



## **Quick Facts:**

## Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)

- An Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) is a retirement plan similar to a 401(k) with one distinct difference: Employees don't contribute their own money.
- ▼ The ESOP is 100% funded by the company. It doesn't cost employees anything to participate, and it is available to employees at all levels of the business.
- Shares are added to employees' accounts annually. Once fully vested, the shares belong to you. AMERICAN SYSTEMS has an accelerated three-year vesting schedule (half the time of many ESOP companies, so your ownership grows faster).
- Your ESOP account is **not taxable** until you take a distribution, which is generally at retirement.

- ▼ The company's ESOP share value is calculated annually by an external valuation firm. As an owner, you'll receive a statement that shows the number of shares and the value of your ESOP account.
- As an owner, you can influence company performance and the value of your ESOP retirement account. Actions that drive stock performance include process improvements and profitability.
- ▼ The longer you work at AMERICAN SYSTEMS, the larger the opportunity to build retirement wealth through our ESOP. When the company does well, you do well.

## Want more details?

click here to watch a short video explaining how the ESOP works and how it empowers our employee-owners to think and act like owners.