

Time to Take Stock of our Success

New Employees

As always the entire Chicago UAW staff would like to welcome the latest new hires and transferees to CAP. We are all excited about the arrival of new employees and the implications on our future. Roughly two years ago this facility went through a painful contraction and now the fruits of our labor are paying off with the official addition of a second shift. If one looks at the plants that go to one shift the chances of flourishing usually are dim, but at Chicago not only did we recover but soon with the launch of the Explorer CAP will be booming.

Company News

In company news as of today Ford Motor Company reported a net profit of \$1.7 billion dollars. This marks the largest 3rd quarter profit for Ford since 1990. As of the 3rd quarter of this year, Ford has posted a net profit of 6.39 billion dollars. In a note posted today on the company website, Alan Mulally stated that it is expected by the end of the year that the company will have as much automotive cash on hand as debt. Does this mean that we ease up with improvements and cost saving that got us to this point? The answer is clearly no, but what this does mean that the same way the management team has been rewarded over the last year and a half, the individuals that make and produce the cars, UAW members should also start sharing in this success!

Shift News

Effective the 25th of October the plant has gone to the traditional two shift split with days starting at 6 am, and nights beginning at 6 pm. If any issues arise due to the change such as pay issues immediately speak with your district representative and we will make sure that the issue is corrected immediately.

Union Information

Many members have asked questions about the job filling process and the letter released last week by the Bargaining Units. The company has a churn meeting in which the process and implementation of filling jobs within the plant is discussed. Months ago it was brought to my attention that one Unit could not handle the entire churn issue. My solution was to add the other two Units to the process to help with the implementation of the process (make sure the contract was followed). The churn meeting is not an opportunity to amend the contract that the members have voted on in 2007. So to be clear, without the Chairman's signature no agreement in this plant can be changed, period! The company allots a launch budget to train members on jobs during a shift addition; it is not the Unions job to let the company off the hook when it comes to the timely training of members that have been awarded jobs. As always any question that any member may have please stop by and ask myself or any other Union official.

In Solidarity,

Grant Morton, Plant Chairman.