

Farm Equipment Giant Rostselmash to Furlough 15K Workers Amid Slumping Sales

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A Rostselmash machinery plant. **Erik Romanenko / TASS**

Russia's largest agricultural machinery maker Rostselmash [said](#) Friday it will place all 15,000 of its employees on leave for the month of June due to collapsing exports and continued market contraction.

The company, headquartered in Rostov-on-Don near the Ukrainian border, cited a steep drop in demand over the past three years, which it said has forced it to cut production and reduce staff.

Sales of combine harvesters dropped by 76%, forage harvesters by 49% and articulated tractors by 48% from January–April 2021 to January–April 2025, Rostselmash said.

In March, the firm briefly switched to a four-day workweek before [laying off](#) 2,000 employees last month.

“Farmers have no money to buy the equipment they need, and the market has drastically shrunk as a result. The negative outlook has only worsened in 2025,” the company said in a statement.

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Rostselmash, which exports to 20 countries, described the June furlough as a rescheduled annual vacation, typically held in August or September.

The company reported a 130% year-on-year drop in net income last year, down to 6.9 billion rubles (\$85.3 million), with total revenue falling nearly 20 billion rubles to 78.3 billion (\$965 million).

“Rostselmash continues to monitor changes in the agricultural machinery market,” the company said, adding it would be ready to respond if demand rebounds.

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