

Firestone

Gastonia
North Carolina

MARCH 1976

Textiles Company NEWS

Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green • Kentucky



• If you were to put the plied cord in this roll of nylon end-to-end, it'd stretch in a straight line 3,330 miles—something like from Gastonia to Vancouver, B.C.

Here, loom changer Roosevelt Jamison readies the 3,024-yard roll for its next stop at the dip-and-heat-treating unit before it starts on its long way to another factory where it will be built into tires.

This roll has 1938 ends (single cords of warp),

making the fabric about 61 inches wide. Of current production volume in synthetics at Firestone, Gastonia, nylon is the predominant fiber processed. Polyester, rayon and fiberglass follow in order. There is limited production in such other materials as Kevlar (Fiber B); and steelcord.

TEXTILES DIVISION

Energy-Saving

The Firestone company's current Energy Conservation program aims to—

- Reduce company energy consumption substantially, and
- Save the equivalent of 125 million gallons of oil annually by 1980, measured against 1972 usage levels.

To accomplish these goals, savings quotas have been set for each of the company's facilities or groupings of facilities. Average goal for Firestone's worldwide operations is 20 per cent reduction. Goals vary at different locations because of the differences in energy-saving po-



tential from plant to plant.

Firestone Textiles Company units at Gastonia, N. C.; Bowling Green, Ky.; Bennettsville, S. C. and Woodstock, Canada have a division goal of 13 per cent reduction by 1980.

First major aim of the savings

program is to accomplish at least half of the savings goals for the various plants and facility groupings during the current fiscal year. The energy-savings program began with the new year in November and will end Oct. 31, 1976.

BIG CLEANER

• James M. Price (front) and Odess S. Killian of the painting service (Shop) added color and weather protection to the giant vapor stack of the electrostatic cleaning installation of Gastonia No. 8 fabric-treating unit last month.

The latest clean-up equipment which replaces an original device installed in 1972, is intended to meet State and Federal air-quality standards.

Pure steam used in cooling hot gases from No. 8's treating ovens is the only material released to the environment, via the connecting pipe (photo) leading to upper stack.

Three Plants to Local Economy:

More Than \$16 Million

•• More than \$9 million. The amount that operations of Firestone Textiles Company at Gastonia put into the local economy in 1975. James B. Call, company president, also noted that:

• The company's 1,200 factory and office employees earned \$8 million in wages and salaries during the year. And goods and services bought in the Gastonia area cost the company \$1.7 million during 1975.

• The Gastonia plant, operated by The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company since 1935, weaves rayon, nylon, polyester, fiberglass and steel wire into fabrics used in tire cords and industrial applications.

During the year the plant processed more than 75 million pounds of textiles—this shipped throughout the United States.

Operations of the Bowling Green (Ky.) unit of the company added nearly \$6 million to the economy last year. The plant's 582 factory and office employees earned \$5.5 million in wages and salaries during the year.

The Kentucky textile oper-

ation spent about \$395,000 for goods and services in the Bowling Green area in 1975.

The Bowling Green plant has been operating since early 1968, producing tire fabric or nylon, polyester and fiberglass. Of these materials, the plant processed nearly 53.4 million pounds in 1975.

At Bennettsville (S. C.) the company's operations in 1975 added about \$1.2 million to the local economy.

The plant's 135 factory and office employees earned \$898,000 in wages and salaries last year. Also, \$319,000 went for goods and services in the Bennettsville area in 1975.

The S. C. plant, operated as a Firestone textiles division facility since 1943, weaves nylon fiber into fabric used in production of all types of tires. During the year, the plant processed more than 13 million pounds nylon fabric.

Bennettsville: Service Records

• Clyde F. Polson, ply twister cleaner; and Charles Sweatt Jr., ply twister operator, completed 30-year service records with the company's Bennettsville plant in February.

Also, Margaret McCaskill,

Quality Control inspector, completed 5 years credited service in February.

• Metric's Coming. To change pounds to kilograms, multiply the number of pounds by 0.454.

BG In C of C Hall of Fame

When Bowling Green in late January was named an All-Kentucky City for the third time in as many years, it qualified to join the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's Hall of Fame. The awards program which recognizes community development, was themed "Opportunities for Progress." It is sponsored by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

Representatives of winning cities received the awards from Gov. Julian Carroll and Pete Rose of the Cincinnati Reds baseball club.

Bowling Green's entry, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and local chapter of National Secretaries Association, presented broad aspects of community development, ranging from participation in a national flood insurance program to the creation of 650 new employment opportunities.

JUDGING of entry presenta-

tions was done on district level last fall and on state level in December. Entry coordinators placed Bowling Green in all possible categories on which to base presentations. These are: Hospitality industry, industrial development, commercial development, comprehensive planning, residential, local government, recreational and cultural programs, public health and welfare, education, utilities and service, ecological improvement, and energy conservation.

