

# VR

## HOW COULD VIRTUAL REALITY IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNICATION TRAINING?

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Rehearsal is vital to an outstanding performance. However, when it comes to public speaking, it can be difficult to replicate the experience of speaking in front of others.

### COULD VIRTUAL REALITY OFFER A SOLUTION?

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Studies show that learners become better at their jobs faster when they use augmented or virtual reality tools.<sup>1</sup>

**THIS TECHNOLOGY** has already been used to help doctors, engineers and pilots finesse their skills, leading to faster results from training and improved knowledge retention.

In the same way, the opportunity to practice presenting in front of a virtual audience can help individuals build their confidence, create an impact, and face their fears.



**VIRTUAL REALITY** has been used in technical skills training for many years now to great success.

However, its application for training for soft skills has been mostly ignored so far.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Research has shown that the retention level of knowledge a year after a VR training session can be as much as 80% - compared to 20% retention after a week of traditional training.<sup>2</sup>

**VR** has become much more accessible in recent years, as the price of headsets has fallen, and the technology has advanced to become more user-friendly to novice users. Because of this, VR is now a practical solution to help HR teams get the most out of their L&D offering.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Using VR doesn't just improve retention of skills - it also makes participants feel more confident in the skills they've gained.<sup>3</sup>



“A great deal has been invested into training simulators for high-risk skills... but there are many lower-risk skills which would benefit from simulation, there's just been little reason to justify investment. That is, until now.”

JOHN PICKAVANCE, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS<sup>4</sup>

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The immersive nature of VR means that participants experience an emotional and cognitive effect, leading to more effective comprehension and retention rates.<sup>5</sup>

### ABOUT US

Since 1989, **MAYNARD LEIGH ASSOCIATES** have pioneered the use of immersive techniques from the theatre and cognitive psychology to unlock potential with organisations and individuals. We're well versed in how immersive training can give transformative results, and we're always looking for tools to help our participants learn and retain their skills.

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**MARMOT LABS** have developed VR environments with exciting, practical applications for presentation training.

Participants get to rehearse the experience of public speaking in a risk-free space and build their capabilities in an effective and immersive way.

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INTERESTED TO FIND OUT MORE?

CONTACT US ON [INFO@MAYNARDLEIGH.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@MAYNARDLEIGH.CO.UK)

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2. "Virtual and augmented relation training", *British Safety Council* [online] (21 November 2018). 3. Eric Krokos, Catherine Plaisant and Amitabh Varshney, "Virtual memory palaces: immersion aids recall", *Virtual Reality*, vol. 23 issue 1 (March 2019). 4. John Pickavance, "Virtual Reality has the potential to transform teaching and improve learning", *The Independent* (22 May 2019). 5. Rakesh Raghavan and Prahlad Rao, "Immersive Learning for the Future Workforce", *Accenture Extended Reality* (2018).