



PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: J. Anand

We had to stand the plant for three days during May due to lower requirements by the Tire Company. Looking ahead we project to stand two days in June and one day in July excluding the shutdown for the week of July Fourth. Tire shipments were improved in May and hopefully should reflect an increase in tire cord demand in the coming months.

Plant performance for the month of May was excellent in the areas of productivity (49.3 lbs/mh) and waste (1.8%). On the other hand we once again had a poor showing in the area of safety with five incidents.

We will soon be publishing the rules for selecting one process improvement team to represent us at the National TQC day in Akron on October 10 and 11 this year. Teams from various plants will be competing at that time to represent the Company at Bridgestone's worldwide PIT competition to be held in Australia. Wouldn't it be nice if your process improvement team was the one? Best of luck.

MONTHLY PRODUCTION FOR MAY

Department*	Pounds per Day	
	Required	Actual
Ply Twisting	147,000	145,132
Cable Twisting	147,000	152,770
T. C. Weaving	147,000	145,132
Industrial Weaving	4,000	2,800
Treating	165,000	166,642
Total Pounds Shipped for Month:	4,173,842	

* Operating days vary by department.

WASTE REPORT - MAY

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting:		
Nylon	.458	.760
Polyester	.714	.955
Weaving:		
Nylon	.688	.562
Polyester	.795	.534
Treating:		
Nylon	.600	.435
Polyester	.290	.220

QUALITY SCOREBOARD - MAY

Weaving Rerolls Generated	95
Reweaving Rolls Generated	23
Treated Rerolls Generated	416

"PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT OF THE MONTH" PROGRAM

In April we began a program to recognize the best "Production Department of the Month". The scale for scoring points is 1 through 10, 10 being the highest possible, determined by each department's monthly performance in the categories of safety, quality, productivity, machine efficiency, attendance, housekeeping and cost per pound.

Twisting was the high scorer for the first month of the program.

May "Production Department of the Month" honors go to Weaving.

Monthly results will be posted in the 1st floor lobby for your information.

SERVICE AWARDS - JUNE

	Department	Years Service
JOE G. GILREATH	Twisting	40
EUGENE B. JOLLY	Twisting	35
JERRY ALFORD	Maintenance	25
SANDRA L. HUSS	Weaving	20
RITA H. FRANKS	Technical	20
JAGGY ANAND	Plant Management	20
BENJAMIN WARD, JR.	Twisting	15

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

Our chargebacks per month continue to average higher than our objective. Main causes are baggy fabric, splits and spread cords.

We are paying both Des Moines and Venezuela approximately \$5,000 per month in chargebacks, mostly for baggy fabric. A trip to Venezuela is planned in June to follow the style HP122.

We are working with different sources of filling trying to reduce the amount of split fabric. We are also trying to reduce the amount of spread cords on the selvages in weaving; however, the biggest challenge will be to weave flat fabric. The Weaving teams will be asked for input as to how we can accomplish this.

Many new projects are underway. Gastonia will make another attempt at qualifying at Aeroquip. The customer is being cooperative and we are rushing to put another roll of fabric into their hands. We are shipping a roll woven with DuPont polyester to Cooley for qualification. If successful, it would mean more business for the West End. Currently we are cooperating with Gates on another style for the West End. Two trial rolls will be woven for Gates to evaluate.

SAFETY NEWS

By: Bill Passmore

May was a "mixed bag" of good and not so good for our safety program. We had a safety audit conducted by the Corporate Safety Department the last week of the month, and Mr. Lepkowski was very impressed with the plant. The audiometric testing was smoothly completed and I'd like to thank everyone for their cooperation.

If you take a look at the Incident Board in our lobby, you can see the "not so good" side. We had five recordable incidents during May compared with one for April.

We must work as a team to prevent accidents and injuries. Whatever your job, doffing, driving a fork truck or operating a lathe, everyone is a member of the Gastonia Safety Team. Look for unsafe conditions or unsafe actions, not only in your immediate work area but also be watchful in any areas you may pass through. Report all unsafe items you observe to your supervisor immediately for corrective action.

We are in the process of establishing a "Key Safety Person" program in the production departments. This program will be explained in more detail next month.

The Fourth of July holiday will soon be here. Please remember to wear your seat belts and drive carefully. We want to see you back safe and healthy on Monday, July 9th.