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Wrigley's Official Denies Large-Scale Layoff Rumor

An official of the Wm. Wrigley Co. today confirmed the layoff of "approximately 30" production workers, but branded rumors of a large-scale cutback "false" and "vicious."

Personnel Manager Garn Pringle said the layoff of the production workers with low seniority was effective last Friday and is for an indefinite period.

A company news release said the production of Hubba Bubble gum at other plant sites across the country is the reason for the layoff.

Since early last year, the Santa Cruz plant

has been supplying all markets in the country with Hubba Bubble while other plants in the U.S. began preparing production of the product for their respective areas. The Santa Cruz plant will now supply Hubba Bubba to only its western market, according to the company.

Pringle said there "is no truth" to rumors that the Santa Cruz plant is preparing to lay off as many as 100 more workers as "a very vicious and false rumor."

The Santa Cruz plant, he said, employs 450 to 500 workers.

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