

## Quantum plans 70 jobs in city

### *Consolidation of data-storage manufacturer benefits Springs*

By WAYNE HEILMAN THE GAZETTE

Data-storage manufacturer Quantum Corp. is consolidating its North American operations in Colorado Springs and plans to add 70 employees to its 350-person local work force.

The San Jose, Calif.-based company will move its "high end" tape libraries and disk-based computer backup systems, customized product manufacturing and repair operations to the Springs during the next six months, said Brad Cohen, a company spokesman.

Quantum has filled about 25 of the jobs, which resulted from a restructuring after it acquired competitor Advanced Digital Information Corp. in August, Cohen said. The restructuring also resulted in the company laying off seven workers Tuesday.

As a result, Quantum is moving operations in Englewood and Costa Mesa, Calif., to its plant at 10125 Federal Drive in the Inter-Quest business park. The company told stockholders last week it expects to spend \$14.5 million in severance, benefit and lease costs as a result of combining the two firms.

"We are seeing more consolidations that result in additional jobs in Colorado Springs. Companies look to consolidate where they can find a high-quality work force," said Mike Kazmierski, president of the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corp.

Quantum paid \$770 million for Advanced Digital to broaden its product line of tape and disk-drive systems that help users store, manage, protect and recover data. The company said it expected to save up to \$75 million a year after consolidating operations.

The move marks the second time in three years that the company has relocated an operation and jobs to the Springs. Quantum added 37 jobs in 2005 after acquiring a California vendor and supplier operation in 2004 and moving it to the Springs.

Quantum came to the Springs when it bought a local plant in 1994 but laid off 1,300 a year later when it moved production to Asia.

The company kept a tapedrive operation here that grew to 1,700 workers before that work was moved to Asia in 2000-01, triggering another 1,300 layoffs.

After the latest cutback, Quantum kept finance, information technology, specialty manufacturing and other corporate services in the Springs.

CONTACT THE WRITER: 636-0234 or

[wayneh@gazette.com](mailto:wayneh@gazette.com)