

Bill Edwards VP/Mill Manager Domtar Paper Mill – Marlboro

Lead or Get Out!

In my career there was a turning point where I had to decide that I was going to lead the change I wanted to see in safety or get out of the industry. I plan to share some of the key things I have learned about safety and leadership over my past 24 years in the industry, and hopefully I will challenge others to be the change they want to see.

Biography

Bill began his career in the paper industry in 1990 at the Domtar Plymouth, NC mill (former Weyerhaeuser mill). Prior to that, Bill worked for a private engineering firm. During his 16 years at the Plymouth Mill, he progressed through various roles such as Project Engineering; Assistant Linerboard Superintendent; Linerboard, Fluff Pulp & Recycled Operations Superintendents; Fine Paper Operations Manager; and Mill Paper Manufacturing Manager. Bill joined the Marlboro Mill as General Manager in October 2006.

Throughout Bill's career, he has had numerous opportunities to present his safety values and beliefs to organizations, industry events, community groups and peers; however it is in the day-to-day safety talks with his own team that has strengthened Bill's commitment to safety leadership.

Committed to community service, Bill serves as member and Board of Director for the Bennettsville Rotary Club, Board Member for Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership and Chairman of the Marlboro County Industrial Council. He has also served as member of the 2010 and 2012 American Heart Association Pee Dee Heart Walk Executive Leadership Team and Chairman of the 2011 American Heart Association Pee Dee Heart Walk Executive Leadership Team. Bill is involved in his local church where he and his wife teach Sunday school to youth as well as a weekly adult Bible study.

In addition to his current community services and accolades, Bill serves annually as a volunteer for the Salvation Army's "Ringing of the Bell" program since 2009. He was recognized and awarded the 2011 South Carolina Economic Ambassador of the Year, representing Marlboro County and recently received the 2012 TAPPI PIMA Ray H. Cross award for his contribution to community service.

Bill lives in South Carolina with his wife, Kathryn, and their two daughters.