

EVEN GOOD OLE' MAN GATES HAS TO DO SOME LAYING OFF



BILL GATES of BORG

Over the past 10 years, Microsoft has seen a constant growth in sales as well as a steady pace of hiring. The technology giant has grown in revenue and number of employees three times over in the past ten years. In 2008 they grossed around \$60 billion and employed just over 90,000. Now, with the national and international economies waning, even the practically untouchable Microsoft could have its biggest set of lay offs ever. In the last seven years, a total of 1,078 workers have been laid off, which amounts to a bit more than 1% of its current workforce. In June 2006, the company laid off 25 employees in the U.S, and in the year before that there were less than a hundred still. Though the lay-offs will only increase the unemployment in the U.S. and the world, some investors are happy with the decision, claiming that profits have been long hurt by an extensive employee list. Microsoft routinely reorganizes its business units, which leaves those employees with low performance ratings without jobs. Rob Help, an analyst for Directions on Microsoft called this method "rolling layoffs." A main concern is the hit that Microsoft's human image might suffer as a result of the lay offs. Keep up with all business related news at [EmploymentCrossing](http://EmploymentCrossing.com).