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Fisher Body Historical Team

12-12-05

Interviewer Cheryl Mc Quade

Interviewee - Uir Uoisinet (Frisch) (French)

Seniority = 3-11-64 70 years old.

Married Yes 37 years 5 children

Military - National Guard - 6 years 1963-1969

Education = High school graduate

First Day = Amazed by the size of the plant you work in, Felt like he was in a zoo.

* Reason for Hiring = Money, and buying a car.
1964 Super Sport.

* Hired in Day Shift in 3x Trim. 2 years then about 2 months on nights then on days for rest pen. on "utility" which is absentee replacement person

* Pranks = not enough time to play pranks because the turnover was so high.

* Worst job = Rear speakers in cars, you had to lay on your back in the trunk to install these speakers.

* The Plant = Bork then it was different. The supervisor was in total control of everything.

* Layoffs = just doing changeovers.

* Strike = ~~1964~~ 1964 six weeks for full coverage health care. 1970 about six weeks for 30 years and out eligible to retire.

* The past 20 years in Material Dept. 16 years as controller in the trim dept. Supervision was alot better, you were treated differently and had more time on your hands for bathroom breaks etc.

- * Material levels storage vs. just in time.
Bulk stock was a problem because you didn't know how much of what that was in the plant.
- * just in time you were able to track your parts easier and it was less expensive.
- * Best Boss = Max Polson = He was a people person, never took his job seriously that would lead to conflict ~~at work~~. He kept a rolodex on his desk and he knew about your birthdays, or your child graduating, or an anniversary.
- * People were always selling something in the plant, candy, popcorn, etc.
- * Bring your child to work day = was a good idea but you had to watch out a lot in material for pedestrians who were walking the plant.
- * The weather was sometimes a problem for stock coming into the plant late because of this.
- * Most lunch hours he would just sleep or play cards for a few years.
- * Capital of Quality Plant = This is because of the workforce, most people wanted to come in and do a good job day after day.
- * Vic felt that the plant name changes were a smoke screen because it seemed a waste of money. Management was wasting money.
- * He felt that management was wrong when new docks were built back in 2000 to 2001 and then the plant closed in 2005.

* Uic made \$70,000 a couple of years during his time, but he missed out on some family events.

* Union Involvement = Not attending union meetings, always attended picnics, always voted in elections.

* Best Boyer's Benefit = Pensions and Health Care.

In 1964 wages \$2.68/hr in 2005 about \$28⁰⁰/hr

* Community Activities = Church dinners, Education Committee, Westphalia is a small community of 1000 people so you were involved in everything.