

**INDUSTRY HISTORY**



**30 years of Employco**

Thirty years ago, Bob Wilson and his sons started Employco in Chicago with \$5,000 in sales and a simple goal: to take payroll, workers' comp, and HR headaches off business owners' plates. Today, the company operates in all 50 states, supports thousands of businesses, and has crossed \$550 million in sales—all while staying family-run and client-first. Here's the story of how they got here.

[Read more](#)

**The ESCA Digest: 30 Years of Employco  
May 20, 2026**

On April 16th, Employco marked a milestone that few companies reach: 30 years in business. What began in 1996 as a small, family-run startup in Chicago has grown into one of the country's leading HR outsourcing firms, serving businesses nationwide while staying true to the same philosophy it started with.

In the early days, the goal was straightforward. Bob Wilson and his sons, Rob and Scott, saw how overwhelmed business owners were by administrative tasks like payroll, workers' compensation, and HR compliance. These weren't just minor inconveniences—they were constant distractions pulling focus away from growth. With just \$5,000 in sales in the first year, Employco set out to take that burden off their shoulders.

(Snippet from full article)

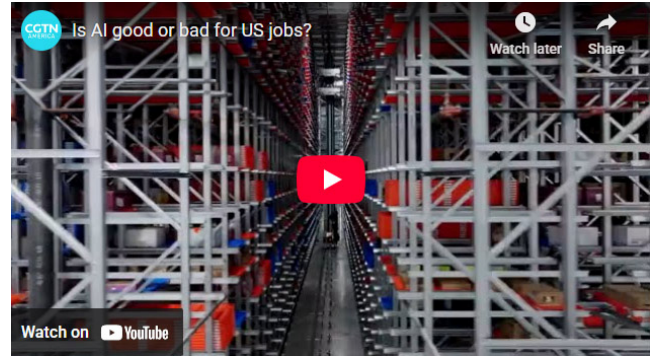


**How to Maximize Savings and Value on Employee Benefits  
May 2026 issue**

Margins across the food industry remain tight, and rising healthcare costs continue to pressure operators. At the same time, attracting and retaining reliable talent is essential to maintaining service levels and production schedules. The question many employers are asking is not whether to offer benefits, but how to offer them more strategically.

One of the most effective cost-control strategies is taking a more analytical approach to plan design.

(Snippet from full magazine article by Griffen Wilson, Vice President)



**Is AI Good or Bad for Us Jobs?  
November 04, 2025**

Rob Wilson, President of Employco USA, joins Owen Fairclough of CGTN America to discuss how artificial intelligence is reshaping U.S. jobs and the broader workforce landscape.

"From Amazon to Walmart, artificial intelligence is simultaneously transforming and eliminating U.S. jobs at an astonishing rate. That's great for investors who see bigger profits from leaner companies with lower costs from smaller workforces. But it's also raising anxiety among employees, as well as urgent questions that policymakers need to address about the impact of AI. Owen Fairclough reports."

(CGTN America interview with Rob Wilson, President)



**Fed's Jerome Powell gets the blame for a weak economy and August jobs report  
September 05, 2025**

"I agree with Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer on her comments that it is time for the Fed to take action and lower interest rates," Employco USA President Rob Wilson told Fox News Digital. "The number of job openings available is the lowest in 10 months. With an interest rate cut, you will see businesses start to hire in larger numbers. The lower rates will have a ripple effect across the economy."

The U.S. economy added jobs at a slower pace in August. The Labor Department on Friday reported that employers added 22,000 jobs last month, a figure well below the 75,000 estimate of economists polled by LSEG.

(Snippet from article featuring Rob Wilson, President)



**Family Business Magazine: CEOs to Watch 2025  
September/October 2025 issue**

Since co-founding Employco USA in 1996 alongside his brother and father, Robert Wilson has grown the company from a small family start-up into a highly successful HR outsourcing firm with more than \$600 million in sales.

“What sets Rob apart is his ability to combine big-picture vision with a people-first approach,” says his son, Griffen Wilson, who serves as Employco’s vice president. “He’s always kept Employco ahead of the curve by embracing new technologies and creating innovative solutions that make life easier for clients and help them navigate the ever-changing regulatory landscape.”

(Snippet from article featuring Rob Wilson, President)



**Chicago’s Unemployment Rate Expected to Rise  
February 21, 2025**

Rob Wilson, President and Founder of Employco USA, joins the WGN-TV Evening News to discuss unemployment in Chicago and its expected rise.

“New numbers reveal Chicago’s unemployment rate is higher than other large metro areas, sitting at about 4.4%, could get worse though with the announced closure of dozens of local retail stores. Joining us now with more is Rob Wilson, President of Chicago-based employment solutions firm Employco USA.”

(WGN-TV interview with Rob Wilson, President)



**The Don and Mike Show Reunion Podcast  
February 14, 2025**

Jason Eisenhut, Vice President of HR at Employco USA, joined the Don and Mike Show Reunion Podcast with Mike Morrison and Don Svehla to discuss legislation updates, potential upcoming changes, and other HR topics in the trade show industry.

(Podcast interview with Jason Eisenhut, Vice President of HR)



**Reimagine Feedback to Drive Engagement and Growth  
January 13, 2025**

“We still see a lot of once-a-year reviews,” said Rob Wilson, President of Employco USA, an HR consulting firm based in Westmont, Ill., that works with HR departments containing from two to 3,500 employees. “No one likes them.”

Leadership training plays an enormous role in helping managers learn how to deliver feedback effectively. “Training supervisors in effective communication is a large part of what we do,” said Wilson.

(Snippet from article featuring Rob Wilson, President)



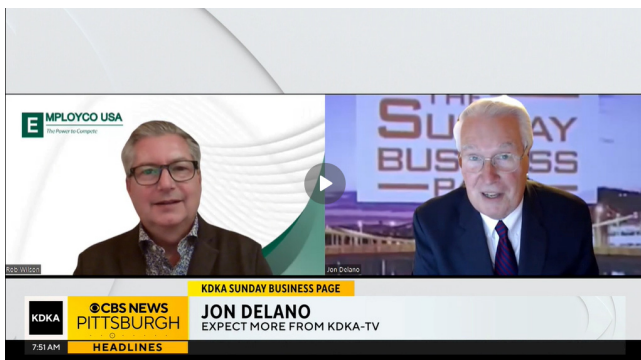
## **Navigating Workforce Challenges: Strategies for Attracting and Retaining Talent in the Food Industry**

**January 2025 issue**

The labor market continues to evolve, presenting unique challenges for businesses across industries, including the food sector. Recent data highlights a significant slowdown in job growth, with only 142,000 jobs added in August 2024 compared to a three-month average of 211,000 a year ago. Hiring is at its slowest pace since 2014, while quit rates are at their lowest since 2018. Employers are holding onto staff, but competition for top talent remains fierce. Rising labor costs, driven by inflation and interest rates, are further pressuring food businesses, many of which already operate on thin margins.

A key strategy for food businesses is offering a comprehensive benefits package. While standard benefits like 401(k) plans and health insurance remain essential, employees also value additional perks, such as mental health resources and voluntary benefits. Outsourcing HR functions can allow businesses to offer these extra benefits — like Employee Assistance Programs or thoughtful scheduling practices — while relieving the administrative burden. This can help address burnout and stress for high-pressure roles like kitchen staff and servers.

*(Snippet from full magazine article by Griffen Wilson, Vice President)*

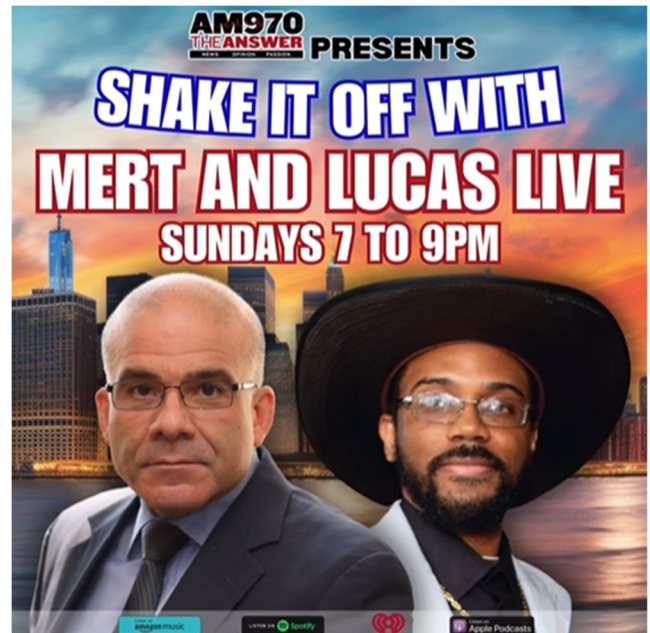


## **Bossware Is Latest Tech to Track Employees Working from Home**

**September 15, 2024**

It's called bossware and human resource experts say it's the latest use of technology for companies to keep track of their employees working from home; KDKA's Jon Delano has more on this edition of the Sunday Business Page.

*(CBS TV interview with Rob Wilson, President)*



## **Shake It off With Mert & Lucas**

**August 25, 2024**

During our first hour, Rob Wilson will talk about the 'shifting' payroll numbers and will discuss the widely reported 818,000 drop in previously reported job gains.

*(AM970 Radio interview with Rob Wilson, President)*

# Daily Mail

.com

## **Backlash After 818,000 Jobs in America 'Vanish' From Jobs Report**

**August 21, 2024**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics said the jobs growth data for the 12 months to March was actually 30 percent less than its initial figure of 2.9 million.

'We knew when there was a delay that the numbers weren't going to be good,' said Rob Wilson, President of Employco USA, an employment solutions firm.

'This is a big miss by the Labor Department, said Wilson. For this to happen during an election year is particularly egregious.

'We will never know how much these inaccurate numbers impacted the election, but it's very troubling to know that false data influenced Americans' voting decisions,' he added.

*(Snippet from article featuring Rob Wilson, President)*



## New Data Says Great Resignation 2.0 Is on the Horizon August 02, 2024

It is being called the “Great Resignation 2.0.” A new survey found that 3 in 10 American workers plan to quit their jobs by the end of 2024.

“Workforce participation still remains at pre-pandemic levels,” says Rob Wilson, President of Employco USA and employment trends expert.

Wilson says that we have 8.1 million job openings in the United States but only 6.8 million unemployed Americans.

“This means that if every unemployed American found a job, we would still have millions of job openings,” says Wilson.

What can employers do to increase employee retention?

(Snippet from article featuring Rob Wilson, President)



## How Will Cook County’s New Minimum Wage Law Impact Employers? July 01, 2024

Rob Wilson, the President of Employco USA, joins Lisa Dent to talk about Chicago and Cook County’s minimum wage increase that went into effect today and how that increase will impact employers. Rob also talks about the increased access to guaranteed paid leave for Chicago workers and who is eligible for the increase.

(WGN Radio interview with Rob Wilson, President)



## New Illinois Laws Take Effect on July 1, 2024 July 01, 2024

A number of new laws are going into effect today that includes one involving minimum wage. In Cook County, those workers will see an increase. Joining us to explain this is employment trends expert and President of Employco USA Rob Wilson.

(Fox News TV interview with Rob Wilson, President)



## Transforming Family Dynamics: Actionable Solutions for Multi-Generational Restaurants June 2024 issue

Imagine a restaurant where the aroma of sizzling spices mingles with the laughter of a united family. Multi-generational family-owned eateries hold a special place in our hearts, blending tradition with the bonds of kinship. But beneath the surface, challenges demand concrete solutions with measurable impact.

Structured Communication Framework: Implement a monthly family council meeting where every member has a voice. Track the number of conflicts resolved and the percentage of decisions made collaboratively. Over time, a measurable increase in harmony and unity will be evident.

(Snippet from full magazine article by Employco)