

❖ MANUFACTURING

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Benson, HR Specialist.

I came upon three women at Applied Engineering that have a total of 63 years of employment among them. Roxanne Johnson, Quality Tech, has been with Applied for 26 years; Julie Kirchner, Quality Assurance Inspector, 23 years and Valerie Novak, Shipping & Wrapping Team Lead, 14 years. All three got their start with the company after becoming interested through a friend's suggestion or employment advertisement. They have many hobbies among them, Johnson enjoys reading and taking long, scenic drives around the lake while Kirchner likes camping and boating and enjoys spending time with her family, kids and grandson. Novak enjoys planting flowers, snagging paddlefish, writing poetry and especially loves cooking a great meal to host her family so she can spend time with them, her favorite hobby.

Baldwin Filters

Baldwin Filters began in 1936 in Wisconsin by J.A. Baldwin, after he recognized the importance of improving mobile filtration and designed a better lube filter. The manufacturing operation was moved to the Midwest in 1953, became recognized internationally and became part of CLARCOR, a diversified group of manufacturing companies in 1981. Baldwin Filters came to Yankton when the company bought out Hastings Premium Filters in 1995.

Janelle Ekeren has been with Baldwin Filters for 30 years. Starting in assembly, she worked in a variety of departments over the years and is now a Machine Operator. She takes time outside of work to spend with family and friends and travels to see her kids. A bit of a foodie, she enjoys baking, cooking and grilling.

Robin Sparks, Quality Assurance, started with Baldwin Filters 28 years ago. She got her start with the company through a friend already employed there who suggested

she submit an application. A bargain hunter, she hits flea markets and garage sales in her spare time, fitting in some reading and crafting when she can.

Lewis & Clark Hydraulics

Lewis & Clark Hydraulics is a division of Prince Manufacturing Corporation in North Sioux City, SD, currently employing 44 people on two shifts. Manufacturing small bore welded cylinders, some for John Deere, Kubota and Caterpillar, they use technology such as robotic welding and CNC machining.

I came across three ladies who have all been with this company since it opened May of 1998 in Yankton: Shelly Anderson, Quality Control Supervisor, Jamie Ryken, Lead Person in the Assembly Department and Shelly Tweedy, Human Resource Manager. All of them shared the same idea seventeen years ago when they decided to apply at the new company coming to Yankton. These ladies devote some time to their hobbies; Anderson is a home improvement enthusiast who also enjoys reading and baking. Ryken keeps busy by playing volleyball throughout the year, co-ed softball in the summer and squeezing in camping with family and friends. Tweedy enjoys the outdoors also, biking, hiking and canoeing and takes time to read when she can.

TruXedo, Inc

Since the introduction of the Original TruXedo in 2000, TruXedo, Inc. has led the industry with new and innovative tonneau cover concepts that emphasize style, quality, durability and functionality (www.truxedo.com).

Sue Heese, Sewing Supervisor, has been with Truxedo for 13 years. She started on the night shift as a sewer when they were still a part of ShurCo. ShurCo sold the Tonneau cover department which became Truxedo and Heese has been with them ever since. She enjoys cooking, gardening, working in her yard, photography, traveling and motorcycle riding with her husband.

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