



Wisely® by ADP helped the MAS Restaurant Group eliminate all paper checks and save \$~98,000 a year

Quick facts



Name: MAS Restaurant Group LLC



Industry: Fast food services



Employees: 2,500 employees, including 2,400 at restaurant locations



Locations: 111 in Ohio and Texas



Business challenge: Enabled a fully digital payroll process by eliminating 21,915 physical checks annually and saving ~\$98,000 a year



How ADP® solved the problem: Enabled a fully digital payroll process by eliminating 21,915 physical checks annually and saving ~\$98,000 a year

MAS Restaurant Group operates 111 Taco Bell locations throughout Ohio and Texas. Its 2,500 employees serve made-to-order tacos, burritos and other specialties.

As HR Payroll Specialist for MAS Restaurant Group, Wendy Cruz manages payroll for 2,500 employees, including 2,400 who work at 111 restaurants in two states. A MAS employee for 10 years, Wendy has held a variety of roles in both the restaurants and main office. With this experience, she understands how important it is for MAS to maintain simple processes to pay employees quickly and easily. Here she shares how Wisely by ADP has streamlined how she works and better supports employees.

For 13 years, we used another payroll service provider to manage our payroll process, which was extremely manual and cumbersome. Every two weeks, each location would submit their payroll information to the corporate office. We would then process payroll by reviewing the information, printing about 1,700 checks, sorting them by restaurant and then shipping them to each location.

Often, checks were delayed due to weather such as thunderstorms, hurricanes, or ice storms and/or shipping delays, preventing our employees from being paid on-time. We would then have to re-print checks and/or drive to a location to deliver them.

Finding the right solution with Wisely by ADP

In 2020, MAS Restaurant Group, decided to update our payroll system but knew our prior payroll service provider did not have the right solutions to meet our needs and would not be able to grow with us long-term. Based on our CFO's recommendation, we evaluated ADP's suite of offerings. Ultimately, we selected ADP's Workforce Now for our ERP and its pay card program, Wisely by ADP.



Always Designing
for People®



Today, it takes us three days to manage payroll submission across both our Texas and Ohio locations. We manage payroll with just a few clicks. No manual checks at all. Now I spend those three days on strategic priorities, reporting and analytics.

Wendy Cruz
Payroll Manager
MAS Restaurant Group



Wisely offered several features we liked. We loved Wisely's self-service aspect, especially the app with direct customer service capabilities. Employees can log in to their app or call a hotline, cutting out our store managers and/or our team from being in the questions or issue business. We liked that the card follows an employee: we do not have to issue a new card when an employee moves to a new restaurant or leaves. This is especially important for transient workers or employees who transfer between Taco Bell locations.

Rolling out Wisely Pay in record time

In January 2020, we began our payroll transition. We started with Workforce Now, followed by the Wisely cards two payroll cycles later. Initially, we rolled out Wisely to all our 75 locations in Texas. Since then, we have acquired 36 locations in Ohio and implemented Wisely at these sites.

Our primary goal was 100 percent adoption, so we really focused on promoting Wisely as a self-service program that enables employees to get paid quicker and manage their funds on the app. For some employees, Wisely offers a great solution if they don't have a bank account. They can use the card to make purchases, receive cash or pay bills.

The training sessions for the primary administrative team, as well as location managers really helped us engage them early and then easily roll out the program to our employees. The marketing materials, available in both English and Spanish, were extremely helpful in our initial rollout and continue to help us educate employees on how to best use the program. We liked that the materials were simple and provided step-by-step details.

We conducted training sessions before and after implementation, though we focused our efforts on after to give employees a chance to see the card and its capabilities — and ask specific questions.

Today, we offer on-site orientation for new employees and give them the option to sign up for either Direct Deposit or Wisely Pay card.



Accomplishing our Mission

We had a simple mission: to eliminate as many physical checks as possible and reduce taxing administrative tasks. Mission accomplished! We eliminated all paper paychecks, saving ~\$98,000 in our first year alone in printing, shipping and labor.

Lucky for us, we operate in states where regulations allow us to mandate electronic pay. Today we are completely electronic for payroll distribution — 45 percent of our employees use Wisely with the remaining 55 percent using Direct Deposit.

Reducing Headaches, Improving Strategic Focus

Wisely reduced stress and headaches. For me personally, it has been awesome to eliminate all things related to paper checks, from the printing and shipping to delays and questions. Plus, initially, we saved three days a month managing payroll for our 75 Texas locations. We simplified our payroll process. We improved reporting and compliance. We reduced employees' concerns around receiving their paycheck on-time. Most importantly our managers no longer get distribution-related questions about their pay.

Today, it takes us three days to manage payroll submission across both our Texas and Ohio locations. We manage payroll with just a few clicks. No manual checks at all. Now I spend those three days on strategic priorities, reporting and analytics.

Bringing MAS Restaurant Group Into the 21st Century

I would recommend investigating Wisely to see if it fits your needs, and if it does then go for it. It saves a lot of headaches and enables you to run payroll in today's world. Implementing Wisely Pay by ADP into our payroll process feels as if we finally made it into the 21st century!



About Wisely by ADP

Wisely offers worker-focused payment solutions designed to enable compliance, convenience and administrative ease to employers and freedom, flexibility and financial wellness to workers. Wisely enables more payment options and helps employers move towards 100 percent electronic pay.

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