

## **AAR Summa Technology**

**June 15 – 19, 2009**

### **Pat Floyd – Educator Exchange Program**

I would like to begin my summary by saying thank you to all of the employees at Summa for educating me about their work. Each person that I met seemed more than willing to take the time to talk to me about their duties and responsibilities, even if I was interrupting their work schedule.

Before this week of job shadowing I had no idea what kind of work Summa actually did. I learned that AAR Summa Technologies is a leading provider of a reliable mission critical military container called a Crop.

From my observations during this week spent at Summa, this is a great company to work for and lots of the people that I met had worked there for a while. Throughout the plant the employees were always busy doing their jobs. Each person seemed to be very knowledgeable in their assigned responsibilities. When talking to the employees, it was evident that they were hard working individuals who cared about their job performance as well as their other team members. Most of them seemed like one big family.

This also seemed to hold true in the supervisory department. The employees thought of them as caring and compassionate individuals.

I also learned a lot about Summa from the supervisors who work there. From ordering parts, counting inventory, receiving, welding, assembling, painting, and final inspections to shipping a finished product out the door and off the yard for military use. Employees at Summa are all working toward the same goal.

I really enjoyed my visit to the Summa plant and all of the efforts made by the employees to accommodate our needs. I certainly appreciate them taking the time out of their busy work schedules to explain their duties and responsibilities to us. I feel sure that I will be able to take back to my classroom several of the things that I observed during the week. Working hard and staying on task is very important in the classroom just as it is in the manufacturing field. I want to stress to my students to always take pride in their work and to always remember that anything worth doing is worth doing right the first time.

I want to thank the CAWS program and their sponsors, along with the participating industries for allowing teachers to participate in this program.