Introducing Your Savings Spectrum Statement

What happened to The401kStore?
Because we provide services to many different types of Retirement Plans, The401kStore and its parent company, Qualified Benefits Consultants, Inc. wanted to unify its service lines under a common name and message. Therefore the two entities will now be known as Ekon Benefits.

Does this affect my account?
Your account is not affected in any way. The change in name and logo is simply a rebranding of the previous entities. There has been no change in the ownership or corporate structure and we will continue to provide the quality service that you expect.

What does Ekon mean?
Ekon, meaning trust in Polish, speaks to our founder’s ancestry, as well as our goal of being your trusted partner for your retirement plan administration.

How is my statement different?
New features of your Savings Spectrum statement include a Portfolio Balance Snapshot and a Plan Resources section. This overview describes some of the highlights of your statement.

Account Summary
The Account Summary not only recaps the current quarter, but also provides year to date values showing your annual progress. The Personalized Rate of Return measures the performance of your overall investment portfolio.

Portfolio Balance
The Savings Spectrum quarterly statement includes a Portfolio Balance, allowing you to quickly view your total account value as of the current quarter.

Sources and Vesting
Your account balance is detailed by source of contributions, along with vesting and a pie chart illustration in the Sources and Vesting section.

Plan Resources
The Plan Resources section includes information regarding accessing your account online and by phone. This section also may include timely information regarding the specifics of your Plan or your available investment alternatives.
Portfolio Activity

The Portfolio Activity section is color coded from cold to hot. Cooler colors represent more conservative investment options, while warmer colors represent more aggressive options. Within each color, the Category describes your investment choices. Bond choices are generally listed from short to longer maturities and stock choices, categorized by style, are arranged from large to small. Each investment choice is assigned a relative Risk Level from 1 to 99 determined by Ekon Benefits based on category, style and portfolio analytics. Portfolio Allocations of both your current portfolio and future contributions are shown to assist you in portfolio rebalancing.

Investment Watch

The “Investment Watch” newsletter summarizes current investment trends, economic issues and commentaries. It provides investment education and should not be construed as advice.

First, the quarterly market review and financial markets outlook. This report is based on the aggregate of the RobecoSAM sustainability ratings, a leading global provider of ESG data and ratings. The following analysis is based on the aggregate of all companies included in the index. The company performance is measured by the stock price, market capitalization, and other key financial metrics. The portfolio is diversified across different regions, sectors, and industries to minimize the risk of a single company or sector. The performance is measured in USD and is adjusted for currency fluctuations.

Green Shoots?

The current economic environment shows signs of recovery, with positive indicators such as increased consumer spending, improved business confidence, and rising industrial production. However, the economic recovery is still in its early stages, and there are concerns about the sustainability of the recovery. The financial markets remain volatile, with significant price fluctuations and uncertainty about the direction of the economic recovery.

Current Portfolio Allocation

The Current Portfolio Allocation section shows the distribution of your investments across different asset classes and sectors. This information is useful for rebalancing your portfolio to align with your risk tolerance and investment goals.

Portfolio Risk

The Portfolio Risk section provides a personalized risk level of your portfolio at a glance. It helps you understand the potential impact of market fluctuations on your investments.

Global Outlook

The Global Outlook section provides an overview of the current global economic landscape, including key indicators such as GDP growth, inflation rates, and interest rates. This information is useful for understanding the broader economic context and making informed investment decisions.
New Performance and Expenses Section

Statement Highlights
Your improved statement includes a new Performance and Expenses exhibit to help you compare the investment alternatives under your retirement plan. Also the Plan Related Information on the last page of your report explains how to give investment instructions and describes additional expenses, if any, which could be deducted from your account.

These disclosures are required by new Department of Labor rules. Enhanced formatting has been used to organize and clarify the data to aid in making informed decisions about your future.

Fund Performance
The Fund Performance provides for an easy comparison among the available investment options and also to a broad based index. All indexes are italicized and are color-coded for easy identification.

Fund Expenses
The Net Expense Ratio is the total operating expenses of the investment option expressed as a percentage. For an example, the chart shows the dollar amount that is charged for each $1000 of your account balance.

All indexes are in color-coded areas for easy comparisons

US Stock Funds
The US Stock Funds on the Portfolio Activity page are organized by the style or types of stocks - Value, Blend and Growth, while for the Performance display, they are organized by the size of the companies in which they invest - Large, Mid Cap and Small.

Fund Restrictions
Fund Restrictions or Shareholder Type Fees are described in this section. These are two different methods fund companies use to curb short-term trading.

Internet Web
Internet Web Sites for each investment option can be accessed for more detailed disclosures. Links to both Fact Sheets and Prospectus can be found at www.ekon.us/TICKER. Just type “ekon.us/” and the ticker symbol at the address bar.