

**CONGRESSMAN RICK NOLAN VISITS SMITH METAL PRODUCTS IN CENTER CITY AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS COMPANY IN LINDSTROM, MINNESOTA**

On Friday, February 5, 2016 we were honored to host Congressman Rick Nolan. The day started with an informal meet and greet at our Smith Metal Products facility in Center City, Minnesota. President Rick Carlson shared a bit of our rich history and the diversity of products that are produced in our 9 manufacturing facilities. Kim Maguire addressed the need for continued support from Congress to make sure ESOP's are treated favorably under any new laws that are being considered. Also discussed were possible ways Congress can be helpful in promoting Employee Stock Ownership Plans nationwide, so more workers can take advantage of the opportunities Plastic Products and Smith Metal Products offers for its workers under their plan



An important facet of our rich history is having an owner that cared enough about the employees to create an Employee Stock Ownership Plan. Our employee-ownership journey began 26 years ago when PPC was set up as a minority ESOP. In 2013 when we became 100% Employee Owned the need to help our fellow employee-owners understand the benefits and responsibilities of ownership became apparent, so plans were made to establish an ESOP Committee.



**General Manager Todd Jensen along with Paul Smith and Jim Beyer provided a tour and explained the Metal Injection Molding Process at Smith Metal Products. L – R: Jim Beyer, Todd Jensen, Congressman Nolan, Kim Maguire, Rick Carlson, Linda Sandmann, Wendy Redland (Chamber of Commerce) and Paul Smith**

Plastic Products Co. Inc. plant manager Tricia Wilmot provided a tour and explained the company's plastic injection molding process to Congressman Nolan in their Lindstrom plant that afternoon. Locally, Plastic Products employs 178 people, and Tricia has been with the company for 10 years. Plastic Products employs over 850 people nationwide, with 9 locations in Minnesota, Kentucky, Tennessee, Iowa, Illinois and South Carolina.

