

DISNEY WORLD LAYS OFF HUNDREDS OF 'CAST MEMBERS'



Walt Disney World, Central Florida's largest employer with 62,000 "cast members," is laying off an undisclosed number of employees. Press sources are saying Disney laid off 450 in this round. The cuts target salaried workers throughout the resort's back-office functions, including entertainment, merchandise, finance, transportation, training, emergency management and theme-park operations. The job cuts have not affected unionized employees. Disney, the media conglomerate whose main product seems to be princesses, announced in February it would slash jobs as part of a corporate restructuring, combining functions between Disney World and Disneyland in Anaheim, California. The job cuts follow voluntary buyouts offered to more than 600 executives across its domestic parks. Disney said approximately 50 people accepted the buyouts.

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