

CASE STUDY

SUMMERFORD COMPANIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summerford has a robust history going back four generations' starting in 1928 when Joe Summerford began Summerford Truck Line.

In recent years, they've come to concentrate on coast-to-coast flatbed hauling with the ability to haul up to 52,000 pounds per load. In 1994, the business expanded to a second operation. Summerford Pallet Co. has grown into one of the largest pallet recyclers in the Southeast. The Pallet Co. continues to support the business's trucking side and has locations in Ashford and Poplarville, MS. The family also has Summerford Cattle Co. in Ashford, AL.

The Summerford family members were busy running successful and profitable companies with a total of nearly 250 employees. With all that growth and diversification, the company knew it needed a strong HR department. The companies were pulling other staff resources and knew they could do better.



“The advantages were having a payroll and HR division if you will. We got the fix we needed, but the advantage was gaining a team as well. Also, the insurance and work comp savings.”

- Chris Lasseter, General Manager

SUMMERFORD WANTED A SOLUTION

The Summerford's needs all began with payroll. The administrative work of processing payroll each week for office employees, pallet employees and truck drivers had grown to be a heavy task. When the payroll position became vacant, discussions started about outsourcing payroll. In those discussions, the costs of their benefit offerings, their current worker's

compensation policy and HR policies and procedures were all analyzed. It soon became apparent to everyone involved that the value of PRemployer's services went beyond cutting paychecks. While Summerford came to the table in need of one solution, they walked away with several more. PRemployer became a member of the Summerford team of players.

PRemployer hit the ground running with all of Summerford's goals. They effortlessly improved the company's payroll system, implemented HR needed protocols and cut insurance costs. Summerford learned very quickly that PRemployer is a full-service professional employer organization.

PRemployer was able to give Summerford the help it asked for — and then some:

- **Payroll - collecting employees' timesheets, calculating wages, filing employer taxes and calculating employee tax deductions, and preparing paychecks**
- **HR duties - such as onboarding employees, support and management of employees, facilities, employees' concerns, travel expenses, etc.**
- **Benefits - facilitating open enrollment and providing money savings on healthcare**
- **Workers Compensation - money savings on premiums**
- **Onsite Representative - placed to carry out all of PRemployer's services right in Summerford's office**

We think this quote says it best:

“Streamlined payroll and [PRemployer - ed.] has helped our accounting department to have some margin to help us make excellent business decisions. We also gained the asset of having an HR team to contact.” - Chris Lasseter, General Manager, SPC

Whether you are a small or large business, or even if you are like the Summerford businesses and have several companies and multiple facilities, PRemployer can help you gain control of your HR department duties and responsibilities and you will see the positive impacts in the long term.

