Photo story: The Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee

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?he Volkswagen assembly plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee is one of the most advanced manufacturing facilities in the world. It employs close to 3,000 production workers and contractors, and hundreds of salaried employees. It operates continuously and employs three shifts.

The VW plant pays some of the lowest auto assembly wages anywhere in the United States. Tens of thousands of people applied to the plant, and those who got jobs know they can be replaced at any time. For newly hired contract workers, being five minutes could mean the immediate loss of a job.

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