

## **IN THE PAST 250 YEARS, THE WORLD HAS EXPERIENCED OUR INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTIONS.**

The first (1765) started what became modern industry with the combination of water and heat to use steam to power mechanized production – the steam engine. The second, 100 years later in 1870, began with the advancement of some of our most used resources today: electricity, oil, and gas. The third, starting in 1965, brought the advancement of telecommunications, electronics, and computers to the forefront.

Today, unfolding before us, is the dawn of the fourth industrial revolution: the Internet and the Digital Industry.

### **THE DIGITAL INDUSTRY**

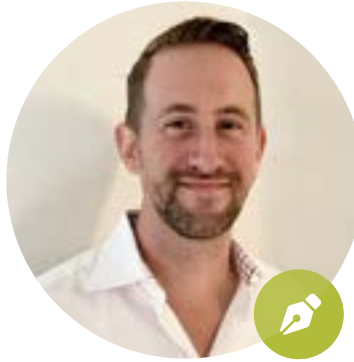
What's striking about the fourth is the speed with which companies have adopted the Digital Industry. Gaining traction at the dawn of the 21st century, the past 20 years have seen the advancement in democratization of technology to power workers everywhere. At the dawn of the computer age, a new computer would cost the equivalent of \$95,000 in 1970, the first cell phone cost \$4,000, and the Internet was transmitting data at a snail's pace in 1990. Fast forward 50 years, and anyone who needs an online shop to sell their merchandise can do so in less than a day for less than the cost of a monthly gym membership. The fourth industrial revolution truly

democratized the Digital Industry for the world and is now helping to democratize safety for workers everywhere.

Until the last 20 years, safety reporting and behavior-based safety was something few worked on. Signs would exist highlighting the need for safe operation or declaring the days since the last incident on site. Ask a CEO or executive how many near misses they had, however, and the lack of visibility would be astounding. On the contrary, ask a worker what personal protective equipment (PPE) they needed to use a machine, and if they didn't have it in memory, they would pull out a binder. A decade ago, things began to change with the advancement of both online digital applications and mobile based applications.

## 1. DIGITAL APPS

While online applications helped to bring about change, it wasn't until mobile phones, apps, and ecommerce became ubiquitous with workers everywhere that we experienced democratization of safety. We can see it in the very number of companies springing up everywhere to help with apps for health and safety, asset management, chemical and hazardous



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### About the Author

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Tyler Davey is the Chief Executive Officer for Alcumus North America and has 20+ years of experience working across both technology and business. He is responsible for developing and growing the brand in the North American market, managing the full suite of products in North America, and driving the business through organic and further acquisition opportunities.

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### About the Article

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