

Firestone

FIBERS AND TEXTILES COMPANY



GASTONIA PLANT

MARCH, 1991

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PLANT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By: Jaggy Anand

I am sure that everyone has been reading about the economic slowdown. Automotive sales are down and as a result tire sales are down as well. The Company recently announced temporary shutdowns at Decatur, Oklahoma City, Joliet and Wilson. In addition, ticket cuts at Decatur and Oklahoma City have necessitated some lay offs in those facilities.

Naturally all this is affecting us adversely in terms of the production needed from Gastonia. We appreciate everyone's patience and acceptance of the short time in our plant. In situations such as this it is even more imperative that we do all we can to increase productivity, reduce waste and contain cost while improving our quality. I am sure that I can count on each and every one of you to do your very best toward these goals.

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

By: Jeff Heavner

Congratulations to everyone on reducing the number of reweaves and rerolls. This means fewer short rolls, and fewer customer complaints.

You may have noticed the many visitors from our tire plants touring our plant. More and more tire plants are sending their people to Gastonia to become familiar with how tire cord is made. It is a lot easier working with the people in the tire plants when they know something about your process.

Good news for the West End. AMFUEL liked the 6687 that we sent to them. AMFUEL uses this material to make water storage tanks for the military. We are weaving more fabric for Aeroquip. If successful, Gastonia will be taking the business away from Milliken.

SAFETY NEWS

By: Bill Passmore

The first shift Chem Lab has completed three months without an incident. They are to be commended for their efforts.

We had one incident during February. Nancy Price from Weaving injured her back while moving an empty box.

<u>Plant Goal</u>	<u>YTD</u>
5.5	2.6

MONTHLY RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY

	Pounds	
	Budget	Actual
Sales	3,643,000	3,483,527
Production (Woven/Twisted)	2,986,000	2,714,853
Treated (Includes Nylon 6 from Woodstock)	3,520,000	3,258,160

Sales are lower than budget due to reduced demand at BFS tire plants as well as our trade customers. Our actual production was reduced to meet our total customer requirements.

WASTE REPORT - FEBRUARY

	Actual % to Production	Objective % to Production
Twisting:		
Nylon	.652	.646
Polyester	.997	.813
Weaving:		
Nylon	.411	.478
Polyester	.504	.454
Treating:		
Nylon	.538	.370
Polyester	.178	.187

PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

On March 11, Firestone Fibers & Textiles and the United Rubber Workers Local 1133 announced a partnership called "Partnership for Progress". As a symbol of the long term commitment made by both parties to plant improvements, the Firestone and URW flags were raised in the Company courtyard.