

Firestone

FIBERS AND TEXTILES COMPANY



GASTONIA PLANT
 JANUARY, 1991
 VOL. 4, NO. 5

PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: Jaggy Anand

Gastonia plant performance in 1990, in most areas, was very good. The plant achieved its highest productivity and the lowest waste in our history. We started our TQC education process. The working relationship between Management and Union was considerably improved. The only area with below par performance was safety, but a new awareness has been created in this important area with the help of all the employees. Overall it was a good year and these accomplishments were as a result of hard work and teamwork by all.

1991 is going to be full of challenges. We need to make further improvements in all these areas with special emphasis on customer satisfaction. We need to earn an image of being a quality supplier from our customers. Continuous improvement is the surest way to ensure a secure future.

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MONTHLY PRODUCTION - DECEMBER

Department*	Pounds per Day	
	Required	Actual
Ply Twisting	150,000	148,915
Cable Twisting	150,000	152,914
T.C. Weaving	150,000	138,904
Ind. Weaving	4,000	4,251
Treating	165,000	148,440
Month Total Pounds Shipped:	3,001,153	

* Operating days vary by department.

WASTE REPORT - DECEMBER

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting:		
Nylon	1.107	.646
Polyester	1.130	.813
Weaving:		
Nylon	.408	.478
Polyester	.567	.454
Treating:		
Nylon	.433	.370
Polyester	.188	.187

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

I had the opportunity to attend a meeting in Decatur of technical and production personnel from all tire plants and Akron. We learned what efforts are underway to meet the tougher tire uniformity requirements being demanded by Ford. The biggest items is the implementation of TQC. The commitment of tire plants and their suppliers to this common goal will be the key to BFS' success.

Overall, the polyester fabric is processing very well in the tire plants; however, there will be a lot of pressure on Gastonia to reduce rerolls and reweaves. There will be much emphasis on EPI across the entire sheet of fabric.

Our customers for nylon tire cord are requesting a flatter fabric sheet from us. Bagginess is the major customer complaint. PAUL NEAL, CHARLES PETTIT, KEITH WILSON, CHARLES MAY and CARROLL CLOER have agreed to address the baggy fabric problem. We are very interested in your ideas concerning the causes of bagginess. If you have a suggestion, please contact one of these gentlemen.

Samples are being woven on the West End to be sent to Dow Canvas and Aeroquip.

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OUR BUSINESS IS PLEASING CUSTOMERS

Sometimes we can lose sight of our customers completely. We forget that the customer, in the final analysis, pays the bill for our work.

CUSTOMERS bring us their needs and wants. Our job is to fill them profitably - to them and to us.

CUSTOMERS are affected by the way each of us does our work.

CUSTOMERS' good opinions of us and our work are one of our most valuable assets. Good opinions cannot be bought - they are freely given in response to good value and good service.

The Economic Press