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## Staffs offered buyouts as companies seek to reduce costs and avoid layoffs

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## Insight — 11/16/2008 12:00:00 AM

Slot machine maker International Game Technology and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas share little in common at first glance. But thanks to a struggling local economy, the two operations experienced exposure in 2008 to a growing employment trend: the employee buyout, a voluntary cousin to the layoff.

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