



WIG

The Whitehall & Industry Group
connecting the sectors



'Technology & Digital' Series

Rob Shuter, CEO Enterprise, BT

2 September, 2021

Expert Insight

We were joined by Rob Shuter, CEO Enterprise, BT to discuss the future of 5G in the UK.

Rob started by setting the scene:

- Rob said how we are on the cusp of the 5G revolution and won't understand its full impact for a few years to come. To get the most out of the technology, there is a need for the sectors to work hand-in-hand in a structured innovation process.
- 5G is designed for a completely different world with a diverse and large volume of devices that need to connect with high download and upload speeds, much greater reliability and low latency to allow realtime response



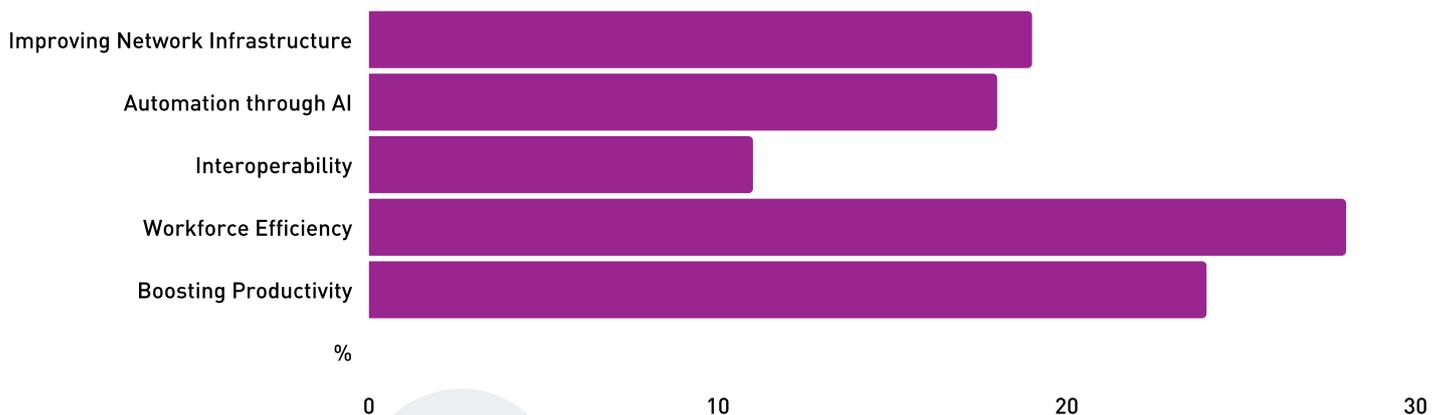
Rob then detailed when and how businesses can expect to implement 5G into their operations:

- The UK Government's ambition is to give the majority of the public access to 5G by 2027
- By 2023, EE's 5G network will cover more than half of the UK's population. By 2028, 5G will be available anywhere in the UK – through a combination of permanent 5G macro-networks, and a range of on-demand coverage solutions
- The most common problems that can be solved with 5G include; operational efficiency; productivity; safety; automation of operations; eliminating manual repetitive tasks; and, delivering staff training in efficient ways

Rob finished by saying that there is a need for greater awareness of the power of 5G, with only 30% of businesses currently see 5G playing a role in their roadmap. However, a recent Nokia survey revealed that 80% of people want to use 5G once they understand what it can do.

Cross-sector Opinion

We surveyed our members during the webinar, asking them: "Where do you see 5G playing a role in solving challenges faced by you organisation today?"



Our members' questions

A number of interesting questions were raised by our members. Some of the topics included:

- What kind of companies BT is looking to collaborate with in terms of developing 5G further in the UK
- How critical is the rollout of 5G for the roll out of autonomous vehicles?
- Which industry verticals are expected to benefit most from 5G use-cases and why
- The potential challenges to a successful rollout
- Developing the skills required to maximise 5G

WIG members can listen to Rob's speech [here](#)

To see our full programme of webinars, visit www.wig.co.uk