

Fisher Body Historical Team

10-15-89

9:45 am

Interviewer = Mike Fleming

Interviewee = Mickey Costell

Seniority Date = 1973 5 months, Second 1976

Department = Wheelhouse assembly (Body shop day shift)

Married - 33 years 3 children, 30, 28, 23.

★ First Day = O.S. Richardson supervisor Body shop.

Wheelhouse Assembly (spraying deadener inside the wheel wells inside a booth) Protective equipment only gloves and glasses. 16 foot long 8 ft wide - Booth

No pranks on that job, 2 months then went to the (jungle) in the body shop where welders hung from the ceiling used on the car. Sparks and metal would get you on these jobs. One man caught fire from having matches in his breast pocket from the sparks from the welders.

Then hung door hinges on the car body, Then on to trunk locks, \$3 1/2 years in the door

dept on utility - Toronado's built in the 70's had doors weighing 80 lbs. 1978-80 then ergonomics came into play for a better and safer job. Next came inspection group 7-8 months, inspected the body's.

Next was first bowl in the office, collect all the data from inspection and prepare this for management meetings. About 1 year in this dept. Next called the door shuttle where a machine would weld the headers and from one machine after another. This beginning with the Grand Am operation.

Today he is a city driver = Parts Chaser takes parts from Fisher to Building 90 repair at Chassis plant. Cherry 1 ton truck with Racks. Reason for hiring in was for benefits.

Training to be a city driver was on company time in Bottle Creek to get a CDC license.

Body Shop had a large turnover rate back in the 70's. Pranks - Take out cut off a glove finger and put it in the car to scare people. 13 years on SPC. (Statistical Process Control) Friendships, he has gone like trips with some friends.

* Culture of people = Most people want to do a good job if management will let them do it. Some managers want to use broader supervisor skills. Union involvement (Very little) Going to the Union picnic.

* Plant Closing - God, Plant has been here for longer than most of us are old.

Father worked at Aldsmobile for about 4 years

Brother hired in at 18 then Vietnam then moved on

Grandfather worked here for less than 1 day.

Many relatives have worked here and retired.

Going to LDT but not as city driver.

* Advice to new hires = Do a good job when you come to work. This is why we have a new plant coming because we are a dedicated workforce.