

# The Meter Setter



## TWO MILLION HOURS SAFE!

On August 28, 2013, The Ford Meter Box Pipe Products Division in Pell City, Alabama reached the incredible milestone of two million hours worked without recording a lost-time accident. We are proud of our Pell City facility for this achievement. The record is a testament to the cooperative efforts of each associate in Pell City.

On May 20, 2005, our Pell City staff decided to take a new approach to providing a safe working environment. They worked on improving attitudes, actions, and basic safety precautions within the factory. Part of this improvement came from monthly and weekly safety training for all associates, who afterward were tested on four key safety topics. The goal of this was for everyone to reach "full" safety qualification.

A higher level of involvement was also reached through a safety suggestion program that encouraged associates to provide ideas on ways to improve safety in the factory. The program also included the



The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc. – Pipe Products Division  
*Pell City, Alabama*

In 1972, Ford Meter Box began marketing stainless steel repair clamps and in 1982 Ford acquired Superior Utility Products. That acquisition has grown into 335,000 square feet of manufacturing space known as the Pipe Products Division.

In 1994, Ford Meter Box acquired Uni-Flange® Corporation. Uni-Flange® offers a complete line of water main pipe restraints. The Uni-Flange® lines of joint restraint eliminate the need for costly and time consuming concrete thrust blocks.

Today the Ford Meter Box Company offers a complete line of Pipe Products including repair clamps, couplings, tapping sleeves, fabricated steel items and Uni-Flange® restraints.

participation of hourly associates in monthly safety inspections conducted outside their own departments, and rewarded both individuals and safety groups for achievement. These programs, along with monthly training and quarterly testing, continue today with an emphasis on making a continuous effort to improve safety within the plant.

Beyond achieving a record, this commitment to safety, including 2,216 suggestions since the program's inception, is evidence of a changed culture. Along with having

no lost-time accidents, the Pell City facility has only had 18 recordable accidents since 2005, compared to 67 recordable accidents that a similarly sized manufacturing factory of metal fabrication would register during the same period. This reduction in less serious accidents is also a significant achievement.

Ford Meter Box is proud of its associates in Pell City for achieving this remarkable milestone.

