

ENERGIZER HOLDINGS, INC. TO CUT 10% OF JOBS



Energizer Holdings, Inc. is a name that most of you may not be that familiar with, even though you may know about one of their most famous holdings, Energizer batteries. So, before we talk about the job cuts that are going to come to the workers in the near future, lets begin by taking a look at how the company describes itself and what other products of theirs you may know of, "Energizer Holdings, Inc., headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, is a consumer goods company operating globally in the broad categories of personal care and household products. Energizer's Personal Care Division offers a diversified range of consumer products in the wet shave, skin care, feminine care and infant care categories. Our portfolio includes well established brand names such as Schick(R) and Wilkinson Sword(R) men's and women's shaving systems and disposables; Edge(R) and Skintimate(R) shave preparations; Playtex(R) tampons, gloves and infant feeding products; Banana Boat(R) and Hawaiian Tropic(R) sun care products and Wet Ones(R) moist wipes. Energizer's Household Products Division offers consumers the broadest range of portable power solutions, anchored by our universally recognized Energizer(R) and Eveready(R) brands." Sadly the company is getting ready to, as a part of a larger restructing effort cut back on about ten percent of its workers. This means that about 1,500 workers will be getting the axe when all is said and done. The company outlined the restructing in more detail in a recent release, "Energizer expects to achieve gross annualized pre-tax cost savings of approximately \$200 million as a result of this restructuring project. The Company expects that nearly three quarters of the savings will improve profitability, and the remaining portion of the savings will be invested in the business to drive long-term growth. The Company estimates one-time charges associated with achieving these benefits to be approximately 1.25 times gross annualized savings, of which approximately 25% to 30% are estimated to be non-cash charges The Company expects that a substantial portion of the actions necessary to achieve the targeted savings should be completed by the end of fiscal 2014 and the total savings are expected to be fully realized in fiscal 2015. A majority of the one-time charges associated with these initiatives are expected to be recorded within the next 12 to 18 months as restructuring costs will likely be incurred ahead of achieving estimated savings (see exhibit - schedule of savings and costs estimates). " If the company chooses to make the cuts all at once, or is a series of smaller waves the company runs the risk of triggering a mass layoff action. For those of you who are not familiar with the idea of a mass layoff action here is a look at how the company chooses to describe itself, "The Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) program collects reports on 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 only good news is that under the terms of a mass layoff action the company would be forced to give the workers more time to prepare for the job cuts before they are let go. Update: Energizer Holdings, Inc. is hiring, visit here to check available openings.

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