THE FINANCE LEADER OF TOMORROW 2020 SURVEY

BEFORE COVID-19

A world of optimism

When asked how they felt about their role in the year ahead, 70% of respondents listed at least either confident or optimistic.

Technology was a key driver of past and future optimism

New technology was the #1 driver of optimism amongst finance leaders

78% said new technologies had positively impacted their had

impacted their business in the past 12 months, more than any other trend we covered

New technologies were a top priority for CFOs New technologies would be the #1

priority for investment if businesses were to take on more debt

42% said that understanding new technologies shall be a second of the se technical skill of CFOs

Payment delays were finance

% cited payment incidents as a common occurrence

% said the frequency of payment incidents had got worse in the past 3 years

% said they felt 'fully prepared' to deal with payment incidents

thought turnover

would improve

thought profitability would improve

their role in 2020, finance leaders felt...

When thinking about

Confident

Optimistic

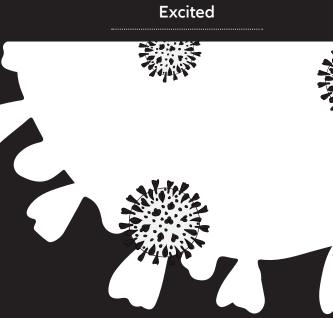
Comfortable

Secure

DURING COVID-19 How have things changed

since the Covid-19 outbreak?

Optimism has fallen: Covid-19 has had a clear impact on finance leaders perspectives of the coming year. This is both from a finance perspective - with significantly fewer expecting turnover and profit to improve - and a personal one - with the number of people saying they felt 'confident' about 2020 falling substantially.



% expecting

Before and after the outbreak

turnover to

improve

improve

% expecting

profitability to

% feeling confident about 2020



Covid-19.

Adaptive

Collaborative

Confident

Detail-oriented

Sociable

Academic

delays in the preceding two months. The top soft skills considered critical for a finance leader

Payment delays: Payment delays have accelerated to become an even more significant issue in the current

climate. When asked in May, two thirds of finance leaders said they had been impacted by payment

amongst required soft skills. These traits have only become more vital as finance leaders seek to guide their business through the current uncertainty, with each growing in importance by more than any other trait when compared to before

Before and after the outbreak O 44% Flexible

Soft Skills: Prior to the outbreak, being flexible and adaptable ranked highly

O 38%

Networking

Both before and after the outbreak, finance leaders were asked for the "top three" traits they considered critical to be a successful finance leader currently.

050%

beyond Covid-19. To mitigate against future risks that may impact businesses, they recommend three things:

Diversification

CFOs are still looking to the future

THE FUTURE

Planning reduce risk at the customer on-boarding stage.

Insurance CFOs believe insurance will – and should – become more important. Working closely with

investment, CFOs believe that optimism can eventually

To read the full survey report, please visit eulerhermes.com



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