

RK Rubber, Reichel – Korfmann Co., Inc. News Release

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Don Gutknecht remembers how business was done

(MILWAUKEE) – Don Gutknecht has had a storied career with Reichel-Korfmann Co., Inc. He was hired as a “greenhorn” salesman for the fabricating company right after his Korean War service had ended.

“Back in the day there was no casual Friday,” Gutknecht said. “In fact, there was no casual day —period. I was expected to come to work in a suit and tie no matter what was on my docket; good ‘ole Calvin Korfmann made sure of that.”

Gutknecht remembers one brand new seersucker suit in particular that had a short-lived run. “I made a call at the County Power Plant this one time. Turns out the purchasing guys liked to initiate rookie salesmen by making them walk up the belt line – about a 500 yard encapsulated incline.” Much to Gutknecht’s chagrin, “They got a good laugh on me and I got a suit coated in coal dust.”

Don Gutknecht has over 60 years of industry experience, memories and great stories. But even more important, he has a legacy of pride in workmanship that’s been passed down to the third generation of Gutknecht’s at RK Rubber.

“There have been a lot of positive changes in the rubber industry over the years,” according to Gutknecht. “Just wish I still had that suit.”

About RK Rubber

RK Rubber is a company that prides itself on accepting just about whatever rubber-fabrication challenges come down the pike. RK Rubber has experience in and services the following industries: pulp and paper, sand and gravel, mining, food processing and manufacturing, recycling (mechanical separation) and assorted distributors and fabricators.

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