

DEPARTMENT NEWS

TWISTING: Our waste on Nylon has improved during the last six weeks but, our Polyester waste shows little or no improvement. We have been receiving some poor quality beams from Hopewell but they are in the process of correcting the problems we have found in their beams. We will be receiving five beams that Hopewell considers perfect and we are to evaluate them. Hopefully, by working together, we will be able to produce a better quality tire cord with less Polyester waste.

We have only 3 Utex twisters on the 2nd floor that are on 14" bobbins and 14 twisters on the 2nd floor EE. All of the remaining 14" twisters should be changed to a 12" stroke by April 30th. When this is completed, we will have only have one size bobbins in the plant which will be a 5" x 12".

Everyone is doing a great job keeping paper and cans off of the floor. There still seems to be a significant amount of yarn being left on the floor so please remember to use your aprons for your yarn waste.

Production has increased to approximately 145,000 lbs/day. Let's strive towards our goal of 160,000 lbs/day.

WEAVING: DRAPER/SULZER WEAVING:

Efficiencies:

	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Draper	79%	76.4%
Sulzer	68%	71%

Draper: Weaving has been working mostly on a six day schedule. Efficiency levels have been extremely good but we continue to have a few problems with mixed yarns in our creels.

Sulzer: Weaving efficiencies on Sulzer looms have been very good. Quality problems continue to be our main area of concern along with an increase in floating cords as well as cord defects.

Re-Weaving: Earlier this year, re-weaving inventories were reduced to six rolls. This was the lowest inventory we have had in quite a few years. Inventories are somewhat higher now, but progress is being made to reduce these inventories.

INDUSTRIAL WEAVING: Five new Dornier looms have been purchased for the WE. We have targeted July 1, 1989 as a start up date for this new equipment.

QUALITY ASSURANCE: In January, Mr. Anand and I went to Venezuela to observe the quality of our fabric in their plant. They had complained about baggy fabric causing them waste. We observed several rolls of fabric at their calendar letoff and while we noted some slight baggy mess, it was not a problem. So, we did not observe the serious problem they reported. However, the slight bag is not good so we are running an experiment to eliminate this. A return visit was scheduled for March and at that time, the improved fabric will be evaluated.

Venezuela is a very big customer of ours and we can't afford to have them unhappy. Both the Weave room and Treating unit personnel have been very helpful in working on this problem.

TREATING:

	<u>January</u>
#8 Efficiency:	92.0%
#3 Efficiency:	92.7%
Chafer Efficiency:	78.2%

The Bridgestone Dip Ramp has been installed in the #8 unit. The multiskilled program in the Chafer unit was completed on February 20, 1989 and we are glad to report that it is working very well. We have also begun to train in Chafer which will enable us to begin a 2nd shift.

MAINTENANCE:

The Shop had a lost time injury on 2/20/89. GRIER SMITH, 3rd shift Maintenance Technician, was turning a gear blank on a lathe, the blank came loose from the chuck striking Grier on the back of his left forearm and wrist. Grier will have surgery on 3/2/89 to repair damaged tendons. We all wish Grier a fast and complete recovery.

The Shop PIT team has been working hard on cleaning up the basement main mill. They are sorting through and discarding old equipment and building partitions for a new storage area. They plan on having a "Plant History Wall" along the east wall of the new storage area. The Team has already gathered many interesting photos, newspaper articles and brochures for display.

===== SERVICE AWARDS - JANUARY =====

	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years Service</u>
ANITA A. MCDONALD	TWISTING	20
EARL R. MCCOY	TREATING	15
JIMMY D. BATTLES	WEAVING	15
JOYCE G. LINEBERGER	TWISTING	15
CAROLYN W. SEAGLE	ACCOUNTING	15
TOMMY G. HODGE	TREATING	10
WILLIAM S. STEVENS	TWISTING	5

===== RETIREMENTS FOR JANUARY =====

	<u>Department</u>	<u>Years Service</u>
ALONZO SETZER	SHOP	41 YRS 9 MOS.