

Factory to axe 39 jobs by Christmas

NEARLY 40 jobs have been axed at a Stroud factory.

21/12/93
Formal negotiations between management and unions at Redlers, in Dudbridge, ended yesterday after earlier predictions that 50 people at the conveyor belt and bulk handling systems firm would be made jobless.

Now 39 workers from both the offices and shop floor will have left by Christmas said the firm's managing director, Brian Gabbett.

"We have been through the required process and at the end of the day 39 people had four weeks notice," he said.

But with people opting to take payment in lieu of working their notice, it was anticipated everyone targeted would have left by the weekend.

Mr Gabbett said "While we regret having to do this, one reason was we have to get more competitive to stay in business.

"We are in the throes of quite a significant investment programme,

providing new machinery in the factory and offices.

"We also have a far better order book now than this time last year."

Mr Gabbett had warned beforehand that Redler's historic site was too large and that the business needed to relocate to survive.

The company is trying to sell out to supermarket developers Safeway.

Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union district secretary, Bill Evans, was unavailable for comment.