

DEPARTMENT NEWS

TWISTING

By: Richard Harrison

Efforts are continuing to prepare for the transition to the new plant. The first machines will be removed from the 1st floor beginning April 7. Seven machines will be taken from the 1st floor, twenty from the 2nd floor and eleven from the 5th floor. All of the overhaulers are to be commended for their efforts. Very stringent timetables have been given to the overhauling teams and their response has been outstanding.

We are now installing separator blades on all machines going to the new plant. This has been a time consuming job but through efforts from the shop, overhaulers, fixers and temporary help, this will be accomplished.

We continue to struggle with quality problems to our Noblesville customer. These products are 210/3 on the 5th floor, 840/2 on the 5th and 2nd floors, and 1260/3 on the 2nd floor. The concerns are low tensile, slack twist, and chafed yarn.

Thanks to all Twisting employees for their cooperation during the transition period. Your support has made this difficult task much easier.

WEAVING

By: Mike Roland

We are now less than one month away from starting production in our new plant. This is scheduled to start on May 17, 1993.

We are still producing here, safety and quality should always be the first things we think about each day before we start to work. Quality defects and waste have gotten worse in the past three months. I feel confident that with the right focus, we can turn this around and get back into the Gainshare Program. Splicing and the SCRAM Team prepared a presentation on cord defects and broken cords and countermeasures to reduce this problem.

Equipment moves are scheduled to start in April. Twisting will be removing approximately forty twisters. Things are beginning to happen and our future is being established. Keep up the good work!

QUALITY ASSURANCE

By: Dave Lewis

One of our customers, Venezuela, has a hard time processing our fabric. In fact they have more trouble than all our other customers. We have worked together for years trying to resolve this problem. We have not been able to do that, so the end of February we ran some new trials. These trials were different because we had people from both Venezuela and Akron here to observe the processing. We will follow this fabric to Venezuela next month and see if we see the reason for the problem.

We continue to get pressure from our tire plants about the quality of the ends of the rolls of fabric we produce. The problem starts in weaving during the start up of the fabric on the empty shell. We distort the fabric starting it up. We are looking at buying larger shells so we can get a smoother, tighter start. The problem is added to in treating, at both ends of the machine because of the design of the equipment. Here too we are looking at increasing the shell size in order to get a better start up. We are also looking at modifying the sewing machine area to reduce the handling of the fabric.

We have continued to have quality problems with Noblesville products. They expect every bit of their fabric to be perfect, a reasonable expectation, and we can't seem to quite get there. If you work on these products, we need you to pay close attention to what you are doing, follow the specifications and procedures, and do the best job you know how to do.

We received another perfect score from our customer in Costa Rica! In February he had no chargebacks. That's better than six consecutive months without a complaint. Good job!!

IRENE ROWLAND retired 4-1-93 from the Lab following MARGARET RAXTER who left in January. We will miss them both.