

## SONY DADC AMERICAS CLOSING PLANT, LAYING OFF HUNDREDS

Sony DADC If I say the name Sony what come to your mind? Maybe you think about your TV or that camcorder that you never really use when you go on vacation. If you happen to be a gamer at heart then the word that probably popped into your mind was Playstation. When a company is well known for its consumer products it can be easy to forget that they have a lot of little bits to their business, some that the public sees and some other arms of the company that most people will never even know about. So, if I said Sony DADC Americas what would come to mind? If you are drawing a blank do not worry, you are not alone. For those of you who are not familiar with this particular arm of the multi-national electronics manufacturer here is a look at how the company describes itself, "Sony DADC is a leading disc and digital solution provider for the entertainment, education and information industries, offering world-class optical media replication services, digital and physical supply chain solutions and software services. The company's network consists of service offices, optical media production, distribution and digital facilities in 19 countries worldwide." Sony DADC Americas has decided to cut back on the staff from one of its facilities. The facility in question is found in Fischers, IN and the company is getting ready to shut it down in order to become more profitable. While the actual shut down will not begin until the month of September of this year the company is beginning the layoff process in preparation for the closing. This first step of the closure will result in the loss of about 226 jobs. Those jobs will be cut by early in the month of July, though right now the company is not giving any specifics on a final work date for these employees. The tentative date for the layoffs listed on the filing is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, though this date is subject to some wiggle room depending on the needs of the company. The delay in the job cuts occurred because a loss of this size is enough to qualify as a mass layoff action under the current federal guidelines. These kinds of layoffs require an advance notice so that workers, and the surrounding community have time to plan. For those of you who are not familiar with the idea here is a look at how the federal government defines a mass layoff, "actions that result in workers being separated from their jobs. Monthly mass layoff numbers are from establishments which have at least 50 initial claims for unemployment insurance (UI) filed against them during a 5-week period. Extended mass layoff numbers (issued quarterly) are from a subset of such establishments—where private sector nonfarm employers indicate that 50 or more workers were separated from their jobs for at least 31 days." The work that was previously done at the Fischers facility will not be kept inside the company. Anderson Merchandisers will instead take over the production at its facility in Franklin.

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