

SWOSU Students Tour Goodyear Plant

02.21.2011

Southwestern Oklahoma State University engineering technology students in Weatherford recently toured the Goodyear tire manufacturing facility in Lawton. The plant produces over 65,000 tires per day, making it the single largest manufacturer of tires in the world.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students in Weatherford were recently given a detailed tour of the Goodyear tire manufacturing facility in Lawton.

The students, who are part of the SWOSU student chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, spent the day visiting the plant that produces over 65,000 tires per day, making it the single largest manufacturer of tires in the world.

SWOSU Engineering Technology Department Chair Brad Bryant said the students were able to discuss with Goodyear employees the process for building tires and observe "first hand" the application of concepts covered in the Engineering Technology curriculum such as manufacturing operations, lean manufacturing, engineering principles and inventory control.

"The students were able to see a world class manufacturing operation in action, learn of their core values which have driven the plant's successful performance," Bryant said.

Ethan Delp, an engineering technology junior from Canute, said it was an awesome experience to see all of the processes that go into making tires and the automated material handling equipment.

In addition the group learned that Oklahoma has the highest production rate of tires of any state in the country, and that Goodyear employs over 2,400 people creating a very significant economic impact on the Southwest region of Oklahoma.

The students were also able to experience a bit of Oklahoma history on the trip back to Weatherford when the group stopped by Meers for a world famous hamburger. Members of the Engineering Technology Department who went on the trip include: Craig Kwast, Clayton Harris, Jeremy Weimer, Ryan Lawrence, Ashley Keel, Alex Scrudder, Tyler Colwell, Matt Copeland, Dustin Covington, Ethan Delp, Blake Schones, Justin Lee, Chris Parton, Lucio Garcia and faculty members Brad Fitzgerald and Bryant.