

# Topre

My time spent at Topre America as part of the CAWS Teacher Exchange was very worthwhile. I spent the week job shadowing several workers at the plant watching them perform their jobs in welding, pressing metal parts, press maintenance, and quality assurance just to name a few. Topre built its manufacturing facility in Cullman in 2004 and is a large operation making metal parts for Honda, Nissan and Toyota. They are leaders in metal stamping technologies.

Talking to the workers and seeing how they enjoy their jobs was a good part of the week. I was able to watch the parts being made from start to finish. It takes a lot of attention on the job to make sure the part is quality. If a company must shut down because parts are not quality, it may cost a company around \$21,000 per minute. Topre employees work very hard to insure that their products are quality before leaving their plant. The company employs many of our local citizens and is good for our economy. Those on the assembly line work very hard.

I will take back several things that I observed during the week to my classroom. Working diligently is very important in the classroom just as it is in manufacturing. The attention to detail is very important. Topre employees and management have pride in the jobs they do. I want to stress to my students the same, to do a good job and take pride in their work. There are math skills such as working in the metric system and computers that I will relay to my classes. One of the most enjoyable parts of this program was getting to meet and talk with many of the employees. I want to thank all of them for a very enjoyable week.