

# FIRESTONE

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 2, NO. 5

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

NOVEMBER, 1988

### PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: J. Anand

At the end of our fiscal year, it is time to reflect on what we have accomplished and what lies ahead. Despite a number of obstacles, we were able to service our customers well during the year. There have also been some improvements in our quality levels.

The merger of our company with Bridgestone was a very positive move in that it projects a better future for our company. Demand for our fabric should be higher in the coming year. Major goals to be attained in Gastonia are further quality improvements and the involvement of all our employees in improving all aspects of our operations.

I would like to wish you and your families a very safe and happy holiday season.

Congratulations are in order for our own SANDY HUSS, who was named 1988 Gaston County Textile Queen. We are very proud of Sandy. She is a very deserving representative from the textile industry. Congratulations also go out to PEGGY JOHNSON. She was honored at a banquet for being chosen the Outstanding Employee at Firestone for her work and efforts in improving and maintaining quality.

### MONTHLY PRODUCTION

<u>Department*</u>	<u>Pounds per Day</u>	
	<u>Required</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Oct.</u>
Ply Twisting	158,000	141,038
Cable Twisting	158,000	136,745
Sales Yarn	1,500	1,728
T. C. Weaving	158,000	153,003
Industrial Weaving	2,700	2,345
Treating	165,000	163,977
Total Pounds Shipped for Month		<u>4,283,077</u>

\*Operating days vary by department.

### WASTE REPORT

	<u>Actual %</u> <u>to Production</u> <u>Oct.</u>	<u>Objective %</u> <u>to Production</u>
Twisting	1.26	1.13
Weaving	.55	.43
Treating	.30	.78

### QUALITY SCOREBOARD

	<u>Oct.</u>
Weaving Rerolls Generated	117
Reweaving Rolls Generated	38
Treated Rerolls Generated	423

### SAFETY NEWS

	<u>Oct.</u>
Incidents	2
Lost Time	0
Incident Rate - Month:	4.8
Year to Date:	7.2

The Safety Shoe Mobile will be here Thursday, December 1 at 6:30-4:00 p.m.

### CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

The main customer concern expressed during the past two months have come from Decatur and Oklahoma City.

Decatur's problem has been and continues to be the styles HJ079 and HJ090 that was woven by Uniroyal and treated by Gastonia. Several rolls of this material has been returned to Gastonia because of processing problems. In addition to the returned rolls, Gastonia has paid 4500 lbs. of chargeback for heavy dip, splits, tight edges and baggy fabric.

Oklahoma City's problem pertains to the ends of the treated rolls which they state contains spread cord and other defects which, if used, will result in a scrap tire. Therefore, Oklahoma City has begun to scrap the last 20 yards of material next to the shell. Gastonia is reviewing possible action that would improve that material at the shell.

Even though the tire plants recognize how much Gastonia's tire fabric has improved, the Oklahoma City's concern over the ends of rolls is a good example how the customer's concern over quality has risen. Even though Oklahoma City was mentioned, every tire plant is either in the process of cutting off the ends of our rolls, or soon will be. I am confident that just as in the past, Gastonia will respond to the greater demands put on it.

The news for the west end appears very good. Reeve's business appears to be strong into the future. They are happy with the cooperation and fabric quality that they are receiving from Gastonia.

# Thanksgiving

