



GM TO ELIMINATE SHIFTS, 2,000 JOBS

General Motors plans to eliminate shifts in Q2 at plants in Ohio and Michigan, shedding about 2,000 jobs. It will also cut production at 13 other US and Canadian plants. The Detroit automaker already closed most of its 22 plants in North America this month because of slow sales. By paring manufacturing, eliminating brands and negotiating costs with unions and debt holders, GM is trying to prove it deserves \$13.4 billion in government loans pledged by the US Treasury. Chrysler, Ford and Toyota are also reducing output in North America. GM has cut US hourly employment to 64,000, from 111,000 in 2004, the last year the automaker had an annual profit.

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