



# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: John Carpenter, Public Information Officer ♦ Office: (405) 557-5469 ♦ Fax: (405) 525-0139  
E-mail: john.carpenter@oesc.state.ok.us ♦ Website: www.oesc.state.ok.us

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## FORMER EMPLOYEES OF EATON CORPORATION IN VINITA DECLARED ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

### *Special Status Granted to Laid-off Company Employees Under Trade Act of 1974*

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK – Displaced workers of Eaton Corporation in Vinita, Okla., including leased workers, are now eligible for the Trade Readjustment Assistance (TRA) program. TRA provides additional unemployment benefits to those who lose jobs or a significant number of work hours due to increased imports or a shift in production out of the country. The goal is to help laid-off workers return to suitable employment as quickly as possible.

A recent U.S. Department of Labor ruling found that former Eaton workers meet all requirements to receive TRA according to the Trade Act of 1974 (19 USC 2273). Workers must meet three criteria to qualify for TRA: (1) they must be laid off or threatened with layoff; (2) employer sales or production must have decreased; and (3) increased imports of products like or directly competitive with products made by the firm must contribute to layoffs or the threat of layoffs. Workers must also be enrolled in training either eight (8) weeks after certification or 16 weeks after their last qualifying separation, although the state waive this requirement for some people.

The USDOL report concludes “all workers of Eaton Corporation, Fluid Power Group, including on-site leased workers from Adecco Personnel, Vinita, Oklahoma, who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after June 22, 2004, through two years from the date of certification, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance...” The first day of eligibility (date of certification) is August 1, 2005. Former employees who would like to take advantage of this assistance should contact their nearest Workforce Oklahoma Center at 1-888-980-WORK (9675).

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