

## Why We Need Manufacturing

Manufacturing is what we as Americans lean on for products, from goods such as wine, to cars. Different manufacturing is not only found all over the world, but in the United States too. In the south, there are many big manufacturing companies, such as BMW, Milliken Inc., Coca-Cola, Budweiser, Honeywell, Dayco, Bomar, and many more. These few examples I just listed are proof of the wide variety of manufacturing. Without manufacturing, we would not be able to receive half of the goods that we need, and want, as Americans. Manufacturing is essential to our lives.

A large manufacturing company that has been around for over 40 years, and that's in the area I live in is Mitsubishi Polyester Film Incorporated. The business first started out as Hoechst Diafoil Company and was built in 1964. In 1998, the company name changed to Mitsubishi Polyester Film Inc. This 193-acre site is an autonomous facility that houses the administrative, manufacturing, R&D, and marketing headquarters for the production of HOSTAPHAN® polyester film. The facility is located in Greer, South Carolina, covers over one million square feet, and employs 500 full-time and 100 contract employees. In 2009, it became the sixth company to receive the Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute's LEF>E award (Label Initiative for the Environment). This award recognizes the environmental best practices of the company. Mitsubishi Polyester Film also has promoted energy conservation, environmental responsibility, recycling, waste reduction and social stewardship. The company is also globally known for being among the largest suppliers of polyethylene terephthalate, also known as PET, film in the world. Types of treated films that Mitsubishi Polyester Film manufacture and supply are glass clear, opaque, white, black, matte, colored, silicone coated, corona, high barrier, heat scalable, and coextruded. The in-line silicone treated release films that are produced become the dispensing liner for labels that are placed on consumer goods including beverage bottles and personal care products. Their products can be used in packaging, industrial, electrical, capacitors, thermal transfer ribbons, imaging, and magnetic.

For further information, I interviewed a Mitsubishi Polyester Film employee, Tim Ward, who is a friend of my family. Tim Ward has worked at the Greer plant for 32 years. He is a control operator, which means he runs the assembly line with a computer. Tim said that he likes working for Mitsubishi and they're "good people to work for".

Manufacturing is essential to our lives. Without it, where would we be? What would we have? Many wouldn't have jobs, we wouldn't have products to help us survive, and there would be no economy. Without the economy, good or bad, we have nothing as a country. We need manufacturing for jobs, needs, and wants. The building of manufacturing plants is very beneficial for the residents of the location. For example, the Boeing plant recently built in Charleston, SC. This opens up the opportunity for many unemployed people to be able to get a job, which is a big relief during hard times with a struggling economy. So, not only are manufacturing plants' products beneficial to us, but also when new plants are built, new jobs are provided. However, it can also not be beneficial if manufacturing plants are unable to last through tough times.

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