

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910798175003321
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Titolo	Managing virtual teams / / Debbie D. DuFrene and Carol M. Lehman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, New York (222 East 46th Street, New York, NY 10017) : , : Business Expert Press, , 2016
ISBN	1-63157-406-X
Edizione	[Second edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 77 pages)
Collana	Corporate communication collection, , 2156-8170
Disciplina	658.4022
Soggetti	Virtual work teams - Management
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 63-71) and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Growth in popularity of virtual teams -- 2. Diversity challenges in virtual teams -- 3. Strategies for virtual team success -- 4. Productive virtual team meetings -- Summary -- Notes -- References -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	Virtual teams are an integral part of today's global business environment. Traditional face-to-face communication is frequently replaced with technology- mediated communication methods including phone, e-mail, fax, synchronous chat programs, and videoconferencing. While virtual teams offer various advantages to organizations and individuals in flexibility and the ability to overcome geographic distance, they face unique challenges. Virtual teams often are made up of members of various cultures and ages with diverse communication styles. Men and women also tend to behave differently in virtual environments. Challenges occur in the forming, storming, norming, performing, and adjourning phases of team development, and virtual teams must be able to cope effectively with those obstacles if they are to be successful and reach their potential. Team participants should be selected carefully for various personal characteristics that help ensure success and be trained in how to be effective virtual team members. Various team strategies can be implemented to improve effectiveness and satisfaction of virtual team members.