

GD BOARD OF DIRECTORS VISITS GDLS-CANADA

from Lines of Defence, GDLS-Canada

Landmarks
Aug 2011

The General Dynamics Board of Directors on Aug. 2 visited London, Ontario, Canada, to familiarize themselves with GDLS-Canada's organization and products.

The board is made up of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Jay L. Johnson, Nicholas D. Chabreja, George Joulwan, James S. Crown, Mary T. Barra, William P. Fricks, Lester L. Lyles, William A. Osborn, Robert Walmsley, and Paul G. Kaminski. James L. Jones was a special guest of the board during this visit. A former U.S. national security adviser and the 32nd commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, he was elected to the GD board Aug. 3. More information on the members is available at <http://investorrelations.gd.com/phoenix.zhtml?c=85778&p=irol-govboard>.

The visit started with a welcome and presentation on the business unit from Land Systems President Mark Roualet. Following additional presentations from International Operations Senior Vice President N.S. Sridharan and Land Systems-Canada Vice President Danny Deep, the visitors split into three groups for a plant tour. During the tour, the visitors saw the machining center, robotic welder, laser cutters, dynamometer, and the welding and assembly areas. At each stop, employees presented key department facts, continuous improvement initiatives, and personal stories about their employment experience.

The board members were given an opportunity to view a number of technologies and learn about the Maneuver Collaboration Center (mc²) at the company's Sterling Heights, Mich., headquarters. In addition to a ride in a Stryker Double-V Hull vehicle, they were able to see and climb into various vehicles, including a Bison, Bronco, and RG-31.

The visitors also learned about GDLS-C through presentations about the current state of the business and our future growth strategy delivered by Deep. Sonya Sepahban, senior vice president of Engineering, Development and Technology (ED&T), and Dave Crocker, director of Land Systems-Canada ED&T, gave a presentation on a number of future engineering developments and discussed both product and process innovations.

Overall, the board members were complimentary of operations and the state of the plant. Many commented that it was the cleanest factory they have ever seen. Those familiar with our facilities noticed the improvements in the layout and plant design. Chabreja, former GD chairman and CEO, commented specifically on the improvements he noticed in the plant and that we had the "right level" of technology for our process and volume. Johnson commented on the sincerity of the employees who expressed gratitude for capital investments, and that it was evident that we had used the money wisely.

The board concluded its visit with a round of applause and thanked everyone for their cooperation and accommodation. The success of this visit would not have been possible without employee support in the preparation and execution.



Kipp Eaton of Support Services shows Walmsley (left) and Kaminski around the interior of a Stryker. Walmsley is a retired Royal Navy vice admiral who also served as the chief of Defence Procurement for the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence; and Kaminski served as the U.S. undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology. (GDLS-C photo)