail personally...send me the information [next week]." Not everyone thinks this is a good idea. Customers may not like writing again later. Companies could lose business.

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