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Broyhill Closing Plants, Laying Off 421 Workers

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CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- There are more cuts for North Carolina's furniture industry. Broyhill plans to close two plants in Lenoir and put 421 people out of work.

The company said the cuts announced Wednesday are part of its effort to keep its prices competitive in a global economy.

Broyhill said less than four months ago that it would close two other factories in Lenoir and convert a plant in Rutherfordton to a distribution center. Those changes will result in 644 layoffs.

Broyhill is the largest employer in Caldwell County, which has lost about 3,000 furniture-making jobs in the past five years. The latest plant closings should be finished by early next year, after which Broyhill plans to offer the factories for sale.

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