

Roaring '20s Then vs. Now

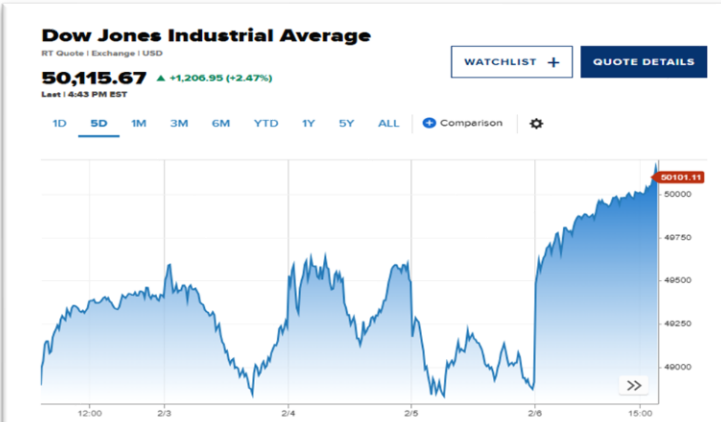
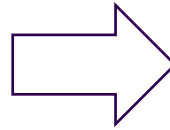
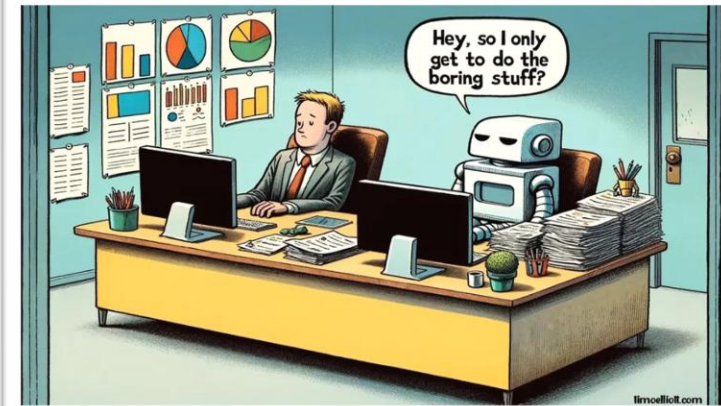
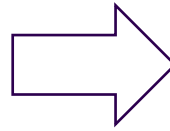
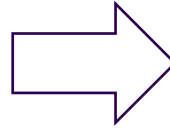
From scaled manufacturing to adaptive reuse, experiences, and trust.

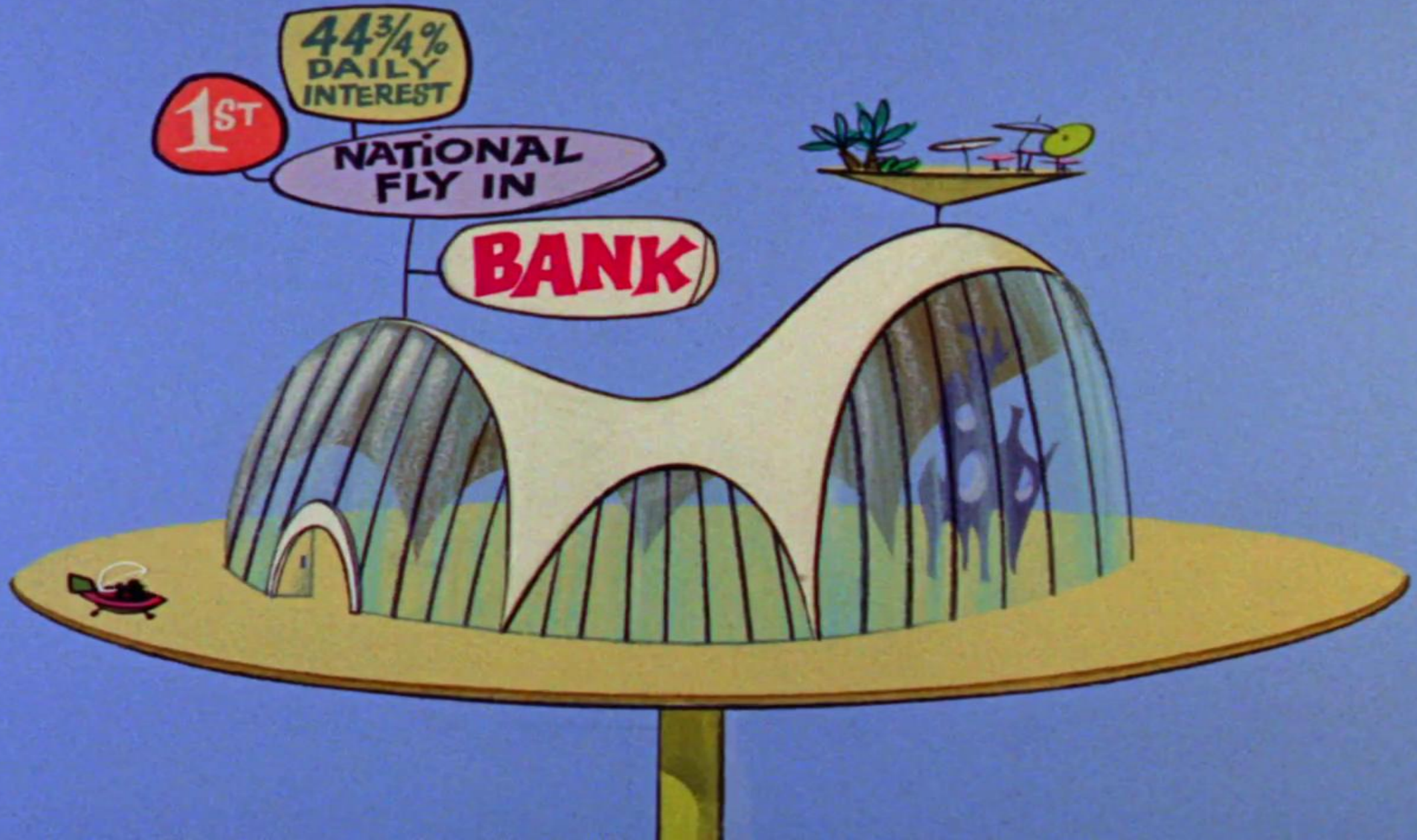
Industry Overview prepared for NC TECH

2026 Outlook for Tech

February 2026







1ST

44^{3/4}%
DAILY
INTEREST

NATIONAL
FLY IN

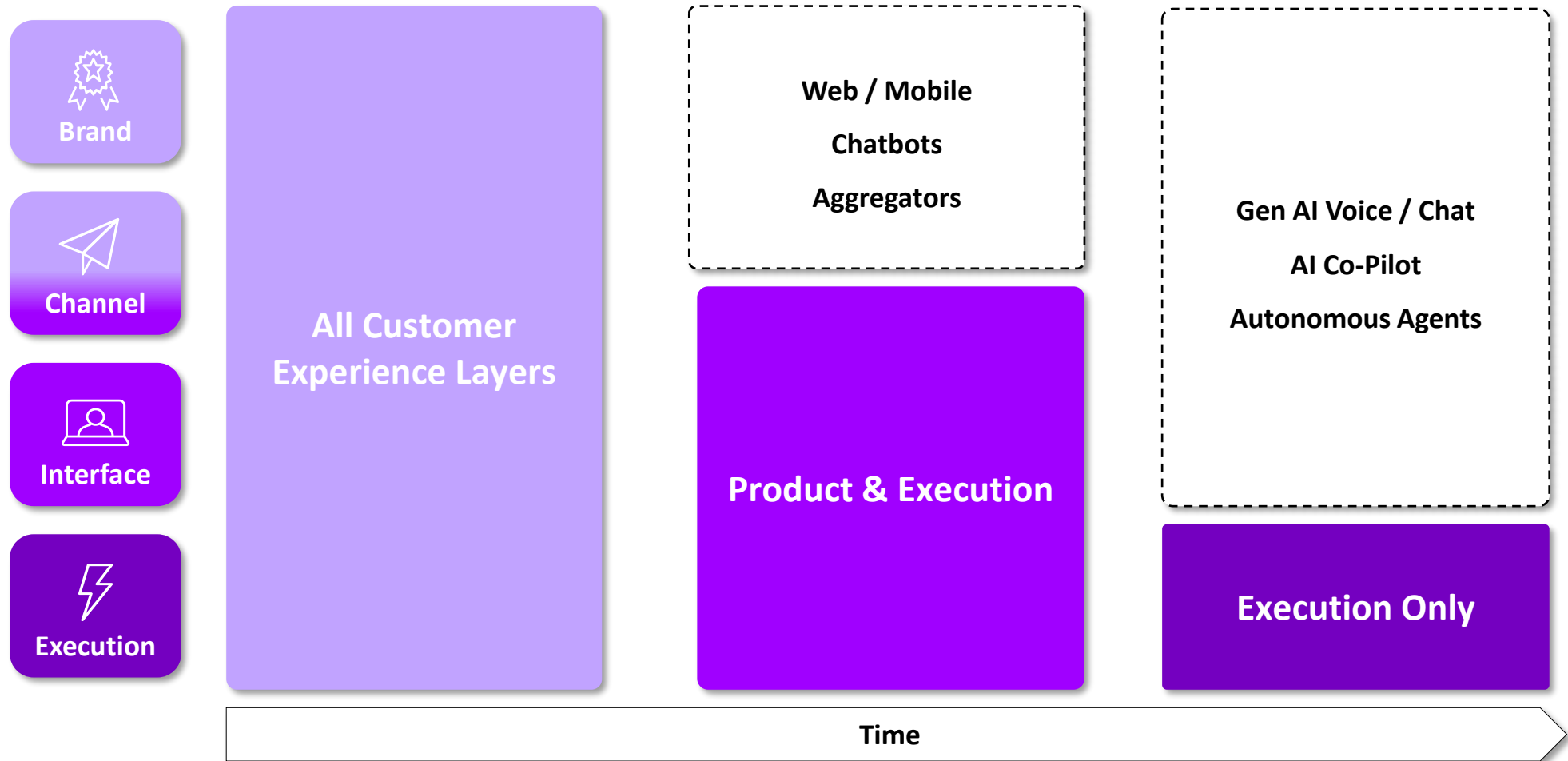
BANK

Has Customer Engagement lost its soul?

“Mobile ordering chipped away at some of the soul — we focused on saving seconds instead of preserving the experience, connection, and integrity beyond just a great cup of coffee.”

- Brian Nicol, CEO, Starbucks





TECH

Salesforce CEO confirms 4,000 layoffs 'because I need less heads' with AI

PUBLISHED TUE, SEP 2 2025-7:57 PM EDT

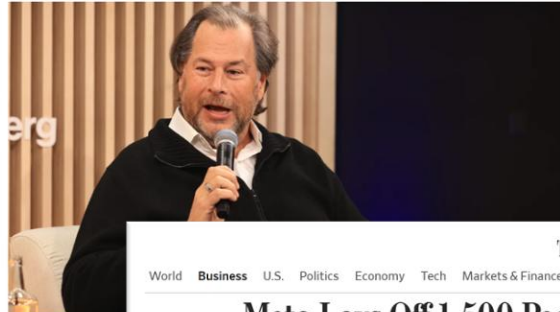
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Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff

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TECH

Workday to cut 1,750 jobs in AI push

PUBLISHED WED, FEB 5 2025-7:58 AM EST

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Meta Lays Off 1,500 People in Metaverse Division

Cuts affect 10% of staff as spending shifts to company's AI glasses, other wearables products

By Meghan Bobrowsky

Jan. 14, 2026 1:20 pm ET

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Meta is moving investment away from its metaverse group. DAVID PAUL MORRIS/BLOOMBERG NEWS

[Meta Platforms](#) META 10.40% ▲ has laid off roughly 10% of staff, about 1,500 people, from its Reality Labs division, the unit that houses its virtual and augmented reality efforts, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Amazon to cut 16,000 jobs in latest round of layoffs



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CIO JOURNAL

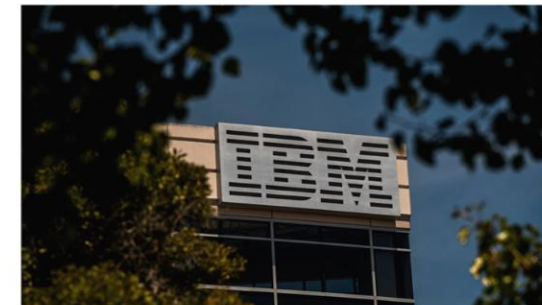
IBM CEO Says AI Has Replaced Hundreds of Workers but Created New Programming, Sales Jobs

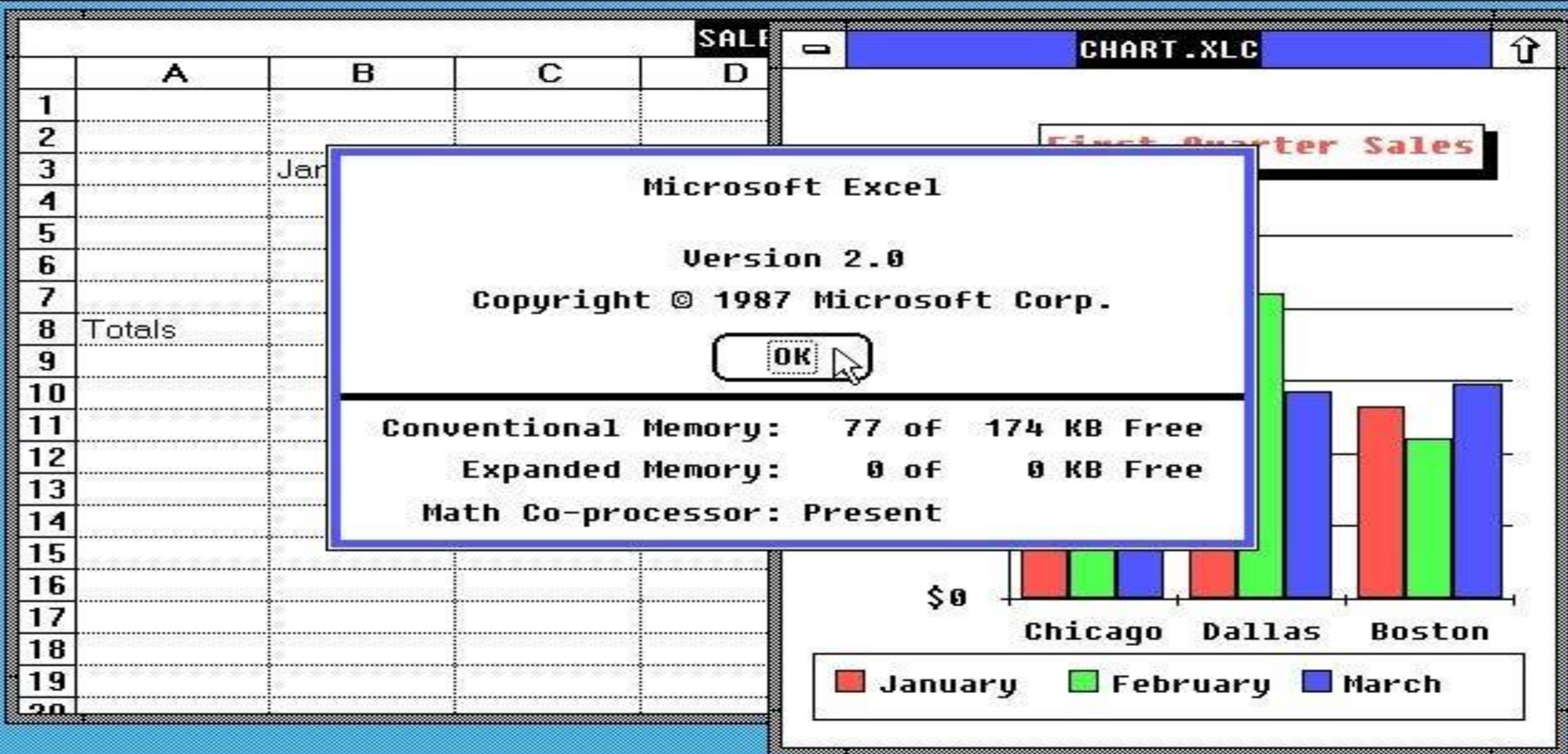
The tech company promises higher total employment as it reinvests resources toward roles like software development

By Belle Lin

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ZZZZZZZZ // 000000 SSSSS
  ZZ      // 00 00 SS
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ZOS APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM - RELEASE 1.4.0 Summer

===> ENTER "LOGON" FOLLOWED BY THE TSO USERID, EXAMPLE "LOGON IBMUSER" OR
===> ENTER L FOLLOWED BY THE APPLID
===> EXAMPLES: "L TSO", "L CICS", "L IMS3270

===> EXAMPLER: „Г 120„ „Г CICS„ „Г IM3270
===> ENTER Г LOGGOMED BY THE WBBGID
===> ENTER „ГGCOM„ LOGGOMED BY THE 120 028KID EXAMPLER „ГGCOM IBMUSER„ OR

ZOS APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM - RELEASE 1.4.0 Summer
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