Visit to Contitech in Marysville, February 27, 2017

The group visited Contitech’s Marysville manufacturing plant for a tour and overview of their operations. Contitech manufactures conveyor belts used in heavy industry – for purposes ranging from removal of quarried stone in underground mines to bringing fresh picked pineapples in from the field. Belts are manufactured of fabric or wire as a foundational strength element, with layers of rubber overlaid. The plant was built in the 1960s and consists of approximately 400,000 square feet of office and manufacturing space, with ~280 FTE employees.

Thanks to Robert McClenaghan, HR Generalist and Tara Fowler, Manager – Production Control for meeting with the group and leading a fascinating tour. Rob provided a nice overview of Contitech, its overall business and its history, while Tara described her work in managing production planning of orders and raw materials. The conveyor belts pass through several stages of rubber coating, curing, trimming and quality inspection. The finished product can be between 2 ft and 10 ft wide, up to 1200 feet long – and a rolled up, finished conveyor belt weighs between 18k and 98k pounds. These are not the conveyor belts you see in malls and airports!
In front of a “small” – 25k pound conveyor belt

In front of a “large” Conveyor Belt – 96k pounds – Dr. B is 6’ 5” to give the picture scale!

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