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Hanes Dye And Finishing Eliminating Jobs

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A Winston-Salem plant and division of Hanes Companies said Tuesday that half its workforce will be laid off.

Hanes Dye and Finishing Company will eliminate 144 of the 288 jobs at its plant, according to company officials. The main plant is located on Northwest Boulevard but the division also employs about 150 people at facilities in Butner and in Easley, S.C.

The layoffs are effective Dec. 31.

In a statement, the company said the move is because of the rising tide of textile imports.

"We regret the impact this will have on our loyal employees and we are making every effort to ease their transition," said vice president and general manager Mike Vaughan. "All separate employees are subject to recall for work should business improve.

"Virtually every business today is affected by the state of the U.S. economy, imports, rising natural gas prices and out-of-control health care costs and we are no exception."

The Hanes Dye and Finishing division was founded in 1924.

In August 2003, the company announced that it would eliminate 65 of 350 positions.

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