

McDonald's CEO forced out over 'consensual relationship' with employee

McDonald's announced Sunday that its president and CEO Steve Easterbrook was forced out after showing "poor judgment" by engaging in a "consensual relationship" with an employee. He was replaced by Chris Kempczinski, the president of McDonald's USA. Kempczinski was also elected to the board of directors.

"Easterbrook... has separated from the company following the board's determination that he violated company policy and demonstrated poor judgment involving a recent consensual relationship with an employee, " the company said in a statement.

In an email to McDonald's employees, Easterbrook said his relationship was "a mistake" that violated company policy. "Given the values of the company, I agree with the board that it is time for me to move on, " the email said.

"There isn't going to be some **radical**, strategic shift. The plan is working, " Kempczinski said.

radical 激进的; 根本的

Easterbrook had served as chief executive since 2015. Under his leadership, McDonald's share price doubled, but he was unable to stop a decline in sales.

Easterbrook's pay as CEO rose with McDonald's share price, which closed last week at \$194. His **compensation** hit a peak in 2017 at \$21.8 million, including \$9.1 million in incentive-based pay, The Wall Street Journal said.

compensation 补偿; 报酬

apparel 服装; 衣服

Workplace relationships have cost a number of CEOs their jobs in recent years, and the topic has become even more sensitive amid the #MeToo movement.

Intel CEO Brian Krzanich and yoga **apparel** brand Lululemon chief Laurent Potdevin resigned from their companies in 2018 following revelations of relationships with employees. In 2016, Priceline CEO Darren Huston stepped down for the same reason, as did BestBuy CEO Brian Dunn in 2012.