

Firestone

FIBERS AND TEXTILES COMPANY



GASTONIA PLANT

MARCH, 1990

VOL. 3, NO. 7

PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: J. Anand

I have just completed all the employee meetings which I hope were informative for you. I found our discussions very useful. I was extremely pleased to see an increased level of awareness in our employees. Your comments and questions relating to Safety and Quality were very constructive. As I mentioned in our meetings these are the top two priorities. I am sure that with everyone's positive attitude we will make considerable improvements in these areas.

We still do not have any word on possible tire plant cutbacks. We will keep you posted as soon as we have some information.

MONTHLY PRODUCTION FOR FEBRUARY

Department*	Pounds per Day	
	Required	Actual
Ply Twisting	147,000	130,815
Cable Twisting	147,000	132,872
T. C. Weaving	147,000	146,858
Industrial Weaving	4,000	3,390
Treating	165,000	171,248
Total Pounds Shipped for Month: 3,871,574		

* Operating days vary by department.

WASTE REPORT - FEBRUARY

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting:		
Nylon	1.177	.953
Polyester	1.014	1.007
Weaving:		
Nylon	1.463	.480
Polyester	1.524	.453
Treating:		
Nylon	.781	.570
Polyester	1.930	.383

QUALITY SCOREBOARD - FEBRUARY

Weaving Rerolls Generated	95
Reweaving Rolls Generated	23
Treated Rerolls Generated	356

SECURITY BADGE SYSTEM

This month we started a new security badge system for all plant visitors. If you see anyone in the plant that you do not recognize as an active Gastonia plant employee, they must be wearing a clip on visitor badge or you should take them to your supervisor. The badges are issued by the front gate guard and the supply room gate guard only.

This need for a badge applies to retirees, family, Akron visitors, Bridgestone visitors, vendors, Defender employees, contractor employees. Its for everyone except active Gastonia employees.

The badges come in white, green, blue and yellow. No one with a white badge is permitted in the factory areas. The factory areas will have color coded signs, put up in the next month, to tell you what badge color is permitted in your area.

Be polite, don't get physical, but help us keep visitors in their proper areas. When in doubt, tell your supervisor at once. We need your help to make our security badge system work.

SERVICE AWARDS - FEBRUARY/MARCH

	Department	Years Service
GEORGE ENLOW	Twisting	45
EDITH P. MCGINNIS	Twisting	35
JAMES T. NEAL	Twisting	35
D. BOBBY PARSON	Shop	30
ERNEST M. MASON	Twisting	30
EVELYN J. BUNTON	Twisting	30
GATHER MASK	Weaving	25
GLENN W. BOYCE	Shop	20
MACIE R. GARREN	Weaving	20
J. RICHARD HARRISON	Twisting	15
LINDA BELL	Twisting	15
PERRY HUITT	Twisting	15
FRANKLIN SADLER	Twisting	5

RETIREMENTS - MARCH

FRED C. BRUCE	Twisting	36 yr 7 mon
---------------	----------	-------------

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

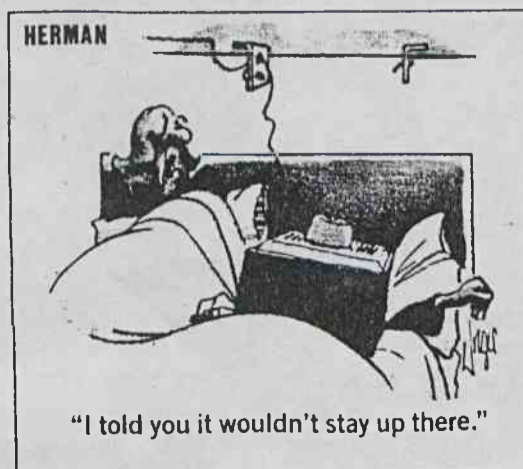
Gastonia's chargebacks from the domestic tire plants have increased slightly the past couple months due primarily to processing problems with the nylon. The tire plants are experiencing problems with what they describe as excessive dip. We feel that the problem is the specification. Trials are underway which will provide the information to make the necessary changes to the specification.

We continue to stress the need for improvement in reducing rework. The tire plants have expressed concern over the number of rolls we ship to them that are below the standard roll length. However, with the reduction in the number of rerolls and reweaves that Gastonia has accomplished, the tire plants should see a reduction in the number of shorter than standard rolls.

Gastonia is weaving all the 6687 that Reeves can give us. The other suppliers are being phased out and eventually we will be the only supplier of 6687. Gastonia is pursuing other styles with Reeves to obtain the diversification that is needed to guarantee a smooth schedule for the West End.

SAFETY NEWS

	February
Incidents	3
Lost Time	0
Incident Rate - Month:	7.6
Year to Date:	10.0



There's no time like the first time to do the job right.