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This Week's Topic:
How will automation and the rise of the gig economy change the nature of work?

Robots and Gigs: The Future of Work

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The gig economy is not new but because of the latest developments in ICT technology, it is fast becoming mainstream.

Mobile and cloud computing have removed the dimension of geographic proximity and time zones (space and time) resulting in accelerated change in terms of "pace and scale".

The Mckinsey studies indicate that the digital revolution will have 3,000 times the impact the industrial revolution had.

It must also be noted that 90 per cent of the data was generated in the last two years, and that 90 per cent of the land mass in the world has a digital signal. The future is here now, and is here to stay.

Hence, as a business in the ICT industry, we see growing and new opportunities, as ICT skills will be critical for the gig economy. As an employee within ICT, we have issues hiring quality staff as a growing number of quality ICT professionals see themselves as entrepreneurs and/or independent consultants who are actually driving the gig economy in the midst of short supply locally.

So we are trying to engage more consultants as independent contractors rather than full-time salaried staff which may not be the optimal solution in the conventional sense for both employer and employee.

This obviously presents both opportunities and new challenges that the marketplace will gradually adjust to, adopt and adapt.