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[20320001]

DeSoto Inc. said it is dismissing 200 employees as part of a restructuring aimed at producing pretax savings of \$ 10 million annually .

[20320002]

Under the plan . DeSoto said it will sell certain assets and businesses that do n't meet strategic and profitability objectives .

[20320004]

The company said it plans to use the sale proceeds to invest in business opportunities more closely identified with the company 's " refocused direction .