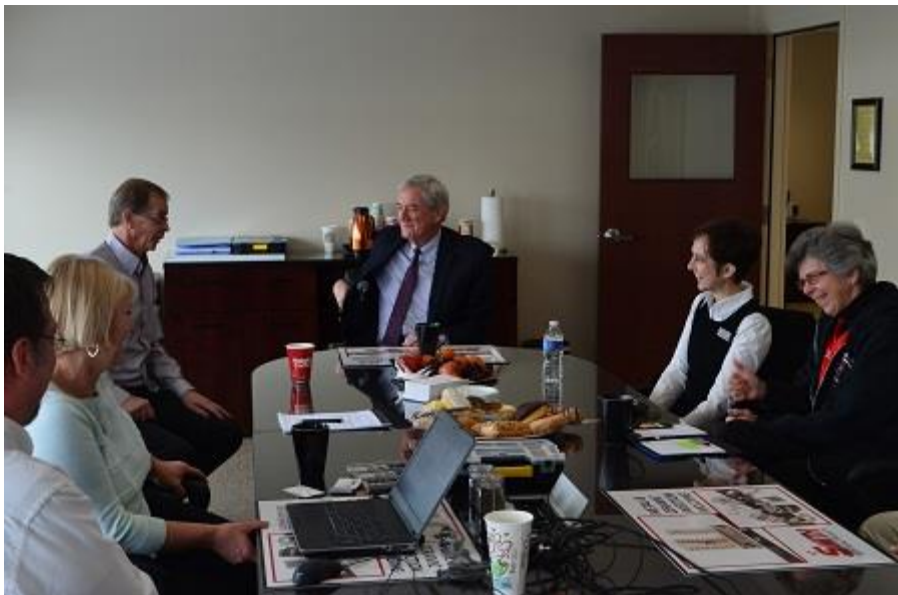


Our Week in Center City

Visit at Smith Metal Products



Smith Metal Products in Center City, a division of Plastic Products Co., Inc., specialize in metal and ceramic injection molding for all kinds of specialty products including medical devices. Their remarkable process heats plastic and metal together at temperatures of 2300 degrees to form the parts. Here we are with President Rick Carlson, several managers and Wendy Redland, director of the Chisago Lakes Chamber of Commerce second from the right.



At lunch with Plastic Products president Rick Carlson (on my right) and other employee owners, I learned more about the company and the wide array of moldings they produce and market nationwide. We also discussed 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.

Plastic Products Company



Plastic Products Co. Inc. plant manager Tricia Wilmot explained the company's plastic injection molding process to me on Friday in Lindstrom. 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.