

# HomeOffice – „Curse or Blessing?“

In February 2013 Marissa Mayer, the **CEO of Yahoo**, announced that employees would no longer be permitted to work from home. She has thereby questioned this globally increasing trend: *“**Speed and quality are often sacrificed when we work from home. We need to be one Yahoo!, and that starts with physically being together.**”*

Source: [www.welt.de](http://www.welt.de) – 26.02.2013

A recent study at **Stanford University** has investigated the impact of switching from working at the office to home working in a Chinese company. Working remotely led to a **productivity increase of 13%** and **improved work satisfaction**. Reasons for the productivity increase were **fewer breaks and sick days as well as a quieter working environment**.

Source: Does working from home work?  
Evidence from a Chinese experiment – 22.02.2013

According to the German **insurance association for administration professions (VGB)**, legal considerations as well as topics concerning reimbursement of expenses and employee liability need to be resolved before employees commence to work from home.

**Dr. Peter Schäfer**, prevention expert at VGB, emphasises: *„**The employer has to provide a safe and healthy working environment – including the home office. Therefore, we recommend to develop a framework considering work safety, data protection and the right of access, and to implement this framework in an occupational health and safety company guideline.**“*

Source: Telearbeit erfolgreich gestalten –  
VGB Pressemitteilung vom 23.04.2013