

# Firestone

FIBERS AND TEXTILES COMPANY



GASTONIA PLANT

SEPTEMBER, 1989

VOL. 3, NO. 3

## PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: J. Anand

We had the pleasure of a visit by the following Bridgestone personnel from September 16 through September 26.

### Tokyo Plant

MR. TANAKA Plant Manager  
MR. TERADA Plant General Foreman  
MR. OHBUCHI I. E. Chief Engineer

### Hikone Plant

MR. MURABAYASHI Chief Engineer - Treating, Calendering, Stock Cutting  
MR. NOGAMI Plant General Foreman  
MR. OKAKURA Plant Maintenance

### Technical Center - Tokyo

MR. SANADA Processing  
~~MR. YAMASHITA~~ Reinforcement Material Development  
MR. YOTSUMOTO Reinforcement Material Development & Adhesive Development

### U. S. Advisors

MR. MOTOHASHI Joliette  
MR. OSHIMA Akron

The Hikone plant is also our sister plant and as such we will be seeing more people from Hikone.

The purpose of this visit was for the team to study all areas of the plant and make recommendations. Their primary area of concern was our high waste and rework.

The most impressive thing about these people was their attention to detail and the desire to make small improvements on a continuing basis (KAIZEN). I feel that the Gastonia people that came in contact with these visitors learned a lot about problem solving. It is up to us now to put in practice what we have learned and, working together, to improve.

HURRICANE HUGO has created many disruptions in everyone's lives. I hope that you and your families are safe.

## MONTHLY PRODUCTION FOR AUGUST

Department*	Pounds per Day	
	Required	Actual
Ply Twisting	147,000	134,644
Cable Twisting	147,000	132,150
T. C. Weaving	152,000	145,252
Industrial Weaving	2,700	1,472
Treating	165,000	153,509
Total Pounds Shipped for Month:	4,403,328	

\* Operating days vary by department.

## WASTE REPORT - AUGUST

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting:		
Nylon	.843	.876
Polyester	.990	1.136
Weaving:		
Nylon	.598	.668
Polyester	.559	.940
Treating:		
Nylon	.832	.775
Polyester	.204	.463

## QUALITY SCOREBOARD - AUGUST

Weaving Rerolls Generated	114
Reweaving Rolls Generated	60
Treated Rerolls Generated	552

## OBSERVATIONS OF A SALESMAN

While walking through the plant the other day I stopped to talk to an employee. Not knowing a lot about exactly what each job is, I asked the person what he was doing.

"Oh, just twisting a lot of yarn together," was the answer.

During a later shift that day I happened to be walking through again and stopped to ask another Twister Operator what he was doing.

"I'm starting to build a Firestone radial tire," came the answer.

I hope the second person twisted the cord that's in the next tire I buy and trust my family to ride on.

## SERVICE AWARDS - SEPTEMBER

	Department	Years Service
BARBARA J. ROGERS	Weaving	30
RICHARD A. McMILLAN	Twisting	30
DAVID F. WEBB	I.E.	30
TOM HAYES	Twisting	25
MARY M. WATKINS	Twisting	25
CAROL S. PAYNE	Personnel	20
C. HAL HAYES	Technical	20
EZELL BELL	Twisting	15
CARL N. NEELY	Weaving	15
JAMES DIXON	Weaving	15
RAYFORD S. TAYLOR	Weaving	15

## UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN EVENTS

The Firestone 1990 campaign for United Way shattered records by not only making our goal in ONE DAY but also surpassing that by 25.8% !

The campaign was designed to give employees a sense of what the agencies, workers and volunteers do at the United Way. Our Fun Bus took 50 employees touring Camp Sertoma, Red Cross, Heart Society plus other facilities that care for many in our community.

Over 200 employees participated in the Heart Society sponsored cholesterol check. The good news is that our plant has one of the lowest cholesterol ratings in the county!

Bringing the "best to you" were speakers MIKE MCKAY of WBTB sharing his personal experience of being pinned in a car and JENNY TILLMAN of Shelby United Way. Thanks also go to LARRY BAKER, DENISE GLENN, BUD WENTZ, CAROLYN GARRISON and JENNY BROWN.

Our Wacky T-Ball team lead by coach MIKE ROLAND lost by one run yet the team won the Best Uniforms trophy accepted by BUDDY RICHARDS.

Congratulations to prize winners: JAMES McMILLAN - portable TV, JAMES BRADLEY - portable TV - JAMES BRADLEY - portable TV, HERSHEL PARSONS - 13" color TV, JIMMY HUGHES - microwave oven, LARRY WILSON - answering machine and MARY LAYEL - shop vac.

HURRICANE HUGO put our recent United Way contributions to work setting up 6 emergency shelters in Gaston County providing food, shelter and hot showers for thousands of residents. If you need help call 864-5788 or if you are able to volunteer your assistance to others call 865-0820.

## SAFETY NEWS

	August
Incidents	4
Lost Time	1
Incident Rate - Month:	8.6
Year to Date:	8.0