

Firestone

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, NUM. 10

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY, 1988

PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: J. Anand

I would like to thank all the employees who worked on weekends to make up some of the lost production due to the snow. As a result, inventories at the tire plants have improved, though still not totally up to the desired levels.

The production schedule for February & March projects that most employees in Twisting and Weaving should be able to have a few weekends off. Of course the scheduling of weekend work depends upon the daily production level - which is still not at an acceptable level.

Mr. A. E. Suter, President of Firestone Inc., will be visiting the Gastonia plant on February 26th. Let us make certain that he has a good visit and leaves with a favorable impression of our plant.

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

Gastonia's January performance continued along the same line as in December. With respect to customer surveys, it was the worst month since we began to keep records. There were complaints from Venezuela, Wilson, Oklahoma City, Decatur, Costa Rica, Buckeye, Gates, Reeves, and Akron. The complaint from Akron was actually Decatur complaining to Akron about the quality of fabric they were receiving. The customer surveys are being circulated so that the department managers will be able to read exactly what the customer has stated. We need to respond to the customer complaints with action as well as written correspondence.

We continue to receive new business for the West End primarily from Cooley and Reeves. Initial shipments of fabric went to Cooley for their evaluation which should be complete the week of 2/1. The material was inspected by Cooley personnel last week, and their response was favorable. The products being woven in the West End require very high quality, specifically no broken filaments and oily yarn, and so far the material has been impressive. It would appear that we have overcome the major barriers preventing larger orders from Reeves.

FOOD VENDING SERVICE

By: Personnel Dept.

We are working with Service America to improve our vending service. Hopefully, you can now see improvement. If not, please continue to inform us of the problems.

Our service cannot improve if some of you continue to vandalize the machines. You report that machines are out of order and when the attendant checks, he finds slugs, paper in the bill changers, or parts deliberately removed or broken. We need your help to maintain these machines.

Anyone vandalizing the vending machines will be subject to disciplinary action.

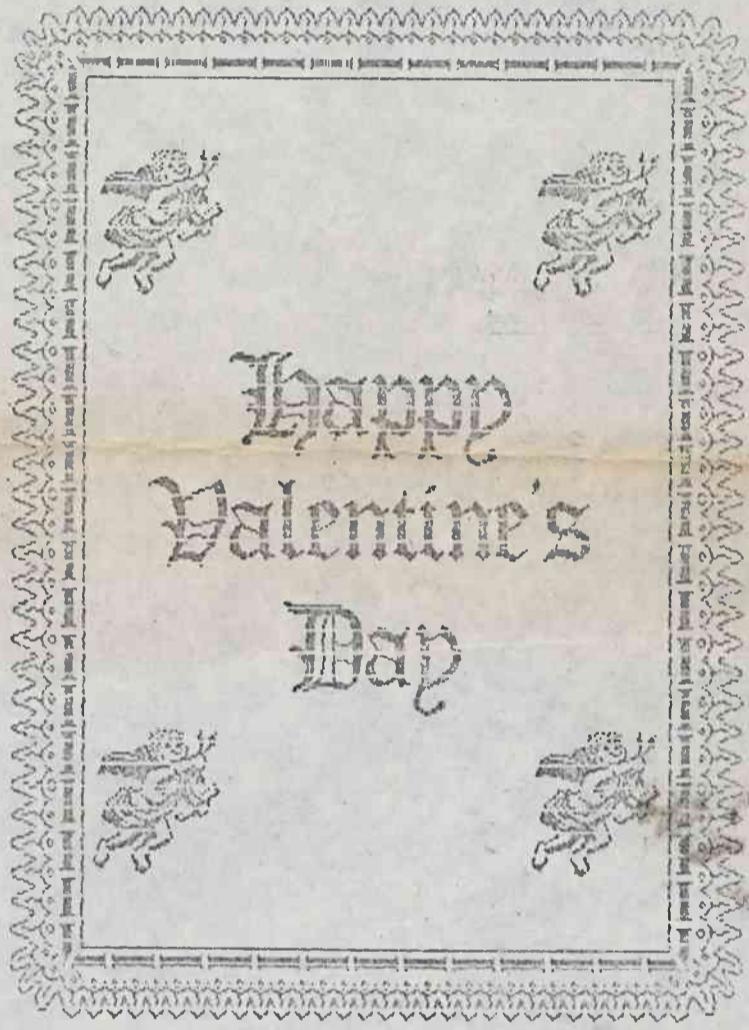
REWORK REPORT

Weaving Rerolls Generated	169	{	100	}
Reweaving Rolls Generated	38	{	MANY!!	}
Treated Rerolls Generated	190	{		}

SAFETY NEWS

Incidents 4
 Lost Time 0
 Incident Rate - Month: 9.1 Year to Date: 8.2

A recent study of 413 workers by the Acoustical Society of America and the Institute for the Deaf found that hunters or sportsmen who are exposed to gun fire had an 8 times greater loss of hearing than those not exposed. It is not only important to wear hearing protection on the job, but is equally important to use hearing protection while shooting.



JANUARY PRODUCTION

Department*	Pounds per Day	
	Required	Actual
Ply Twisting	158,000	144,500
Cable Twisting	158,000	150,400
Sales Yarn	1,500	1,648
Tire Cord Weaving	158,000	151,007
Industrial Weaving	2,500	1,940
Treating	165,000	165,647

Total Pounds Shipped for Month 3,313,336
 *Operating days vary by department.

WASTE REPORT

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting	.47	1.13
Weaving	.52	.43
Treating	.66	.78