

In Brief: U.K. cable firm NTL expected to slash jobs

May 8 2006

British cable television major NTL was expected to announce the elimination of some 6,000 jobs Monday, many of which will be outsourced to India.

The Independent reported Sunday that the ax was falling as a result of NTL's recent merger with Telewest and would hit employees of NTL's eight U.K. call centers the hardest, with jobs being transferred to India and to South Africa.

The job cuts would be the latest in a series of blows to Britain's communications workers, who have experienced significant losses at Cable-and-Wireless and Orange in recent weeks.

The newspaper said NTL has been working on major cuts to operating costs ever since the October Telewest deal and the acquisition of Virgin Mobile. Virgin Mobile will escape unscathed for now.

NTL has about 5 million cable customers in Britain.

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