

Day 8 ~ Becton Dickinson

I started the day with Ron Zach, BD supervisor of the machine tool and mold making departments. We talked about the importance of getting students into these areas and how CCC is a big part of getting these students to the next level. Right now, there is a big push in a new mold making class at CCC where students learn the basics of machining, math, blueprint reading, precision measurement, problem solving and then go on to a mold making, preventative maintenance, on-the-job learning situations to earn a certificate. We would really like to see Columbus shine in this area. It could change how industries around the US perceive Columbus.

I worked with Jason Jarosz. He taught me how they used precision tools to put data into action, whether the action be, it's going to be good to go, or, we should probably take it out and rebuild it. Most of the molds had two sides, an A side and B side. Most of the molds had 32 syringe cylinders or syringe plungers being made every 10-14 seconds. Each one of the cavities had a way of getting plastic to them, cooling it off and injecting it out of the mold. These molds could weigh between 3,600 - 6,500 lbs. To get a visual of that, my truck doesn't quite weigh 3,600 lbs! These molds are very heavy things to work with. It's a concept that is very hard to explain. You have to see it; go out in the plant and see it run before you really gain any concept of what a mold does. Jason did a nice job of showing me how things worked.



Pictured Jason Jarosz, Tracy Dodson and Gary Torczon

I was then introduced to Gary Torczon. He is a veteran in the mold making area. Gary showed me how they take molds apart. He gave me a good analogy to use with my students; when you try to take off a ring when your hand is warm it is difficult to get off. If you put your hand in ice water it comes off much easier. This is how molds come apart. When molds are put back together they are tight, when they heat the mold they are able to tighten the mold even more. Gary did a great job answering all of my questions throughout the afternoon. I was able to see molds being picked up, moved and rolled. It was an experience I will never forget and something I would have never seen or understood on a quick field trip.

My SkillsUSA t-shirt got some attention from a young man, Cole Fisher, a Hastings High graduate and CCC Hastings graduate. We talked about SkillsUSA which he was a part of in high school and college. We had a great discussion about his high school teacher, Matt Hurt, his college instructors, Bruce, Troy and Brian. One of the interesting things about Cole was that he scored a 31 on his ACT, which is amazing. He could have gone to almost any university. He chose to follow his heart and hands. He didn't want a degree that would give him a lot of debt and a little paycheck. He wanted a job doing something he was good at and paid well. The Hastings community should be very proud of him. I am glad Columbus got him!



Pictured Cole Fisher & Tracy Dodson

