

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

**TWISTING:** Productivity levels for the month were as follows: Ply - 115 PPI, Cable - 135 PPI and Respooling - 140 PPI. Our shortcoming is that we are still not able to operate 100% of our equipment due to absenteeism.

Improvements are beginning to be noticed in our maintenance. MARSHALL BURCHFIELD is working with section supervisor trainees. Work is continuing on the 2nd floor East End to change 14 inch frames to 12 inch. This should be completed in September. Utex overhauling is proceeding and we are beginning to overhaul respoolers. First floor East End area is awaiting parts but starting to take shape.

Painting on the 4th floor has started while 2nd floor painting will continue during weekend shutdowns. The 4th floor restroom renovations will be completed in the very near future and will be considered a model for the remainder of the plant. Many employees have been involved with this project; many dollars have been invested. As a model it is important that this area remain tidy. Vandalism in the restroom will result in no future expansion to other areas.

We've experienced the most successful United Fund drive ever in the history of the plant. Thanks to all of you for your support of the United Way campaign.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE/TECHNICAL:** Congratulations to #8 Treating Unit 2nd shift operators! You get the Quality Eagle Eye Award for August. These people spotted some mixed cords in several rolls of PC fabric and prevented us from shipping a serious defect to the tire plants. THANKS!

I hope this is my last comment on the "mystery spots" we found on our treated nylon fabric. The chemists identified them as one of the chemicals we add to the dip. We stopped using it and the spots went away. After we clean up the 50 rolls we are holding, that problem should be behind us.

Let me add my congratulations to the Textile Olympics Softball Team for some high quality playing. You did us proud! Thanks to all of you and to all the rest of you my congratulations to a recordbreaking one day United Way campaign. I have done a lot of bragging on your performance.

**MAINTENANCE:** Special thanks to those working over the past weekend to make repairs and clean up the plant after HUGO. We realize they would have preferred to be home taking care of items. Repairs to #8 and #3 Units were made by PERRY BARKER, JOHN MERCER, BOBBY QUEEN, TIM MASSEY, B. G. HENSON, BILL NORRIS, STEVE ELDERS, DON MACKINS, JERRY ALFORD and CHARLIE BARKER. Plant repairs (roofs, windows, etc.) and parking lot clean up - HARRY SPENCER, EDDIE HELMS, BOBBY PARSONS, MIKE CAMP, JIMMY HUSKINS, TIM CREEL, JAMES McCARVER, RONNIE SMITH, HAROLD KIRKLAND, GENE SANDERS, B. E. HENSON, CLIFF TAYLOR and FRED WALLACE. JIM SWANSON, RONNIE PARKS and BOB GREEN helped with supervision.

We estimate it will take several weeks to repair the outside of the #8 Unit that was damaged.

Industrial Risk Insurers performed the plant fire inspection during the week of September 8, 1989. The plant was found to be in good condition with a few minor repairs necessary.

Thanks to BOBBY SIMMONS and Defender crew members B. TATE, T. MEEKS, C. THOMPSON, B. WATSON, CYNTHIA THOMPSON, L. BURRIS, E. GANTT, B. GREENE, F. SINGLES, D. TOMES, D. GUTHRIE, J. HOOPER, A. HUDGINS and M. HUDGINS for getting water out of the plant and helping clean parking lots.

**WAREHOUSE:** We are currently replacing 5 dock boards and will be installing 10 dock locks designed to hold trailers while loading for safety purposes.

Congratulations to JOHNNY JEFFERSON, ROSIE BOONE and BARBARA PRESSLEY for recently completing computer courses.

## TREATING: Efficiencies for August:

#8 Unit	87.5%
#3 Unit	77.0%

The Treating Process Improvement Team, Leader 1, has been active with several projects this summer including painting the units, laying new flooring in #3 Unit and improved housekeeping. The team selected MR. DIP as their mascot. Displayed below, he shows that **QUALITY FABRIC MEANS QUALITY TIRES.**



The P.I.T. Art Team will be introducing MR. DIP as a member of the units so in the future look for action by MR. DIP.

**WEAVING:** Quality and production suffered greatly in August primarily due to absenteeism and waste in spools. Floats have been a major problem due to waste in the Sulzer area and bad selvages were the worst since February. Draper slipped significantly in the area of quality due primarily to yarn defects that were not detected early enough in the weaving process. We encourage people in both areas to inspect cloth in any spare time they may have so we can wipe out the quality gremlins.

A new respooler has been moved to the 1st floor to facilitate air splicing of nylon cord. Single Sulzers are awaiting the arrival of 3 new TMT filling accumulators to run fiberglass headers on all polyester fabric woven on those looms. We are looking at a new electronic weft brake that should enable us to run fiberglass headers on double wide Sulzers. We have a second set of dropwires moved behind the compressor stand on loom 214 and are experimenting with creel guides to keep ends separated better on Sulzer loom 294. Over end spools with "whirly bird" attachments will be installed on all Drapers with plans to try on Sulzers in the future. New Dornier looms are set up awaiting delivery of 2 take up stands. New additions in Weaving also include 4 hose reels overhead in the Draper area, an air line in the unifil room and braces under the floor of the Dornier looms.

Look for our newly formed Draper Process Improvement Team to start eliminating roadblocks from that area!

## CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

Gastonia had another strong performance in August. Since October of '88, Venezuela has been our toughest customer reporting thousands of pounds of chargebacks for tight edges. In recent trials at Decatur and Des Moines, Gastonia has been successful at reducing tight edges utilizing a new method of over-feeding the selvage cords. Naturally we are excited about switching all nylon production over to this method. The first Venezuela material will be shipped end of October.

We have shipped material to Mexico for evaluation. It has been two years since we shipped anything to Mexico. We believe that we will be able to supply both Venezuela and Mexico with material that they can process with minimum amount of scrap.

Many thanks to the people of the West End for their help in producing the KD Kanopy material for the October sales show in Orlando, Florida. Much effort was required to weave such a lightweight fabric with the level of quality this sample demanded. Good job!