

GM

POWERTRAIN

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

1939

Sixtieth

1999



PERFORMANCE DRIVEN

GM

GM POWERTRAIN

GM Powertrain Defiance Plant



September 1947:
Construction of the GM
Powertrain Defiance Plant
begins.

"Construction was
began in September 1947,
and into the new plant went
all the knowledge that years
of experience in foundry
operation had given the
division."

August 27, 1946: General Motors Corporation announced that Defiance, Ohio had been chosen as the site for its new foundry.

"The search narrowed down to a choice between Defiance and another city. Both offered about equal advantages as far as transportation, water and other services. Defiance promised to be a larger source of new GM employees, so Defiance got the plant."

"Nearly all (people) can offer lengthy argument over the advantages of life in a typical small American City, particularly if the city is Defiance, Ohio. They like the quiet tempo of their way of living."

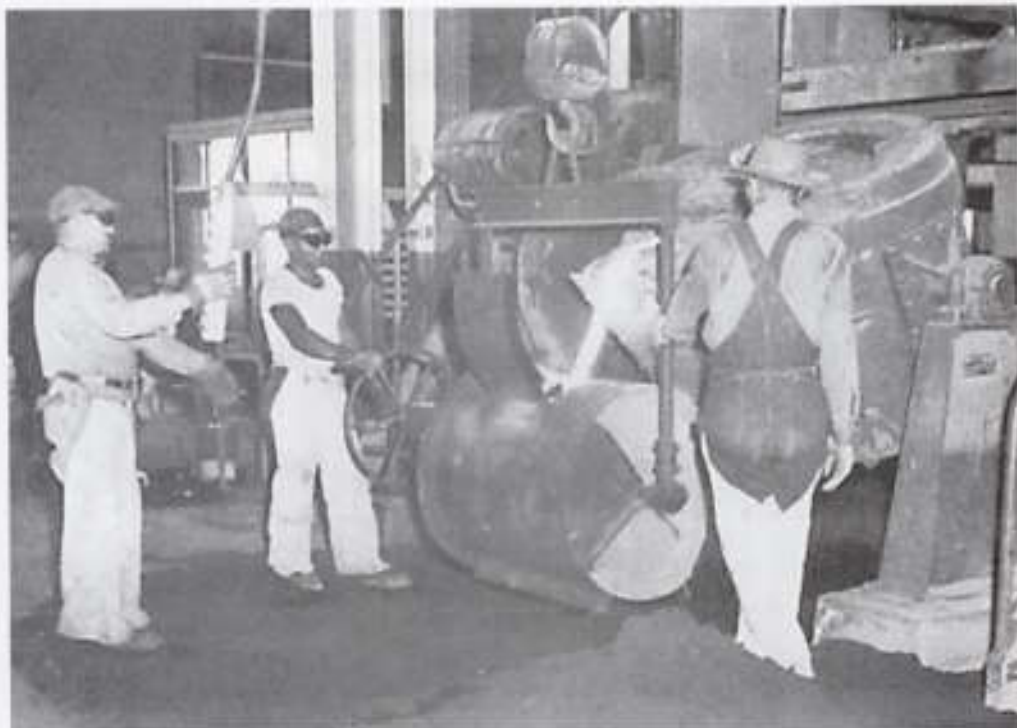
August 6, 1948:
Management personnel began training
approximately 40-50 hourly employees.

"Central Foundry had men at Saginaw, Lockport, and Danville who had poured a lot of iron. Some of them came down to Defiance to teach GM Powertrain Defiance Plant men how to make cores and molds, and show what happens when iron flows into a mold."

August 9, 1948: The GM Powertrain Defiance Plant opened.

"They charged the furnace, put molds on the line, and production began. It's been going on ever since. They're foundry men now, iron men."

GM POWERTRAIN



The first pour, just 11 months after the ground was broken.
Above, Raymond W. Shots, Ray Goings, and Richard Brewer

August 23, 1948: The first iron was poured into molds for diesel blocks.

"With the crew of Defiance men, few of whom had ever seen a foundry before, Central Foundry made the first pour in its new plant in August, just 11 months after ground had been broken."

"Most of the men doing that work were farmers, or carpenters, or clerks not too long ago. They're iron men now because Defiance promised iron men for the job."

Defiance Plant Statistics

Plant Building Area

Plant 1 - 1,130,247 sq. ft.
Built in 1948

Plant 2 West - 567,549 sq. ft.

Built 1965

Plant 2 East - 357,610 sq. ft.

Built 1971

Total - 2,064,376 sq.ft. (47.5 acres)

Land Area - 430 Acres

Employment

Hourly	3210
Salary	315
Total	3525

Products

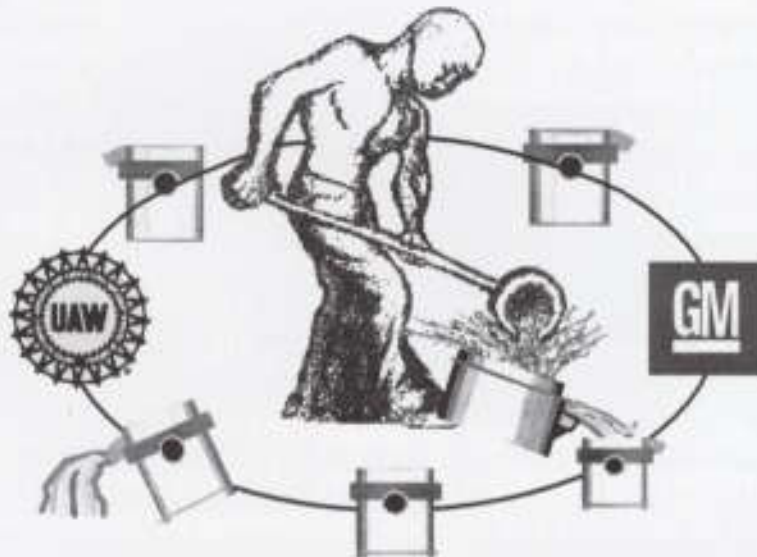
Grey and Nodular Iron Casting

Four Product Lines

Plant 1	Blocks, Heads
Plant 2	Carriers, Crankshafts

GM POWERTRAIN

1948-1998 Defiance Plant



**Castings Built With Pride
Shipped Worldwide**