

Bright Words



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Dream Team Awakens Sleeping Goal

Madras Plant 14's lineal feet per shift hour goal has been a slippery one. The plant's moulders averaged 4,800 LF/SH when they fired up in 1994 and it took five years of steady progress before the lineal moulding operation could hold the 8,250 LF/SH target for an entire month.

"Plant 14 has always been trying to achieve 8,250 LF/SH on the moulders and we have hit it a couple times, but never consecutively," Tim Ebersole, Plant 14's manager for the last four years, said. "As of the end of March, we hit a 12-month average of 8,434 LF/SH."

"Any time you hit your goal for a month, that is a big deal," Jason Cordes, Plant 14 lead, said. "When you can do it on a 12-month average, that is something special."

"Everybody deserves the credit," Jason added. "It is not just one person or one thing we did. Everybody worked hard and together to make this happen."

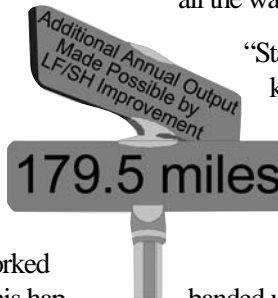
The fusion of experience, teamwork, and dedication created a dream team. "When they combined the two shifts into one, that left more seasoned people and fewer new people

so I guess you could say we got the best of the best," Steve Hutchin-

son, 1402 moulder operator, said. Proficiency paid off in faster set ups all the way through to stacking.

"Stackers deserve special kudos," Steve said. "You are still going to have the same problems if you don't have people who are able to get the material stacked down and banded up as soon as the operator is ready to go. Keeping up with a fast set-up person, that is a lot of work."

"We've been able to run more production with less people which increases LF/SH," Steve added. "My crew has worked really hard to keep up with orders even when short handed. Some weeks we've had enormous amounts to run and we still managed to get it done within a five-day period, or in some cases four days depending on the order."



Additional Product Made Possible by Madras Plant 14's Increase in LF/SH Performance (calculated using the plant's 2008 moulder production as the baseline)

7.5 truckloads

