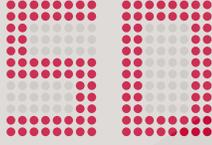


HALFTIME



PROFILE

YEARS



EST. 1967



HOMEBASE



POSITION

MAINTENANCE

Richard "Sitch" Sitlinger

Todd Stanford: How many years have you been with MI now?

Sitch: September 1st it'll be 50.

Todd: 50 years. So when you started, did you ever imagine you'd be here for 50 years?

Sitch: No, I never thought about it.

Todd: Are you going to stay here beyond 50 years? Do you have plans to retire?

Sitch: Well, I feel good, and I'm going to keep working as long as I feel good.

Todd: Now you told me an interesting story about how you came to work at MI. You ran into Pete DeSoto and he just said, "Come work for me," Can you talk about that a little bit?

Sitch: There was a little store alongside the shop in E-ville, and I stopped to get a sandwich. Pete came out and said "You're my second shift, starting at 2:30 this afternoon. I'll see you then." That's how I got to know Pete, that's the first time I met Pete, and that's how he gave me the job.

Todd: Wow, so you just ran into him at the sandwich shop?

Sitch: Yep.

Todd: So did you go work for him that afternoon?

Sitch: Yep.

Todd: So you ran into Pete and just like that, you decided to quit your job and go work for him that day. What was it about Pete that you thought this was a good idea?

Sitch: Well, my brother worked for him, and he always enjoyed it.

Todd: How many titles have you had since you've been here? Have you worked in different assembly lines or plants or anything?

Sitch: I started out screening. I screened a couple years, then I went night shift for them on the storm window line, when we started storm windows. And when that slowed down, I went maintenance. That was back in '72 that I

took the maintenance job, and I've been doing maintenance since then.

Todd: Now you must be one of the last people left who actually did some of the screen work, is that correct?

Sitch: Yeah.

Todd: So what was that work like?

Sitch: It was interesting. Making screens and screening, get 'em packed and out.

Todd: What were some other plants you saw?

Sitch: Two different ones in Texas, Georgia, Florida a couple weeks. Winlock, Washington. That was about it.

Todd: So how many different plants have you worked at since you've been here at MI?

Sitch: Here in Pennsylvania...8 different buildings I've worked in.

Todd: So you started at the original building in Elizabethville, right, and now you're here in Hegins?

Sitch: Yep.

Todd: And how long have you been here in Hegins?

Sitch: Since January of '89, I've been here.

Todd: How do you think you've contributed to MI's success through the years?

Sitch: I don't know if I contributed or not, but I must have done something right.

Todd: I would think. If you had to guess, can you give a ballpark number of how many people you've worked with directly since you've been here?

Sitch: Must be at least a thousand. More than that, more than a thousand different people.

Todd: Three of your children work here. That's got to be a special feeling, that they all have made MI their home.

Sitch: Yeah.

Todd: Did you encourage them to come work here?

Sitch: No.

Todd: They decided for themselves that it's the right place?

Sitch: Yes.

Todd: Now when you would talk about MI when you're at home with the family, would you all say good things? Do they like working for the company?

Sitch: Yeah, they like working here.

Todd: That's good. So would you recommend to someone who's thinking about applying here, would you recommend coming here to work?

Sitch: Yeah. I think it's a good place. They treat me nice.

Todd: That's good. Well you've been here, in a couple more months, it's 50 years, so you must be like royalty now here, right?

Sitch: (laughs) Yeah.

Todd: That's got to feel pretty good.

Sitch: Yeah, everybody calls me old man or pop.

Todd: What's a typical day for you here?

Sitch: Really, now they've got me doing most of the daily electrical work and pumps, presses

– stuff like that. I enjoy mostly being out in the shop working on pumps, presses. That I enjoy.

Todd: So how has the windows business changed since you started here?

Sitch: When we started making windows, it was metal, screw the corners together. Welded corners have come a long way.

Todd: MI employs so many people in this region, does it feel like sometimes you're a part of a big family, being employed here?

Sitch: Yep.

Todd: Would you say that MI is a special part of living in this region?

Sitch: Yeah. This region would be hurting without MI.