

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE:	.	Case No. 09-50026-mg
	.	
MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY,	.	Chapter 11
et al., f/k/a GENERAL	.	
MOTORS CORP., et al,	.	(Jointly administered)
	.	
Debtors.	.	
	.	
MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY	.	Adv. Proc. No. 09-00504-mg
AVOIDANCE ACTION TRUST, by and	.	
through the Wilmington Trust	.	
Company, solely in its capacity	.	
as Trust Administrator and	.	
Trustee,	.	
	.	
Plaintiff,	.	
v.	.	
	.	
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.,	.	
individually and as	.	
Administrative Agent for	.	
Various lenders party to the	.	One Bowling Green
Term Loan Agreement described	.	New York, NY 10004
herein, et al.,	.	
	.	
Defendants.	.	Thursday, April 24, 2017
	.	9:02 a.m.
	.	

TRANSCRIPT OF ADVERSARY PROCEEDING: 09-00504-mg
MOTORS LIQUIDATION COMPANY AVOIDANCE ACTION TRUST V.
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. ET AL, TRIAL
BEFORE THE HONORABLE MARTIN GLENN
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE

APPEARANCES CONTINUED

Audio Operator: Michelle Brown, ECRO

Transcription Company: Access Transcripts, LLC
517 Dell Road
Landing, NJ 07850
(855) 873-2223
www.accesstranscripts.com

Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording,
transcript produced by transcription service.

APPEARANCES (Continued):

For the Plaintiffs: Binder & Schwartz, LLP
By: ERIC B. FISHER, ESQ.
NEIL S. BINDER, ESQ.
LINDSAY A. BUSH, ESQ.
LISA C. LIGHTBODY, ESQ.
LAUREN K. HANDELSMAN, ESQ.
366 Madison Avenue, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10017
(212) 933-4551

For JPMorgan Chase
Bank, N.A.: Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
By: MARC WOLINSKY, ESQ.
CARRIE M. REILLY, ESQ.
C. LEE WILSON, ESQ.
HAROLD S. NOVIKOFF, ESQ.
ANEIL KOVVALI, ESQ.
S. CHRISTOPHER SZCZERBAN, ESQ.
51 West 52nd Street
New York, NY 10019-6150
(212) 403-1000

For the Debtor: King & Spalding LLP
By: ARTHUR STEINBERG, ESQ.
SCOTT DAVIDSON, ESQ.
JENNIFER CHIANG, ESQ.
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-4003
(212) 556-2158

For Certain Term Loan
Lenders: Jones Day
By: ERIN L. BURKE, ESQ.
BRUCE BENNETT, ESQ.
GREGORY M. SHUMAKER, ESQ.
CHRISTOPHER DIPOMPEO, ESQ.
555 South Flower Street
50th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2300
(213) 489-3939

For Certain Term Loan
Lenders: Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
By: ELLIOTT MOSKOWITZ, ESQ.
MARC J. TOBAK, ESQ.
450 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 450-4241



1 (Proceedings commence at 9:02 a.m.)

2 THE COURT: All right. Please be seated. We're here
3 in Motors Liquidation Company Avoidance Action Trust versus
4 JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., et al. Adversary proceeding
5 09-00504. Good everybody.

6 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEYS: Good morning.

7 THE COURT: All right. Let's begin. Mr. Wolinsky.

8 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I'm Marc Wolinsky. Why
9 don't we just start with our first witness?

10 THE COURT: Absolutely.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: Perfect. We'd like to call Eric
12 Stevens to the stand, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Stevens.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: And Your Honor, we handed out to your
15 clerks and to yourself a binder of demonstratives that we're
16 going to be using.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. WOLINSKY: But they'll also be up on the screen.

19 THE COURT: All right. Good morning Mr. Stevens.

20 Okay. If you would raise your right hand and be sworn.

21 ERIC STEVENS, DEFENDANT'S WITNESS, SWORN

22 THE COURT: All right. Please have a seat. And
23 there's a pitcher of water and cups there, Mr. Stevens, if you
24 need it.

25 THE WITNESS: Okay.



Stevens - Direct

5

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q And you might move the microphone a little closer to
4 yourself.

5 A Okay. Is that better?

6 Q Thank you. Perfect.

7 THE COURT: We'll see when you start to speak.

8 THE WITNESS: All right.

9 THE COURT: You've got make sure you keep your voice
10 up more, make sure we get a clear --

11 Q Good morning, Mr. Stevens.

12 A Good morning, Marc.

13 Q You submitted a written witness statement in this case?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q And is everything in that statement still true?

16 A Yes, it is.

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, we'd like to offer Mr.
18 Stevens' witness statement.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Fisher?

20 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, we have objections to the
21 admissibility of certain paragraphs which we've identified in
22 advance to defense counsel. Just for the purpose of the
23 record --

24 THE COURT: Mr. Fisher, we're talking about the
25 April 7, 2017 direct testimony of Eric Stevens?



Stevens - Direct

6

1 MR. FISHER: That is correct, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. FISHER: In particular, we object to the
4 admissibility of charts and diagrams contained in Paragraphs
5 47, 79, 93, 95, and 96. I've -- Mr. Wolinsky is aware of this
6 objection. And I think that we both agreed to see how the
7 testimony comes in before asking for any kind of ruling on that
8 issue, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. Let's proceed.

10 MR. WOLINSKY: Good. Thank you. So Your Honor,
11 subject to that, we're offering it -- we also --

12 THE COURT: It's the -- so the direct testimony of
13 Eric Stevens dated April 7, 2017 subject to later ruling --

14 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Right.

15 THE COURT: -- on the objections that Mr. Fisher has
16 stated on the record, the testimony is admitted into evidence.

17 MR. FISHER: And Your Honor, just one further
18 clarification is simply that we do reserve our right to seek to
19 strike certain elements of the testimony, depending on what the
20 trial testimony shows about the basis for it.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 MR. WOLINSKY: And we've also been working
23 cooperatively to come up with a list of exhibits that are going
24 to go in through this witness. There's a correspondingly short
25 list of exhibits that are being objected to. I hope to move



Stevens - Direct

7

1 those objections during the direct.

2 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q Okay. Mr. Stevens, you're a former General Motors
5 employee, correct?

6 A That's correct. Yes.

7 Q Okay.

8 THE COURT: You have to make sure you keep your voice
9 up.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q Can you trace your career at General Motors insofar as it
13 relates to the issues that you're going to be testifying to
14 today?

15 A Yes. I've spent most of my 35-year career at General
16 Motors in the operating fields of manufacturing or engineering,
17 specifically manufacturing engineering. I've had a variety of
18 assignments around the world in various plants as plant
19 manager, and several running and being responsible for large
20 manufacturing engineering organizations throughout the world.
21 Specific time in North America, responsible for the North
22 American operations. And I completed my career with General
23 Motors before my retirement, responsible for all manufacturing,
24 engineering and building and construction activities in all GM
25 regions of the world.



Stevens - Direct

8

1 Q Could you describe for the Court what the field of
2 manufacturing engineering is?

3 A Oh yeah. Manufacturing engineering primarily is involved
4 directly in the design, development, installation of all
5 machines and equipment that go into factories. As part of the
6 production process, equipment required to produce the various
7 products that GM would produce in their plants from castings to
8 machined engines and transmissions, stamping for body metal and
9 through to the final assembly of the process and the equipment
10 required for those processes to deliver the vehicle to the
11 customer.

12 Q And with respect to the Lansing Delta Township plant, did
13 you have any involvement in the planning for that plant?

14 A Yes. Between 2002 and 2004, my responsibilities were to
15 lead the North American assembly, manufacturing engineering
16 team in direct responsibility for the operations in the
17 assembly side of the business. During that period of time,
18 Lansing Delta Township project was one of the key projects that
19 was being worked within General Motors at the time to establish
20 a brand new facility in Lansing. And the planning, the initial
21 designs and initial planning and layouts and equipment
22 specifications for that plant were done under my teams during
23 that period.

24 Q Now we're going to get into this a little deeper later,
25 but in your direct written statement, you talk about lean,



Stevens - Direct

9

1 agile, flex, global manufacturing systems, and the platform
2 strategy. Just briefly, what is your personal involvement in
3 those aspects of General Motors' business strategy?

4 A They are all, as you defined, key elements of the
5 manufacturing strategy for General Motors and similar
6 strategies for other OEMs that have been evolving since the
7 mid-90s or so. I was personally involved in, certainly, the
8 initial codification, the initial establishment of GMS
9 principles into a codified system for General Motors, working
10 with colleagues in North America, I was at the time working in
11 Europe. And we, together -- brought together this -- the basis
12 for what became GMS formally in the mid-90s. That evolved
13 through time over the next number of years into product
14 engineering strategies that supported lean, agile, flex type
15 processing.

16 And during the period of time from the mid-90s up until my
17 retirement, the direct involvement of our teams in not only
18 working with the product design teams and the product
19 development teams but clearly in establishing the lean, agile
20 equipment specifications through what we called a bill of
21 process and a bill of equipment.

22 Q Okay. And just to round this out, have you been involved
23 in General Motors' budgeting and capital allocation plan?

24 A Yes. Capital forecasting because of the level of capital
25 spending that was in my area of responsibility, capital



Stevens - Direct

10

1 forecasting was a key part of the role.

2 Q And briefly, how was capital forecasting -- I've seen a
3 reference to something called bill of equipment.

4 A Yes, the bill of equipment was the basis for our capital
5 forecasting process. Bill of equipment defined a set of
6 machines or equipment that would fit into any project going
7 forward in that standardized way based on the lean GMS
8 principles. And the bill of equipment was constantly updated.
9 Pricing was confirmed on an annual basis. And that became the
10 basis for our capital forecasting. Of course adjusted for the
11 nature of whatever project we were actually doing a forecast
12 for. But BOE was the starting point for that process.

13 Q Okay. And you may have mentioned this, but the position
14 you held at the time of retirement was what?

15 A I was the vice president of global manufacturing and
16 engineering, with the responsibilities for the manufacturing
17 engineering and building and construction activities around the
18 world.

19 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Bunky -- Your Honor, you're
20 going to be hearing a lot about Bunky. He's -- his formal name
21 is Andy Cepregi, but everyone calls him Bunky. So you're
22 welcome to too.

23 Bunky, could you please pull up Exhibit A to
24 Mr. Stevens' direct, Page 11, the process diagram.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

11

1 Q Just so we're on the same page for the next two weeks,
2 could you just walk the Court through what we see here?

3 A Sure. This is a high level diagram outlining a generic
4 but quite repeatable manufacturing process for major OEMs.
5 Starting in the bottom, you have foundry operations of some
6 sort which cast rough castings which are machined into engines
7 or transmissions and assembled in our various engine
8 transmission plants and eventually delivered to what the top
9 part of the diagram shows, a generic assembly plant.

10 And assembly plants where the vehicle's put together and
11 shipped generally include a stamping operation which completes
12 the stamping of the major body sheet metal panels, doors,
13 hoods, underbodies, fenders, et cetera. These are assembled
14 and welded together in the body shops in preparation for
15 sending a completed body shell into the paint area where the
16 various rust prohibitive coatings, et cetera, as well as the
17 color coats and top coats of the vehicle are applied in the
18 paint area before the vehicle is shipped to general assembly
19 where the, as I said, the powertrain elements and thousands of
20 outside supplier parts would be added to that body shell as
21 it's being completed for shipment to the customers.

22 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Your Honor, yes --

23 THE COURT: I'm going to stop you for a minute.

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, I was going to stop.

25 THE COURT: I'm oriented to -- you know I see it. I



Stevens - Direct

12

1 see the chart in the binder that you handed up to me. I
2 brought out on the bench --

3 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah, the big one.

4 THE COURT: -- the large -- there were multi-volumes.
5 I guess that Mr. Stevens, there -- it's labeled as Exhibit 2?

6 MR. WOLINSKY: For Mr. Stevens --

7 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: It should be Exhibit A.

8 MR. WOLINSKY: Exhibit A to his written statement.

9 And on the Exhibit list --

10 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: That's the old Exhibit 1.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: Oh, okay.

12 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: I'm looking at it.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I think you should be
14 working with Exhibit A. You may have -- do you have old
15 Exhibit 1?

16 THE COURT: On this?

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah.

18 THE COURT: Yes. So I can put aside -- I thought I
19 was going to --

20 MR. WOLINSKY: Exhibit --

21 THE COURT: -- make sure my -- I'm not having --
22 dealing with another set. And I thought I was very efficient t
23 throwing out all of these binders. Okay. So I have what is
24 now Exhibit A.

25 MR. WOLINSKY: Exhibit A to the written. And we're



Stevens - Direct

13

1 on Page 11, the process -

2 THE COURT: Okay. And it's also in --

3 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes.

4 THE COURT: -- this binder that you handed up?

5 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead. It may take me a little
7 while to get oriented with all the papers.

8 THE WITNESS: I sympathize.

9 THE COURT: Go ahead.

10 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

11 Q Okay. It can turn, again on Page 11, the overview of the
12 LDT facility. And just what do we see here?

13 A This is the site of the LDT assembly plant from above,
14 obviously. And moving quickly from left to right, stamping is
15 in the upper left. As I mentioned, the panels would flow
16 through into the body shop where they're welded into the paint
17 shop eventually where they're painted and into a series of
18 conveyor supported operations in general assembly where parts
19 of various sorts are assembled to the vehicle prior to it being
20 shipping -- shipped in the upper right-hand corner of this
21 particular diagram.

22 Q So this is the flow of materials from raw to finished
23 goods?

24 A In some sense, yes. Raw metal comes in the left side and
25 is processed into a vehicle. Finished goods come out the right



1 side, yes.

2 Q Okay. And right in the center of the CUC which the Court
3 had a chance to visit --

4 A Yes.

5 Q -- what does that do?

6 A The CUC is the central utility complex for the full
7 facility, provides a variety of essential utilities to the
8 various types of processing and operations that are performed
9 throughout the site and required by the manufacturing
10 processes.

11 Q Okay. And specifically, what are the kinds of systems in
12 there?

13 A There's a number. There's large hot water boilers.
14 There's cool water chillers. There's a series of compressed
15 air compressors and driers which provide the compressed air for
16 much of the processing throughout the shops and a variety of
17 other related facilities to treat the waste products and waste
18 water systems that come out of the processing of the major
19 plants, major shops in the plant.

20 Q So the CUC supports this entire complex?

21 A That's correct. Yes.

22 Q And the entire complex, roughly how many square feet under
23 roof?

24 A It's just been enlarged. It's close to a million square
25 feet now, 850, 900,000 square feet, something like that.



Stevens - Direct

15

1 Q Okay. And would you consider this to be a standard heavy
2 industrial building?

3 MR. FISHER: Objection. Leading.

4 THE COURT: Sustained.

5 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure --

6 THE COURT: Let him ask another question.

7 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah.

8 THE WITNESS: Okay.

9 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

10 Q Have you ever heard the term, heavy -- standard heavy
11 industrial building?

12 A I'm not sure what a standard heavy industrial building is.

13 Q Is this building -- how has this building been adapted to
14 the manufacture of automobiles?

15 A The various portions of the building have been adapted
16 differently because of the differing requirements of the
17 manufacturing processes that would be performed in each of the
18 sections of the buildings. Stamping, obviously would have, as
19 you recall, some pretty high bay construction to support not
20 only the height of the presses themselves, the ability to move
21 the press pieces into the building as required to install them
22 initially, but also to support the large number of die
23 movements that are done on a daily basis within the stamping
24 plant, requiring high bay cranes to safely move dies through.

25 Body shop construction would have been -- would have



Stevens - Direct

16

1 definitely considered the kinds of loads that would have been
2 applied from the various mezzanine level conveyors that were
3 part of that process requirement for the building.

4 Paint shop, certainly a uniquely adapted in the sense a
5 multilevel facility with numerous elevation changes of an
6 operations going through the shops requiring large -- in many
7 cases, large openings in the concrete floors of the various
8 levels of the shop to allow transport of vehicles through
9 conveyors or transport of vehicles through process steps.

10 General assembly, adapted again, similar to body to accept
11 and support the large weight loads that would be part of the
12 conveyance requirements at the -- not at the floor level, at
13 the mezzanine level. In fact, in this particular case, the
14 chassis area which supports the VACs, which we'll talk about
15 later, the vertical adjusting carriers we saw, the truss loads
16 in those areas were actually specified because of the
17 additionally extra weight of that entire conveyance system is
18 roughly two million pounds, which is significantly more than a
19 normal roof load would support.

20 And additionally, both GA and stamping had significant
21 work done in floor level pits, or below level pits, to support
22 the process assets that were eventually installed in those
23 areas.

24 Q If we could put up Demonstrative DDX-1. This is the --
25 this is what was given to us on the plant tour by the GM hosts?



Stevens - Direct

17

1 A That's correct.

2 THE COURT: I just -- when was Lansing Delta Township
3 first constructed?

4 THE WITNESS: The stamping plant itself started in
5 2003. It was obviously in construction for a year and a half
6 or two before that. The assembly operations started in late
7 2006, I believe September -- August, September of 2006.

8 THE COURT: When you say started, construction was
9 completed and it was put in operation?

10 THE WITNESS: Sorry. Yes, that's correct.
11 Construction would have been roughly two years -- started
12 roughly two years before that.

13 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q DDX-1, if you could just describe to the Court what we're
16 seeing here?

17 A Yeah, as you mentioned, this is the specific diagram that
18 was provided to us during our recent tour. It is the full
19 layout of the general assembly shop at Lansing Delta Township.
20 As you can see, our tour really covered one relatively small
21 corner of the full layout of the shop itself.

22 Q And what's the significance of the T shape?

23 A The T shape layout was a design concept that we developed
24 as part of our transition within General Motors to lean and
25 lean manufacturing processes. The T-shaped layout became the



Stevens - Direct

18

1 standard procedure or the standard layout for all of the
2 assembly plants that were built new around the world with in GM
3 since about the mid-90s because it was specifically purpose
4 built to support a lean assembly process by compressing
5 operations as closely together, reducing floor space as much as
6 possible as well was providing access for delivery of --
7 various deliveries of materials to specific points of use on
8 the three main assembly lines that you see in the picture.

9 Q Okay.

10 A Certainly it provided additional building really. It's
11 savings as well as smaller areas to heat, smaller areas to
12 cool. Concentration of people operators in areas to make walk
13 times shorter and easier as well.

14 Q Okay. And in the --

15 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, I object and move to strike
16 as beyond the scope of the direct. I don't believe that
17 there's any discussion of this T-shaped layout concept in the
18 direct.

19 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky?

20 MR. WOLINSKY: I don't think either, Your Honor. You
21 visited the plant, I thought it would be useful to give you an
22 orientation of what you say.

23 THE COURT: Overruled. Go ahead.

24 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

25 Q And in the area -- well, let's move on. If you can -- let



Stevens - Direct

19

1 me direct you to Mr. Goesling's testimony, Paragraph 23. And
2 Mr. Goesling states in his direct that in this case, "The
3 strongest evidence of whether GM expected that a particular
4 asset would or would not be conveyed along with the building is
5 the evidence of GM's actual real world practice when a plant
6 was sold or closed." Was this strongest evidence point
7 highlighted by Mr. Goesling in any of his reports?

8 MR. FISHER: Objection. Leading.

9 THE COURT: Overruled.

10 THE WITNESS: I don't think so, no.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q Okay. Focusing on intent at the time of installation, did
13 GM design its plants in order to facilitate removal or
14 otherwise?

15 A No, there was no consideration of the possibility or the
16 intent to remove during the design or installation phases of
17 any of the assets we were responsible for.

18 Q Okay. What was the design principle or goal of the design
19 of the facilities?

20 A The design principles were simple, to support the lean
21 processes which I just described and certainly to ensure by the
22 specification of the equipment and the installation methods
23 that those assets would continue in place to operate for as
24 long as they could, as long as their useful lives allowed.

25 Q And how does this process or philosophy that you've



Stevens - Direct

20

1 referred to, how has that evolved over time?

2 MR. FISHER: Objection. Your Honor, I believe these
3 questions about a philosophy of intent with respect to assets
4 runs afoul of Your Honor's in limine ruling.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky?

6 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I don't think it does. We
7 actually submitted the short memo this morning to talk about
8 the engineering --

9 THE COURT: Which I had two minutes to look at.

10 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah, we understood that.

11 THE COURT: And Mr. Fisher hasn't had the opportunity
12 to respond. I'm going to reserve --

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Let me --

14 THE COURT: I'm going to reserve -- I'll let you
15 continue, but I'm going to reserve decision on whether or not
16 it should be stricken.

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Right. Let me rephrase the question.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q What were the business and engineering considerations that
20 drove the design of the plants?

21 A Prior to the time period that I previously outlined, mid-
22 90s onward, early 90s onward, manufacturing processes were by
23 and large installed in many plants with what I would call fixed
24 -- more fixed automation or less flexible systems in place. At
25 that time, model changes became or were extremely major events



Stevens - Direct

21

1 in the course of automotive business. To tear out or rip out
2 what were inflexible operations to allow a model change, in
3 many cases, took three, four months to strip out a body shop
4 and reinstall major, major new components of a body shop.

5 The new systems that I'm describing now have enabled --
6 the lean systems, the flexible equipment, the flexible concepts
7 that you have asked about have really enabled a great change in
8 that kind of processing in that model changes are easy, model
9 changes do not impact the base assets, the base manufacturing
10 process assets.

11 Certainly, the timeframe for model changes is reduced from
12 three or four months to three or four hours. In many cases,
13 you see a brand new vehicle following directly on the assembly
14 line the last of the old vehicles -- old models. And
15 certainly, the costs involved with model change in general
16 under the old manufacturing philosophies where you were
17 shutting down and tearing out large pieces were three or four
18 times what a model change costs today. So significant change
19 primarily in time, cost, and ability to start new models much
20 easier and much quicker.

21 Q Okay. And in your answer --

22 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, and just to be clear, I want
23 to preserve the objection to testimony about what we would
24 characterize as general corporate intent without having to
25 belabor it on the record. I believe the last answer also



Stevens - Direct

22

1 included information of that sort, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: I don't permit continuing objections
3 because it results in an ambiguous transcript. As much as I
4 regret, Mr. Fisher, you're going to have to object, I'm going
5 to reserve ruling. I'll give you an opportunity -- I have a
6 few minutes to see the defendant's brief, short brief that they
7 filed. I'm going to reserve ruling but -- so that I can
8 accurately keep track, you're going to have to raise your
9 objections.

10 MR. FISHER: Understood, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

13 Q In your answer, you referred to base assets. Just explain
14 what you meant by base assets.

15 A Base assets would be the pieces, in my opinion, these
16 pieces of the manufacturing process as it would remain in
17 place. Many or most of the 40 representative assets would fall
18 in that kind of a category, the major blocks of the
19 manufacturing process, from stamping through to general
20 assembly.

21 Q And the business and engineering considerations that you
22 referred to, what is that -- what has been the effect on GM's
23 ability to keep assets in place?

24 A Certainly, this transformation from -- to lean thinking
25 and lean process equipment as specified through our bill of



Stevens - Direct

23

1 process and bill of equipment has led directly to much larger
2 reuse of major assets through any of our plant changes or new
3 model introductions. Basically allowed the major systems all
4 to remain in place unchanged through that process and extended
5 their ability to produce vehicles for GM on that set of
6 processes and assets.

7 Q Let me --

8 MR. FISHER: Objection. Move to strike on the same
9 ground.

10 THE COURT: Decision's reserved.

11 Go ahead, Mr. Wolinsky.

12 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

13 Q Okay. Let me walk you through the plant very briefly.
14 For stamping assets, how do these business and engineering
15 considerations affect the stamping operations?

16 A Primarily, the stamping impact would be around the
17 evolution or the move to the large types of transfer presses
18 that we saw during our visit. These transfer presses can
19 handle and produce at a higher volume rate. But the major
20 impact has been the size of the kinds of panels that these
21 systems can produce versus the older systems that I mentioned
22 earlier which were in many cases smaller, individual presses.
23 So it typically would have handled much smaller parts and would
24 have required much more welding in the body shops. So the
25 large panels, large transfer presses, quick transfers through



Stevens - Direct

24

1 those transfer presses at high volume has been the major impact
2 on the assets in the press shop.

3 Q Just so --

4 MR. FISHER: Objection, Your Honor. I move to
5 strike. Mr. Stevens is not the defendant's expert with respect
6 to stamping assets. And this testimony is outside the scope of
7 his direct.

8 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky?

9 MR. WOLINSKY: We presented Mr. Stevens as an
10 overview witness, Your Honor. I think this is covered.

11 THE COURT: Show me where in his direct testimony
12 it's covered. When I say direct, the written direct.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Written direct.

14 THE COURT: I think for the record, his written
15 direct is 112 pages long. So --

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Let me save time. Let's move onto
17 general assembly.

18 THE COURT: The objection's sustained. You can come
19 back to it after you show me where in the written direct the
20 last subject would be covered.

21 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah. It'll be covered by another
22 witness. I don't need to --

23 THE COURT: Okay. Just so we have a clear record,
24 I'm sustaining the objection.

25 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.



Stevens - Direct

25

1 THE COURT: And if you can come back and show me
2 where in the direct it's covered, I'll reconsider it.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q Okay. General assembly. How have these business and
5 engineering considerations affected the general assembly area?

6 A I outlined a minute ago several examples around floor
7 space utilization and the need to compress the overall plant
8 layouts into a reduced configuration. The T-shaped layout is
9 certainly one element that I mentioned. Additional elements
10 would have been as I mentioned also the chassis area, the whole
11 chassis portion of the T with additional roof truss supports to
12 handle a much, much increased load in that particular loop
13 area, roughly two million pounds. Building considerations in
14 terms of column spacings were you know modified and
15 specifically to support the conveyor configurations that were
16 planned in the shops, as indicated by the pits that were
17 installed.

18 The final area, the final assembly area where there is --
19 where there are basically finished vehicles running down floor
20 level conveyors, the column spacings in those areas actually
21 was increased to create a more open environment for those
22 vehicles to be processed rather than the more constrained
23 environment where column spacings were supporting conveyance
24 operations. So many things like that were reflected in the
25 general assembly building and equipment that was -- that was



1 part of the LDT project.

2 Q And in the body shop, have these business and engineering
3 considerations affected the layout of the body shop?

4 A The layouts of the body shops, again I highlight only
5 quickly, the configurations of the support roof structure to
6 handle mezzanine level conveyance. Primarily, the concepts are
7 identical in all the shops in terms of trying to concentrate
8 what I would call the value added operations at the floor level
9 or a single level in the body shop that would be manual
10 operations by men or welding operations -- spot welding
11 operations by robots on one level and then to reserve the
12 mezzanine or upper levels for what I would call non-value added
13 operations to process the movement -- to facilitate the
14 movement of -- and in some cases, sub-assemblies from the sub-
15 assemblies areas to the main line, in other cases for processes
16 between the main lines themselves.

17 Q So when we were at LDT, we saw large conveyor systems
18 running overhead. Why were they designed to go up there as
19 opposed to down on the floor?

20 A As I said, couple -- major considerations in our design
21 concepts was to keep the floor space as efficiently used as
22 possible, to shrink the layouts, to provide some of the other
23 advantages I mentioned in terms of heating and cooling
24 requirements, concentration of people, reducing -- reduction of
25 the distances that people had to actually walk to perform their



Stevens - Direct

27

1 operations. So to have tried to have lay out a -- to lay out a
2 body shop that would have conveyance from a relatively remote
3 sub-assembly areas to their point of use on the main line would
4 have necessitated some conveyance through existing
5 manufacturing processes that would have disrupted processes or
6 required layouts of value added processes that would have added
7 labor time, work time, distance, or costs in terms of extra
8 floor level conveyance.

9 Q If ease of removal were a design consideration in the LDT
10 plant for example, would it look like it did when we saw it?

11 MR. FISHER: Objection. Leading.

12 THE COURT: Sustained.

13 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

14 Q How would the plant look if it were designed for removal
15 as opposed to what we saw?

16 A That's an interesting question. I guess if you were, for
17 some reason, trying to design a plant to be disassembled and
18 moved at some you know period of time in the near future, you
19 probably would try to configure a single layer -- a single
20 level plant in the body shop for example that would allow
21 better access to conveyance should you need to move it.

22 Paint shops, I guess I would answer very similarly.
23 Multilevel paint shop could, if removal was a design
24 characteristic, a design requirement, paint shop may be
25 considered on a single level to provide the -- as a



Stevens - Direct

28

1 consequence, would provide -- could provide better access to
2 some of the assets as you tried to remove them. I guess the
3 same concept, you could apply in general assembly to, where
4 possible, remove the conveyance transport from the upper level
5 down to a floor level.

6 In all cases, it would certainly lead to an extremely
7 significant increase in floor space required for the buildings
8 themselves. And I would certainly estimate as well a
9 significant increase in the labor requirements because of the
10 additional floor space to provide the time and the distances
11 required that operators would have to move. So certainly, your
12 unit cost would go up significantly.

13 Q From a business and engineering perspective, why doesn't
14 GM design its plants that way?

15 A I believe it's economically not viable as I've outlined
16 for a series of reasons. The kinds of design considerations
17 you might apply in a hypothetical removal basically indicate an
18 increase in many of the key cost drivers in a facility that
19 would reduce the economic viability of the operation either by
20 a significant volume reduction or an additional requirement in
21 terms of cost, labor, heating, cooling, operating costs in
22 larger facilities, loss of efficiency, et cetera. So I
23 certainly believe that the economic viability of such a
24 facility would not be possible.

25 Q Let me show you something else Mr. Goesling had to say in



Stevens - Direct

29

1 Paragraph 23 of his written direct -- well actually, returning
2 to the same statement. He says in this case:

3 "As I said, the strongest evidence of whether GM
4 expected that a particular asset would or would not
5 be conveyed along with the building is the evidence
6 of GM's actual real world practice when a plant was
7 sold or closed."

8 Did you consider this to be an important element of
9 evidence of GM's intent?

10 A No, I didn't.

11 Q Why not?

12 A Several reasons. As I mentioned, our planning process
13 certainly focused on our role in providing assets that were
14 installed at the time of installation to provide the
15 opportunity to leave them in place for as long as possible.
16 And in that sense, sale of plants or sale of assets was not a
17 consideration or not even a factor in our day to day work.

18 Q When GM did try to sell a plant, what was its goal? What
19 was its objective?

20 MR. FISHER: Object. Foundation? Objection.

21 THE COURT: Sustained.

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q Do you have a personal knowledge with respect to GM's
24 efforts to sell plants?

25 A Yes, I've participated in several attempts or successful



Stevens - Direct

30

1 sales of facilities, yes.

2 Q And for purposes of your expert testimony, have you
3 researched that issue?

4 A To a certain degree, yes.

5 Q Okay. And who's assisted you with that?

6 A Our team of experts in general. McKenzie has helped with
7 providing some base data from -- I believe it's from CAR, in
8 terms of plant closures that we have followed up on to try to
9 understand the circumstances and surrounding issues.

10 Q And did you personally -- were you personally involved --
11 have you personally reviewed the work product that's been
12 generated?

13 A Yes, I have.

14 Q So if I may, what has been -- and what is General Motors's
15 goal or preference when it tries to sell a plant?

16 MR. FISHER: Objection. Lack of foundation. This
17 witness is here as an expert. There's been no foundation laid
18 that he is an expert with respect to plant closures. The only
19 testimony has been that he has reviewed some work that McKenzie
20 did with respect to certain plant closures.

21 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah --

22 THE COURT: First -- Mr. Wolinsky, whether this topic
23 is covered in the written direct testimony?

24 MR. WOLINSKY: It is, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Could you point to me where?



Stevens - Direct

31

1 (Counsel confer)

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Let me come back to it, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. So is the question withdrawn?

4 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Marc?

7 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes?

8 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Section 4 on Page 46.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Thank you. My colleague helped me out
10 here. Page 46 of his written direct. And Paragraph 121 on
11 Page 48.

12 THE COURT: Just bear with me, okay? All right. The
13 objection's overruled. You can ask the question again.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Thank you.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q So Mr. Stevens, from a business perspective, when GM tries
17 to sell a plant, what's its preference?

18 A Certainly, the initial preference would be to sell the
19 plant intact with the assets that are enclosed within that
20 facility.

21 Q And why is that?

22 A Economically, it makes the most sense. And in terms of
23 should there be a potential buyer, the -- you've maximized
24 potential economical value of the site. If not, it's certainly
25 -- if so, it certainly removes the need to eventually try to



Stevens - Direct

32

1 strip out and sell individual assets during which you recover
2 much less -- certainly would recover much less economic value.

3 Q If you could put up DDX-2? What is this list? I'm
4 sorry, wrong list.

5 A This is -- yeah, this is the wrong list.

6 Q DDX-3. No, wrong. There we are. Looking at this
7 list --

8 THE COURT: Is what you have up is DDX-2?

9 MR. WOLINSKY: DDX-2. It should be 2.

10 THE COURT: I have the binder you handed me, it's on
11 Tab 4?

12 THE WITNESS: Correct.

13 THE COURT: It's DDX --

14 MR. WOLINSKY: DDX-2 on mine.

15 THE COURT: Yes.

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Do you have --

17 THE COURT: I have it open in front of me. Go ahead.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q Okay. So the plant sales that you were personally
20 involved in, just identify those.

21 A On this list, I was personally involved with or personally
22 knowledgeable about direct -- because of direct involvement the
23 Daewoo Romania plant, Ford bought it, but GM bid on it. I was
24 one of the key negotiators of that deal. Obviously, we didn't
25 close it. The GM Opel Eisenach negotiations with Daimler in



Stevens - Direct

33

1 Germany in 2009 was also not a completed deal. But I was
2 involved directly as a -- at the time as responsible for all
3 manufacturing operations in Europe.

4 Q And what is this -- I'm sorry, did I cut you off?

5 A The Saab plant to a certain extent, but less directly.

6 Q Okay. And --

7 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, plaintiff objects to this
8 demonstrative exhibit. I think we saw it this morning for the
9 first time. And I'll note that Paragraph 121 in Mr. Stevens'
10 written direct testimony that Mr. Wolinsky referred you to
11 refers to the Halol plant in India to Daewoo Romania plant and
12 to the Skoda plant. These other plants are not referred to in
13 Paragraph 21. There is some discussion in Mr. Stevens' written
14 direct about the GM Wilmington plant and the GM Shreveport
15 plant. But all these other plants are entirely new to us. And
16 as far as I know, were not included in any analysis supplied in
17 the written direct testimony.

18 THE COURT: What's on the screen is demonstrative
19 exhibit which is not in evidence. It's demonstrative exhibit
20 insofar -- so the objection's overruled. So far, Mr. Stevens'
21 testimony I think is fairly contemplated by the written direct.

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q So let's focus on the ones that are in Paragraph 121.
24 Halol plant in India, GM sales of operations in Africa, Isuzu,
25 Ford Daewoo Romania, Volkswagen purchase of Skoda. In those



Stevens - Direct

34

1 instances, is there something common?

2 MR. FISHER: Objection. The witness did not testify
3 that he has any personal knowledge of the India --

4 THE COURT: Overruled. Go ahead, Mr. Stevens.

5 THE WITNESS: In each of the cases, the plant -- just
6 to point out the Halol plant sale is pending. It will be
7 closed later this year. But in each of these cases that you
8 asked about, the plant sale involved the full set of assets
9 that were installed at the plant at the time of the sale. In
10 each cases, the types of assets might be slightly different
11 given the volume, outputs and capacities of those plants in
12 terms of levels of automation, et cetera. But the base
13 capability of each of those plants to produce automobiles in
14 their regions was similar based on the assets that were
15 contemplated to be part of the sale.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q And in the GM Wilmington and Shreveport examples?

18 A Similar. Shreveport was slightly different in the fact
19 that Elio Motors, the eventual purchaser has plans to produce a
20 composite body vehicle rather than a steel body vehicle. So
21 the press operations in Shreveport were not part of that
22 particular transaction.

23 Q Okay. And from the buyer's perspective, why does the
24 buyer want the plant with machine or equipment?

25 A Based on my discussions and negotiations, it was obvious



Stevens - Direct

35

1 that the fact that they could potentially purchase an existing
2 and operating facility, complete with assets that were capable
3 of producing vehicles of basically any type, any model,
4 indicated to them that they could start a business immediately
5 rather than go through the two-year timeframe that it would
6 take to build a new plant or the six to -- months to one-year
7 timeframe it would take to potentially add capacity to some of
8 their existing operations. So very much a question of
9 opportunity to immediately start production on the basis of
10 those existing assets that could support their processes as
11 well.

12 Q And when plants are not -- you can take it down. Thank
13 you. When plants are not sold to other original equipment
14 manufacturers, what typically happens?

15 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.

16 THE COURT: Sustained.

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

18 THE COURT: Just lay a foundation for --

19 MR. WOLINSKY: Sure.

20 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

21 Q Have you studied what typically happens when plants are
22 sold to non-OEMs?

23 A Yes, we have.

24 Q For purposes of this testimony today?

25 A I have as well, yes.



Stevens - Direct

36

1 Q Okay. And do you have personal experience in that area?

2 A Some. Not as much as trying to sell plants, but yes.

3 Q Okay. And what typically happens?

4 MR. FISHER: Objection. No foundation's been laid
5 yet.

6 THE COURT: Sustained. What was --

7 THE WITNESS: Okay.

8 THE COURT: What personal involvement did you have,
9 Mr. Stevens?

10 THE WITNESS: During my time in North America in the
11 early 2000s, we closed our Sainte-Therese operation in Montreal
12 or in a suburb of Montreal, Canada. After trying
13 unsuccessfully to sell it as a full unit, it was eventually
14 sold to, I believe, Home Depot. And at the time of the sale,
15 it was incumbent on us to remove the assets that had some
16 potential economic value and prepare for the demolition of the
17 facility.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q Okay. And for purposes -- for purpose -- for purposes of
20 your testimony today, what work have you done and what research
21 have you done to ascertain what happens when plants get sold to
22 non-OEMs?

23 A I've worked with, as I stated a second ago, I've worked
24 with some of the McKenzie team in researching and identifying
25 through with some of my expert colleagues a list of closed



Stevens - Direct

37

1 plants that was provided by the CAR report. And in some cases,
2 I believe others will testify to the actual status of some
3 those demolitions, but that's the research we did based on the
4 CAR report.

5 Q And the CAR is the Center for Automotive Research?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q And what is that?

8 A It's an industry think tank type of research organization
9 that provides a variety of information, not just on plant
10 closures, their research involves plant, plant capacities,
11 production rates, sales rates, sales numbers, and historical
12 data, trends analysis of the major OEMs trying to derive
13 strategy -- assumptions about major OEM strategies, et cetera.

14 Q And based on your personal knowledge and the work you've
15 done to prepare up your testimony today, what typically happens
16 to an auto plant when it's sold to a non-OEM?

17 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.

18 THE COURT: Overruled.

19 THE WITNESS: Typically, there's some attempt to
20 recover some potential economic value from some assets if
21 there's some useful life remaining. But by and large after
22 that stage, they would be demolished.

23 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

24 Q Have you studied the eFast data from 2009 to 2015 for the
25 closed or idle plants covered by the lien to determine what



Stevens - Direct

38

1 percentage of the fixtures, the assets that the claimant --
2 that the defendants have identified as fixtures have actually
3 -- were moved out of those plants to be repurposed?

4 A Yes, I have.

5 Q And what did you find?

6 A I found that roughly 5.4 -- just over five percent of the
7 assets that our team would have considered fixtures or would
8 have potentially passed the three-factor test, only 5.4 percent
9 of them were moved even from closed plants.

10 Q Okay. Now --

11 THE COURT: Let me just stop you for a second. I
12 just want to look at the testimony.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah.

14 THE COURT: I'm looking at the screen as I have a --

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 THE COURT: -- copy as it's being transcribed. So
17 the record's clear, I just want to review the answer. Go
18 ahead, Mr. Wolinsky.

19 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

20 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

21 Q Are there kinds of assets in a closed rival plant that GM
22 would try and move out?

23 A The -- there are, obviously. In this case, as I said,
24 there's about five percent that were moved. And the kinds of
25 things that makes some sense -- again, I would caveat the



Stevens - Direct

39

1 answer with the statement, general statement that it depends on
2 the remaining useful -- potentially useful life of the assets
3 that you would look at. If something was in the -- well beyond
4 the 50 percent or 70 percent of its useful life, you probably
5 would not consider moving it only because the cost of moving
6 and relocating that asset probably wouldn't be -- wouldn't make
7 it worthwhile in that you could probably purchase new for
8 similar costs.

9 Additionally, to install let's say older assets with a
10 shorter remaining useful life into an existing system, you're
11 starting to mix useful lives of equipment and impacting future
12 replacement plans in a way to complicate them a little. So
13 useful life's a key consideration.

14 The second key consideration would be the type of asset.
15 In some cases for example, the presses that were moved out of
16 Shreveport as part of the closure that we -- or the sale that
17 we discussed earlier, the economic value of a press is
18 significantly high enough in spite of the months of planning
19 and probably up to a year of time that it would take to
20 disassemble and reinstall a press, the value of that press
21 would probably warrant movement. So those kinds of assets
22 would be considered for movement.

23 THE COURT: Let me ask you this, during the site
24 visit in Michigan, I also toured the Warren Transmission plant.

25 THE WITNESS: Correct.



Stevens - Direct

40

1 THE COURT: And there was a large area of the
2 facility, which is vacant now, that as I understand it had
3 lines for three-speed transmissions which are no longer used.
4 And the equipment was moved out, it was basically vacant space.
5 Were you at all involved in the shutdown of a portion of the
6 Warren Transmission plant?

7 THE WITNESS: No, personally I wasn't. I think one
8 of our other experts can testify.

9 THE COURT: Go ahead.

10 THE WITNESS: I was more directly involved with the
11 installation of the new six-speed equipment that you did see,
12 but not with the previous activities in that area.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. And --

14 THE COURT: Just so the record's clear, there -- I
15 was shown a portion of the plant that was now vacant where I
16 was told the equipment had been removed --

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Right.

18 THE COURT: -- and the pits in the floor had been
19 sealed.

20 MR. WOLINSKY: Right.

21 THE COURT: I suppose you'd want --

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q And that was a four-speed?

24 A That was the four-speed, yeah. I don't think there was a
25 three-speed.



Stevens - Direct

41

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q You -- in your testimony, you mentioned the stamping press
4 a year to move it. What was the time to plan for that move?

5 A It depends on the number of presses you might be working
6 on at any given time. But it's a long period of months. It
7 could be anywhere from six to eight months. Again, the
8 preparation at the receiving site is just as important as the
9 activities at the removal site in that you would have to create
10 a foundation and a pit structure similar to the one we saw in
11 Lansing if you were trying to move to a new location. So the
12 period of time for prep is certainly significant as well.

13 Q Let me direct you to something else Mr. Goesling said in
14 Paragraph 24 of his written direct:

15 "GM's practice of relocating or selling manufacturing
16 assets comports with my understanding that GM was
17 prepared to redeploy its manufacturing assets in
18 order to comply with the constantly evolving
19 regulatory evolvment and constantly shifting
20 consumer preferences and demands."

21 Let me just break that down. Did GM have a practice of
22 relocating or selling manufacturing assets?

23 A No, we did not. It was not part of the planning at all.

24 Q Okay. And the trends, regulatory trends, consumer
25 preference trends that Mr. Goesling refers to, how did GM --



Stevens - Direct

42

1 how did those trends impact GM's business and engineering plans
2 for its assets, for its manufacturing assets?

3 A As I mentioned earlier, the entire discussion around lean
4 transformation and the evolution of manufacturing strategies to
5 provide flexibility within the assets, whether they're in
6 assembly shops or whether they're in machining shops with CNC
7 type operations, that was a direct response to the kinds of
8 change that were on the horizon that were -- that GM and other
9 OEMs were impacted by at the time.

10 The design and development of those kinds of flexible
11 systems enabled the company to better utilize its asset base on
12 a longer basis just because it was move flexible and because
13 the installed machines, et cetera, et cetera could handle
14 different models, different sizes of models, and different
15 configurations from the product development that would be
16 responding either to consumers or environmental changes. So
17 the flex was a direct enabler of allowing those assets to
18 produce longer without change given the nature of the
19 environment around us.

20 Q Okay. And how does what you've just referred to -- what
21 you've just testified to relate to the concept of the global
22 manufacturing system?

23 A The global manufacturing system was the, as I mentioned,
24 sort of the codification of these lean principles and lean
25 concepts into a set of guiding principles and guidelines that



Stevens - Direct

43

1 drove the downstream activities in all the functions, from
2 product engineering through to manufacturing engineering
3 through to manufacturing. The interrelationship of those
4 principles which were focused primarily on standardization,
5 continuous improvement, built in quality, short lead time, and
6 people involvement as the guiding -- overriding principles of
7 GMS.

8 Q Did the implementation of the global manufacturing --
9 global manufacturing system make it harder or easier to move
10 assets?

11 A It was designed around the concepts to ensure that assets
12 remained in place longer. I don't think there was a
13 consideration. I know there was not a consideration of whether
14 it made it harder or easier to move assets. It was designed
15 specifically to install a set of machines, a set of assets, a
16 set of conveyance systems that was flexible enough to remain in
17 place no matter what kinds of change came through that
18 processing system.

19 Q Okay. Now GM also had something called the platform
20 approach?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q Could you explain what the platform approach is?

23 A Platform approach is really the manifestation within the
24 product engineering group of the GMS principles. The platform
25 approach was an enabler to allow the manufacturing installed



Stevens - Direct

44

1 asset base to be used for a longer period of time through the
2 number of model changes or whatever that might come out of the
3 platforms, defined a series of common interfaces between
4 vehicle parts, common interfaces between vehicle parts and the
5 machines and equipment in the manufacturing systems. And those
6 common interfaces across a platform with -- which could support
7 various sizes and various dimensions was the role of product
8 engineering in pulling together the relation between product
9 and process in the GMS world. And the platform approach really
10 was the manifestation in the product itself.

11 Q Okay. Let me just put up, from your direct testimony,
12 Paragraph 57 --

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Tab 5, Your Honor.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q This is what the consumer sees?

16 A Yes, these are models that are in the marketplace,
17 correct.

18 Q Okay. And as the -- could you explain to the Court what
19 the platform approach -- what we're looking at and how it
20 relates to the platform approach?

21 A Yeah. The key on the -- the key point on the full page is
22 the various -- the capability of a single installed asset base
23 to produce various models, flexibly and transparently, each of
24 the pairs in the sheet are produced in the same plant on the
25 same installed asset base and the same machines and equipment.



Stevens - Direct

45

1 The highlighted line at the bottom of the screen is a good
2 example. The same platform producing Cadillac CTS sedans and
3 Camaro convertibles which certainly in the marketplace not only
4 look different but are completely different market segments.
5 So in that sense, the platform approach enables coverage of
6 broader market segments and broader model distribution within
7 existing segments as well.

8 Q Okay. So just to wrap it up, the same -- this car can be
9 produced on the same installed base?

10 A It is installed. They are being installed on the same
11 base in the same plant.

12 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Now if you could put up, Bunky,
13 DX-94.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q This is a presentation that you were shown at your
16 deposition?

17 A At my first deposition, that's correct.

18 Q Okay. And at your deposition, you said you had not seen
19 this specific presentation before, is that right?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q Okay. Have you seen presentations like this before?

22 A I've seen presentations and given presentations with very
23 similar content on many occasions.

24 Q Okay. And the title, Gary Calgar (phonetic), who's Mr.
25 Calgar?



Stevens - Direct

46

1 A Gary Calgar was our Number 1 manufacturing senior
2 executive at General Motors at the time. And he was my direct
3 boss at the time as well.

4 Q Okay. So you looked through this presentation and the
5 substance of this presentation are things that you've
6 personally delivered?

7 A I have delivered content and pieces of this presentation
8 in similar or identical format in other groups, yes.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. If we can turn to Page 12, the
10 top half? Thank you.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q Just explain to the Court what we're seeing here and how
13 this relates to lean, agile, flex global manufacturing system
14 platform --

15 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky, you have seven of the
16 binders --

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, thanks. Let me check. Yes, Your
18 Honor.

19 THE COURT: That's good. Go ahead.

20 THE WITNESS: As I mentioned in my overview a second
21 ago, the upper left quadrant which is referred to here as a
22 bill of material is the work that the product engineering teams
23 would be working to release parts for a new model or a new
24 vehicle from a common set of components. In other words, they
25 would have a series of engine families from which they would



Stevens - Direct

47

1 select the engine families that would be appropriate for the
2 new model.

3 They would have a series of component solutions, component
4 solution sets that they would select one or two for a new model
5 so that product engineering would select from a common set of
6 components in what we would refer to as a bill of material.
7 That would then -- as those parts would be released for a new
8 model, then on the lower left, from those released common
9 parts, the interfaces as I mentioned earlier between the parts
10 and how those parts interface with the manufacturing systems
11 and the plants are released in a common way as well.

12 And just to explain maybe the most direct correlation with
13 the manufacturing process would be how do you process those
14 large pieces of metal underbodies through the various
15 conveyance systems and the various robotic welding systems?
16 The way we did that was working to define what we called common
17 pickup points or common hole locations. And regardless of the
18 size of the underbody, the holes would be in the same place.
19 Very simple. I remember Calgar said many times, put the holes
20 in the same place. That allows you --

21 THE COURT: There are a common set of jigs that you
22 would place the components on --

23 THE WITNESS: Exactly. Or a common set of conveyance
24 pickups that you shuttle these underbodies through. So very
25 simple concept, not so simple to execute. But the interfaces



1 between the parts, the definition of how parts relate to each
2 other as well as how the parts relate to the vehicle or to the
3 manufacturing process.

4 The lower right refers to the dimensional flexibility
5 within that platform or within the vehicle set. Some models
6 within a single platform are certainly different shaped as we
7 saw with the CTS or the Camaro. And they have certain
8 different dimensions that would have to be worked within the
9 flexibility of the manufacturing process.

10 The upper right refers to how do you translate customer
11 requirements, customer expectations into performance or
12 functional specifications of the vehicle itself. So it's not
13 really process related, it's the expectations from the field
14 being translated into product definition.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q And how did GM implement the lean manufacturing strategy,
17 global manufacturing strategy into its existing plant base in
18 North America?

19 A As I defined earlier, the rough timeframe where this
20 became codified to the extent where it was policy, early '90s,
21 mid-'90s, you can -- it's hard to pin down because it was
22 certainly in evolution. The intent and execution of movement
23 to more lean, agile, flex machining in our powertrain
24 operations and more flexible equipment in our assembly
25 operations was done primarily on an opportunity basis. As



Stevens - Direct

49

1 opportunities arise -- arose in each plant or as the need to
2 replace equipment that had reached the end of its useful life
3 as part of the normal capital replacement programs, we would
4 have and did install directly machines and equipment that
5 supported these flexible concepts that allowed these product
6 enablers to have value for manufacturing.

7 THE COURT: I don't understand what you mean by
8 opportunities.

9 THE WITNESS: Model changes, where you might have to
10 provide additional tooling or some new M&E, opportunities for
11 as I mentioned a specific example on end of useful life
12 replacements. Generally useful life forecasting was part of
13 the capital forecast plan. So every year, there was a plan to
14 replace certain assets in certain plants, the ones that were
15 older, the ones that needed to be replaced. Again, it depends
16 somewhat on the timeframe we're talking because certain capital
17 constraints impact your replacement plans as well -- can impact
18 your replacement plans. But typically model changes that are
19 used for life replacement plans and capital strategies were the
20 main opportunities.

21 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

22 Q Okay. Mr. Deeds is going to testify about this. But
23 since the Court asked, as it relates to the six-speed line that
24 we saw in Warren, just what were the circumstances for that,
25 for the installation of that line?



Stevens - Direct

50

1 MR. FISHER: Objection. Beyond the scope of the
2 written direct.

3 THE COURT: Overruled.

4 THE WITNESS: As I mentioned, I was involved in the
5 initial planning for the -- or at least aware of the initial
6 planning for the six-speed line. Although at the time I was
7 involved, the plant allocation had not been decided. It was a
8 project that was, locationwise, being finalized. When it was
9 finalized for Warren, the plan involved relocation or removal
10 of the four-speed assets, which had already performed beyond
11 their useful life, and replacement with a brand new flexible
12 set of machining operations to produce a new six-speed. So the
13 four-speed was technologically obsolete at the time as well as
14 the equipment that had been producing it for many, many years.
15 And that equipment was removed.

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. If we could move onto
17 Mr. Goesling's testimony, Paragraph 25, Bunky? It's the top --
18 the last sentence of his Paragraph 25.

19 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

20 Q GM's platform approach was only in limited use in 2009 and
21 had not dramatically affected the need for changes to machinery
22 equipment. Is this -- was this idea in Mr. Goesling's prior
23 reports?

24 A I don't think so, no.

25 Q Okay. True or false?



Stevens - Direct

51

1 A It's false.

2 Q What's the truth?

3 A The truth is that as I mentioned earlier, the move towards
4 flexible equipment and processing had been evolving since the
5 early '90s, mid-'90s. And the use of platform technology -- or
6 the platform architectures and platform engineering to enable
7 that use of installed assets by 2009 was in place in most of
8 the assembly plants in General Motors.

9 Q Okay. And if we could pull up DX-353 and specifically
10 focus you on Page 7. This is an excerpt from GM's 2007 10-K.
11 And I've highlighted -- asked Bunky to highlight a sentence
12 referring to the eight different global architectures that are
13 currently managed by global leadership teams. You can explain
14 what this means -- what this is -- what GM is telling the world
15 in 2007 as it relates to the implementation of GMS and the
16 platform strategy prior to 2009.

17 A First, just let me clarify for the group that in our
18 terminology, I would refer to architectures and platforms as
19 basically interchangeable. So in this particular 10-K, the
20 statement around use of global architectures in my mind and in
21 the GM terminology would equate to global platforms.

22 In this, you can see here that by this time, there were
23 vehicles being built and produced around the world in various
24 plants in all of these architectures, the minis, the smalls,
25 the compact, mid-size, rear-wheel-drive, luxury wheel drive,



Stevens - Direct

52

1 small, medium size crossovers, and mid-size trucks. These
2 vehicles were being produced in plants around the world with
3 installed asset basis that were already flexible and equipped
4 to produce the platform models that would come at it across a
5 variety of types of vehicles. And additionally, I might add
6 that there were in addition to these global architectures,
7 several of which were in North American plants, some larger
8 what I would call regional architectures or platforms that had
9 been defined as well, long before 2009.

10 MR. WOLINSKY: If you could pull up DDX-3. And which
11 tab is that?

12 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: It's Tab 9.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Tab what?

14 UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Nine.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q Tab 9. This is a list of the (indiscernible) filing plans
17 that were sold by old GM to new GM, correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Okay. Could you just go down the list and lay out for the
20 Court the status of the implementation of lean, agile, flex and
21 the global manufacturing system in these plans as of 2009?

22 MR. FISHER: Objection. Beyond the scope of the
23 written direct.

24 THE COURT: Is it covered in his written direct?

25 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, we're responding to a new



Stevens - Direct

53

1 statement that Mr. Goesling made in his written direct.

2 THE COURT: All right. I will permit it and -- I
3 mean overruled. Go ahead.

4 THE WITNESS: Okay. Okay. Lansing Delta Township is
5 the plant we're well aware of. It had been actually
6 constructed and concepted to produce a brand new platform. So
7 in that sense, it already was certainly on the platform
8 strategy with lean, agile, flex equipment throughout.

9 The next three items, Fort Wayne, Flint, and
10 Arlington were the full size large pickup plants, common
11 platform. In fact, the first two plants were the pickup
12 plants. Arlington was the plant that produced the large SUVs
13 like the Escalade and the Tahoes. But exactly the same
14 platform as the truck plant. So those three had already, for
15 many years, been producing a single platform.

16 Detroit-Hamtramck and Fairfax were the mid-sized
17 platform from the previous 10-K listing. Lansing, Glen River
18 was also built new in the early 2000s for a new rear-wheel-
19 drive luxury platform which was also on the 10-K list.
20 Lordstown was the small car platform for two generations prior
21 to 2009.

22 Orion actually was being converted as part of the
23 bankruptcy review to a new small -- very -- mini-car platform
24 that was a platform that had come from one of our overseas
25 engineering centers. So it was a brand new platform Orion was



1 in the process of converting.

2 Janesville was a closed plant, idle plant. And it
3 remained idle.

4 The stamping plants, Marion and Pontiac both had, to
5 my earlier discussion on the convergence to large high speed
6 transfer presses capable of handling the newer types of large
7 panels that were part of the platform process.

8 And the powertrain plants, Warren and Tonawanda both
9 had major elements that had already been converted to lean,
10 agile, flex CNC type machining operations.

11 THE COURT: Is Tonawanda in New Jersey?

12 THE WITNESS: Tonawanda is near Buffalo.

13 THE COURT: Near Buffalo.

14 THE WITNESS: Just a suburb of Buffalo. Romulus, a
15 little bit behind. It wasn't quite as advanced in CNC
16 machining at the time. Flint Engine South was again being
17 converted in 2009 to utilize some surplus equipment that was
18 being moved from Tonawanda. But in 2009, it was being
19 converted. Bay City was a smaller machining operation for
20 repairing gears and blanks, smaller gears for the other
21 transmission and engine plants. And Defiance was producing
22 aluminum and iron castings for the new engine families that
23 were being released.

24 So by and large, by 2009, except for two or three of
25 those plants, the conversion and use of the platform strategies



Stevens - Direct

55

1 and the flexible equipment had been in place for several years
2 or many years in some cases.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q So if we can put back up Mr. Goesling's testimony at
5 Paragraph 26 where he says, "The result of these various trends
6 and pressures on GM was that GM plants required relatively
7 frequent machinery and equipment changes in 2009", that's a
8 true or false statement?

9 A That's false.

10 Q What was the truth?

11 A The truth was that the equipment and machinery that I
12 outlined in relation to the platform strategy in the plants
13 that I just reviewed were able to remain in place longer than
14 they ever had been in the past, independent of model changes or
15 other changes to the product that might or might not come
16 through to the assembly plant.

17 Q Moving onto something else in this same paragraph, yeah,
18 the next portion. Mr. Goesling states:

19 "Further during the years leading up to 2009, poor
20 economic conditions discussed in further detail below
21 required GM to close and consolidate plants and to
22 shift and reduce capacity within those plants that
23 remained."

24 That's true?

25 A Yes, it is.



1 Q Okay.

2 "All of these different pressures and trends required
3 GM to remain prepared for the possibility of
4 significant changes to its manufacturing assets,
5 notwithstanding any hope that GM may have had to keep
6 its assets in place for as long as possible in order
7 to maximize their use."

8 Let me focus you on two aspects of this. First, his
9 statement that these pressures and trends required GM to remain
10 prepared. Do you have a reaction or thought on that?

11 A I'm not clear precisely on what remained prepared for the
12 possibility actually refers to. Certainly, that was not part
13 of anything that we were planning or considering at the time.
14 The fact that the asset base was conceived and installed
15 specifically with the intent that it remain in place longer to
16 provide longer runs through the useful life of the equipment
17 but also through the useful life of the systems that were
18 installed, that was the primary response to the kinds of
19 changes and economic conditions that Mr. Goesling is referring
20 to in the first sentence.

21 Q And continuing in that same sentence where he refers to
22 the hope, any hope that GM may have had to keep its assets in
23 place, from a business and engineering perspective, was it a
24 hope or something else?

25 A We didn't hope, we intended. We planned and our design



Stevens - Direct

57

1 processes were set up with the intent to keep assets in place.
2 So there was no -- we didn't sit around hoping very often.

3 Q And just --

4 MR. FISHER: Objection. Move to strike. General
5 corporate intent.

6 THE COURT: Overruled.

7 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

8 Q And just from a hard asset perspective, just could you
9 explain what kind of things GM did to reflect, to enable its
10 assets to remain in place? I know you've testified about that,
11 just shortly sum it up at this point.

12 A Okay. The -- one of the key -- several key enablers, the
13 product strategies around the bill of material and the platform
14 strategies were key enablers to interface directly with the
15 products, the processes that were installed at the plants. The
16 use of and installation of flexible systems throughout the
17 plants from large transfer presses to flexible framing systems
18 and robotic application systems in paint and the generic
19 specifications around vehicle sizes of conveyance requirements
20 and assembly all were key process enablers that matched with
21 the product platform strategies to enable the assets to be --
22 what I refer to as transparent to the product and allowed those
23 assets regardless of what came at the asset base to remain in
24 place for extended periods of time.

25 Q Okay. I'd like to direct you to a -- excuse me, a table



Stevens - Direct

58

1 that you have in your written testimony.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, it's at Tab 10.

3 THE COURT: On Page 19 of his written testimony?

4 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, Your Honor. And this is
5 something we developed in response to Mr. Goesling's known,
6 unknown theory that we moved to exclude. So Your Honor, that's
7 why we're presenting it here.

8 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

9 Q Looking at the period from 2006 to 2010, just explain what
10 we're seeing here.

11 A This chart highlights the number of manufacturing site
12 closures within the GM network over the past 35 years. The
13 chart does indeed highlight the period of time just prior to
14 the bankruptcy from '05, '06 through to 2010 with a large
15 number of plant closures that had been executed either in an
16 attempt to avoid bankruptcy or as a direct result of the
17 bankruptcy process itself. Clearly, that period is
18 highlighted as an abnormal period of time with significant
19 number of closings over -- the abnormality over a 35-year
20 period or more.

21 Q Were these plant closures anticipated at the time the
22 plants were constructed?

23 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.

24 THE COURT: Sustained.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

59

1 Q When GM shut -- was forced to shut down plants, how did it
2 select which ones to close?

3 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.

4 THE COURT: Sustained. Lay a foundation.

5 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

6 Q Were you involved in helping GM decide which plants to
7 close or not?

8 A I was not.

9 Q And have you studied that subject in connection for your
10 testimony today?

11 A I have studied to a certain extent because I was aware of
12 directly as a senior executive of the company the closure plans
13 and discussions at the senior executive level were part of our
14 regular quarterly reviews. So I was certainly aware of but not
15 a decision maker in the process of which plants.

16 Q As a -- someone who was at GM at the time, did you become
17 aware of the rationale that GM used in terms of which plants to
18 close and which to keep?

19 MR. FISHER: Objection. Leading.

20 THE COURT: You can answer that yes or no.

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q And could you explain?

24 A The vast majority of the plants that have closed over this
25 period of time, and I would argue even previously some of the



Stevens - Direct

60

1 earlier ones, were older, outdated plants either from a
2 building or site standpoint or from the asset bases that were
3 in those plants that had reached in many cases and performed
4 well beyond their useful lives. The large majority were also,
5 as I mentioned earlier, not yet converted towards the more
6 flexible systems that we believed were required for
7 reestablishing successful business after bankruptcy.

8 Q In the period leading up to 2006, did GM scrimp on
9 maintenance?

10 A No, we did not.

11 Q Why not?

12 A It's not a good tradeoff in my experience. Maintenance
13 actually extends -- potentially extends use of assets.
14 Skimping on maintenance potentially causes unexpected
15 breakdowns you're unprepared for. And in some cases would
16 directly impact your output. So ongoing maintenance is one of
17 the last things you would cut budgets of as an operating
18 executive or an operating manager.

19 Q Okay. Let me ask you a question prompted by the Court's
20 request that the lawyers brief the 4R, the Regional Rail Act
21 case.

22 A Okay.

23 Q In 2000 -- were you in the LDT plant in 2009, 2010?

24 A Yes, several times.

25 Q And what was the condition of the asset -- of the



1 machinery and equipment?

2 A Very, very good condition. It was operating at full
3 capacity after the bankruptcy. It was in good shape, looked
4 pristine and very similar to what we saw in -- during our tour,
5 except it was a few years younger at that time.

6 Q Okay. Let me move onto Mr. Goesling's testimony at
7 Paragraph 29. Now we're literally going to get into the nuts
8 and bolts of the case. Mr. Goesling says:

9 "In my opinion, the fact that an asset was bolted to
10 a building or to other assets weighed strongly in
11 favor of a determination that the asset was not
12 intended by GM to be permanent installed."

13 THE COURT: Permanently attached.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: Permanently attached. Thank you.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q Did you have that same reaction?

17 A No, I would not have drawn that conclusion.

18 Q Okay. Could you, from an engineering perspective, explain
19 why GM uses bolts as opposed to some other method of
20 attachment?

21 A Certainly it does depend on the connection. But generally
22 bolts have significant advantages over welding -- welding
23 connections in most circumstances. Bolts -- first of all let
24 me premise the entire answer with the fact that General Motors
25 primarily prohibits the use of welded construction -- welded

Stevens - Direct

62

1 connections in relation to the building construction or to
2 steel connections to the building supports due to the fact that
3 welds can weaken and provide a source of structural fatigue.
4 So primarily policy would prohibit the use of bolt -- of welds
5 in those circumstances.

6 Bolts provide a permanent, but somewhat more flexible
7 connection in that the torsional strength of bolts, in other
8 words, the ability of bolted connections to flex with relative
9 movement with the pieces that are connected to handle light
10 vibration.

11 Q Let me interrupt you.

12 MR. WOLINSKY: Bunky, if you could put up JX-1278.
13 Your Honor, if Mr. Goesling could approach the picture and
14 explain --

15 THE WITNESS: Mr. Stevens.

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Stevens. We'll get there. We'll get
17 there.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead, please. You're just
19 going to have to keep your voice up so we make sure --

20 THE WITNESS: Yes, I realize that.

21 THE COURT: That's fine. So zoom in on the top half
22 of JX-1278.

23 THE COURT: Is this in the binder you --

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, I hope so.

25 THE COURT: Yes, it is. Okay. It's behind Tab 11.



Stevens - Direct

63

1 Go ahead. Tab 11.

2 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Stevens.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q Yes, please.

5 A Okay. Just to orient the Court this is the sort of the
6 underview of one of the vertical industrial carriers on the
7 chassis line. Looking up through the carrier into the
8 superstructure of the building and at the (indiscernible)
9 superstructure. As you can see almost all the connections you
10 see are bolted connections using a variety of and types of
11 additional metal connectors. The conveyor itself just looks
12 may be a different picture later. But the conveyor itself is
13 mounted on a rail, horizontal rail which you see a segment of
14 at the top of this picture which itself is mounted with
15 substantial structural members, what we refer to as white
16 steel. White steel meaning you can pieces, intermediate pieces
17 of steel significantly clean (indiscernible). You can see
18 examples of that right here. Generally in this photo the white
19 steel are the left to right pieces and the building steel is --
20 are the top to bottom structure pieces that you see generally.
21 In all cases you could see the white steel attachments through
22 the building steel with a series of bolts or hanger or
23 brackets.

24 You see also, very typical in most of the overhead
25 conveyor construction, some, let's say straps rather than I-



1 beams -- large I-beams like the major structural support
2 straps, which provide additional lateral strength to the
3 mezzanine or the conveyance system supported. The bolts give
4 you an access should there be an issue or problem to retighten
5 and retain the permanence of the connection. The bolts give
6 you the access should there be an issue or problem to retighten
7 and remain -- retain the permanence of the connection. The
8 bolts give you the access -- give you the engineering
9 properties that I mentioned earlier in terms of relative motion
10 between the connected pieces to absorb some of that relative
11 motion through time without the risk of cracking or breaking
12 welds, et cetera.

13 And so those are the primary kinds of applications where
14 we would see a bolt that's permanent attachments of various
15 systems which the structural steel or supporting white steel
16 (indiscernible).

17 Q And this asset would be -- it's a moving asset so it would
18 be prone to vibration?

19 A There is certainly some vibration in the system actually
20 the entire carrier and vehicle, but it's supporting together
21 probably 12 or 13,000 pounds and there are some relative
22 vibrations constantly to the system.

23 Q So I think you covered this, but just to be clear why
24 wouldn't you weld these connections?

25 A Certainly as I mentioned the structural integrity of some



Stevens - Direct

65

1 of the steel trusses could be compromised and from a policy
2 standpoint we would not do that because of the possibility of
3 structural integrity or rail breaks. It's very difficult to
4 predict or anticipate (indiscernible).

5 Q Okay. Thank you. So is the use from your perspective in
6 your years of engineering in designing facilities like this is
7 the use of a bolt an indication of permanence or impermanence?

8 A I think I stated I certainly would consider it an
9 indication of permanence.

10 Q Let me continue on Mr. Goesling's testimony about
11 attachments, Paragraph 32. This is his testimony about
12 attachments to common utilities. I guess that would be
13 electricity, water, things like that?

14 A I assume so, yes.

15 Q Okay. And he says most of the representative assets are
16 attached to common utilities and the majority of these
17 connections indicated that GM did not intend the asset to be
18 attached permanently. Let's go right to an asset JX-1146.
19 This is part of the CUC, is that right?

20 A That's correct.

21 Q So if you can just remind the Court what we're looking at
22 here.

23 THE COURT: I remember.

24 THE WITNESS: A couple of chillers in this particular
25 picture.



Stevens - Direct

66

1 THE COURT: But if you want to describe it for the
2 record that's fine. I should remember it.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q Well, this picture's in, but this is the -- these are the
5 chillers?

6 A There are some of the chillers in the plant and some of
7 the piping and water systems connected to the chillers. Yes.

8 Q Just to -- let me make sure it's all clear. This is
9 producing chilled water that's going to cool the plant. And
10 where is this cooled water being deployed in the plant?

11 A Primary use is for the body shop robot welding well water
12 cooling systems which provide cool water to keep the
13 temperatures so the well tips at an appropriate level to ensure
14 quality. Secondary use is for building cooling during the
15 summer weather.

16 Q So physically these chillers are supplying water --
17 chilled water to assets that are how far away?

18 A I don't know exactly, but it's hundreds of feet.

19 Q Okay. All right. Now, let's talk about the connection.
20 This is a bolted connection?

21 A This is a bolted connection of two very solid metal
22 flanges, one coming from the chiller itself on the right to the
23 water pipes in the white on the left. You can see the bolted
24 -- you can actually see the nuts on the rear side of the bolts
25 at the lower part of the circular flange. It's some sort of



Stevens - Direct

67

1 flange gasket or ceiling within -- hidden within the flange
2 itself as it's attached. And the bolted connection actually in
3 this particular case serves to ensure that the ceiling
4 mechanism or ceiling substance does its job as well.

5 Q Why is this bolt --

6 THE COURT: Stop for a second. Mr. Fisher, remind
7 me, you can test whether this is a fixture or not? I thought
8 that the equipment -- most of the equipment within the CUC was
9 not contested.

10 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, the CUC building itself and
11 much of the equipment is not contested. There are components
12 of the system that we do contest particularly --

13 THE COURT: Can you tell me whether what we're
14 looking at is contested or not?

15 MR. FISHER: If you give me just a moment, Your
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: Yes, please, that's fine. I'll tell you
18 what, we'll go on and then after the break, we're probably
19 going to take the break at around ten minutes to 11 because I
20 think I -- I had an inquiry last week, because we're stopping
21 early today my plan is to go until one o'clock. We'll take the
22 break about ten minutes to 11 for 15 minutes. After the break
23 maybe you can tell me whether this was a -- this asset is --
24 what we're looking at in JX-1146 whether it's contested or not
25 that the specific asset is -- whether it's contested or it's a



Stevens - Direct

68

1 fixture.

2 MR. FISHER: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you very much.

3 THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Wolinsky.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q So why is the -- why do you use a bolt as opposed to welds
6 here?

7 A Two key reasons. One, I just outlined in terms of the
8 ability of the bolts to actually improve the seal between the
9 two flanges by consistent and equal force in attachment around
10 the perimeter. And second, as I outlined earlier the advantage
11 of bolts is a good example in this case to provide superior
12 ability to handle relative motion which would be the vibrations
13 of the large coolers that are part of this system.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: And JX-1288, if you could put that up,
15 Bunky.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q This is the portion of the wheel and tire conveyor asset
18 20.

19 A That's correct.

20 Q Okay. And let's focus on the electrical connection here.
21 Mr. Goesling calls this a quick disconnect. Have you ever
22 heard of that term before?

23 A At GM we referred to them as quick connects. So I can't
24 say I've ever heard it or not heard it. But to me they're
25 quick connects. That's how we refer to them as.



Stevens - Direct

69

1 THE COURT: What tab is this? Is this behind --

2 MR. WOLINSKY: This is Tab 13.

3 THE COURT: Okay. I'm there. Go ahead.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q So let me just show you Mr. Goesling's testimony on this.
6 Paragraph 35.

7 MR. WOLINSKY: Are we going to put that up? Yes,
8 thanks Bunky.

9 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

10 Q Based on what I observed in my experience with these kinds
11 of connections it is clear that GM was willing to spend
12 additional money and time installing these assets in order to
13 preserve the ability to easily disconnect and relocate the
14 assets. Is that correct?

15 A No, I don't think so.

16 Q How is it wrong?

17 A In my experience the use of quick connects for
18 installation is actually cheaper than the alternative which
19 would be to run individual wiring between power supply and
20 points of use of the various assets. These connectors which
21 you see in the highlighted area on the silver piece of the
22 connection rather than the blue piece at the lower right, okay,
23 these connectors can have anywhere from ten to 15 to sometimes
24 80 or 90 individual pin connectors inside the connector itself.
25 The alternative would be to run those 50 or 15 to 80 individual



Stevens - Direct

70

1 wires from a power supply to a control panel or in this case a
2 control box for a motor. And certainly the running of those
3 kinds of numbers of individual wiring throughout the plants to
4 every single point of use whether it be a panel or a control
5 box or an electrical substation would require infinitely more
6 time and money to use than these quick connect type fittings
7 that we've used at GM.

8 Q So does GM use these types of connectors to facilitate the
9 removal of the asset?

10 A No.

11 Q Why does it use them?

12 A The reason I just outlined in terms of installation ease
13 and installation timing. And the second major advantage of
14 these kinds of connections is ongoing maintenance, ongoing
15 capability of diagnose quicker and easier electrical --
16 potential electrical problems by reducing the need to diagnose
17 and troubleshoot a series of many, many, many wires over long
18 spans throughout the facilities.

19 Q Let me ask you now switch gears to Mr. Goesling's
20 discussion of catwalks and generally the uses of catwalks,
21 mezzanines, platforms in a plant. Here is Mr. Goesling's
22 discussion of catwalks, platforms, stairs and railings, and he
23 says, in the middle, such additional components can suggest
24 that an installation is intended to be more permanent as
25 compared to assets that do not require catwalks, mezzanines,



Stevens - Direct

71

1 platforms, stairs or railings. But what he gives with one hand
2 he takes away with the next. He says in all cases that I
3 observed here the catwalks, mezzanines, stairs and railings
4 were installed in sections that were bolted together and were
5 attached to the floor by lag bolts for relatively easier
6 removal. And then on that basis he discounts the significance
7 of catwalks, mezzanines, et cetera.

8 Let me put up JX-1164 and maybe you can approach the
9 screen and explain to the Court. This is a picture at Tab 14,
10 asset 12, the overhead robot. Point out for the Court -- well,
11 just explain the picture to the Court and what it means for
12 permanence.

13 A Okay. This is also a picture of an asset. I'm sure you
14 have remember --

15 THE COURT: I do. I remember.

16 THE WITNESS: -- a few weeks ago. The position where
17 we were standing actually is more or less (indiscernible). The
18 catwalk mezzanine structure Mr. Wolinsky is referring to,
19 generally catwalks is a narrow (indiscernible) would be
20 considered a broader (indiscernible) generalization for the
21 purpose of illustration. We were standing on a similar series
22 of catwalks (indiscernible) systems. This particular mezzanine
23 catwalk system was directly installed as part of the larger
24 framing system with the assets below and directly installed
25 (indiscernible) of course the assets at this level. If you



Stevens - Direct

72

1 recall there were two overhead robots that were performing a
2 variety of weld operations (indiscernible) from this mezzanine
3 level. It could only be in this kind of a position to access
4 the upper frames, the upper structure of the body as it is
5 processed through the (indiscernible). So the catwalk system
6 was designed and installed specifically as a part of the
7 framing operation to support directly these assets themselves.

8 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

9 Q And the mezzanine here is welded together?

10 A These sections of the mezzanine that you can see on some
11 of them, not-so-good pictures, but they're welded together.

12 Q And the robot itself is bolted to the mezzanine.

13 A The robot itself is bolted to the mezzanine. The
14 mezzanine is also supported by columns from the floor level but
15 they're bolted into the concrete floor of the facility as well.

16 Q And why bolts?

17 A Because again, bolts are, as I said, provides in this
18 particular case a good capability to do a relative motion, as a
19 robots moving and flexing its position and the relative motion
20 in relation to the mezzanine itself. And the ability as I said
21 should there be any reasons to access or retighten the bolts
22 are certainly very easy to maintain and tighten
23 (indiscernible).

24 Q So with respect to JX-1164 which is on the screen when was
25 that spot welder installed, if you know?



Stevens - Direct

73

1 A It would have been installed -- I guess the plant started
2 in September of '06, this probably would have been put in this
3 position at least six months earlier.

4 Q And at any time since it was initially installed has it
5 been removed, repaired, replaced? Let me stop there?

6 A No, it hasn't.

7 Q And there were -- briefly, I think this is the one we
8 focused on during the site visit. There were obviously other
9 similar spot welders.

10 A At the mezzanine level there were two. Framing systems
11 particularly have two or maybe sometimes four robots at the
12 upper level either keeping the structure of the vehicle
13 (indiscernible). The lower level on this particular cell,
14 there was four robots on each side that would have had some
15 (indiscernible) in the vehicle (indiscernible) each of those
16 four welders or four robots at least two (indiscernible) done
17 their welding operations.

18 Q Based on your positions at GM between 2006 and 2009 would
19 you know if any of these spot welders were removed and replaced
20 or removed for servicing?

21 A In general?

22 Q Yes.

23 A No. I was in Europe at that particular time, the training
24 stations in Europe are virtually identical. Different
25 suppliers, but it's actually the same suppliers (indiscernible)



Stevens - Direct

74

1 so framing system and framing station. And during the time
2 period (indiscernible) much experience and knowledge of the
3 lack of robot replacement from (indiscernible).

4 THE COURT: Well, but I'm specifically focusing on
5 the ones that I saw, the ones that are among the representative
6 assets to this trial. You wouldn't have personal knowledge
7 then if you were in Europe as to whether they were moved,
8 replaced, whether there were spares that were put in during a
9 repair.

10 THE WITNESS: This particular one (indiscernible).

11 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Thank you. But let me
12 see if I can just expand on that.

13 THE COURT: Let him go back to the witness --

14 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes. Sure.

15 THE COURT: Go ahead and have a seat again.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q Did GM have a practice of keeping spares of assets of
18 robots like this on the side to swap in and out if the need
19 arose?

20 A No, we did not.

21 Q Okay. And if this asset required repair would you do it
22 in place or would you take -- remove it and swap in the temp?

23 A The repairs were always done in place. You can replace
24 knuckles, you can replace well controllers, you can replace
25 pretty well any of the mor pieces or components of that robot



Stevens - Direct

75

1 system in place. And it would have been done, you know, on an
2 emergency basis if necessary maybe over a weekend or something
3 like that.

4 Q And this asset, this robot is part of an overall framing
5 system, correct?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q If you could explain to the Court how this one robot fits
8 into the entirety of the system.

9 A The framing system -- the major part of the framing system
10 is this framing station that we're looking at in this
11 particular photo. I mentioned there's four robots on each side
12 at the floor level, two robots at the higher level and a series
13 of gates, what I call gates, which are the model tools that
14 would slid into position. Depending on the model that was
15 being welded those gates would compress into position and allow
16 the robots to do their work in a fixed position.

17 Additionally, to the robots that are a part of the framing
18 station itself subsequent to the framing station there's a
19 series of what we call respot robots which basically did the
20 additional robots for the structure -- or additional welds for
21 the structure that were not performed in the framing station
22 itself. And an outer framing line like this could have
23 somewhere between 60 and 80 robots additional. These robots
24 each would apply 10 to 12 initial set, geometric set welds that
25 set the structure of the body and the subsequent 50, 60, 80



Stevens - Direct

76

1 robots would finalize the additional welds to the vehicle
2 before it was shipped for the final line in the body shop. So
3 it's a complex system of some initial geometric setting, the
4 framing station which would apply somewhere around 100, 120
5 total welds, and then the respot robots downstream finalize the
6 additional welding to somewhere around 1,500 welds per vehicle
7 at that particular stage.

8 Q And was the engineering of this location and placement of
9 this robot, was the engineering designed behind it to enable
10 its removal or something else?

11 A No, the engineering design was to enable its permanence in
12 a position of access to the top structure of the vehicle
13 because that's the only part of the framing -- the only method
14 to perform that part of the framing operations.

15 THE COURT: Were you involved in the designer layout
16 of this specific assembly line?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes. As I stated between 2002 and 2004
18 I had direct responsibility for a lot of the initial planning
19 and concepting and equipment to the specifications for LDT. It
20 was executed after I left for Europe.

21 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

22 Q And have you been involved in the engineering design of
23 systems like this around the world?

24 A Yes. Part of our bill of equipment that I mentioned
25 earlier is a very standard set of framing station -- framing



Stevens - Direct

77

1 system alternatives that are used in plants around the world.
2 In fact, this particular system -- framing system supplier
3 Comau is global supplier -- strategic supplier that does by far
4 the most -- the majority of GM framing systems on a blanket
5 type contract.

6 THE COURT: What was the name of the supplier?

7 THE WITNESS: Comau. C-o-m-a-u. They were in the
8 old days the M&E portion of Fiat. They went their own way many
9 decades ago and are one of many -- not many, one of five or six
10 major body shop framing and M&E suppliers globally today.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I'm going to do another
12 concept. Should I go forward or take the break?

13 THE COURT: I think we'll take the break now. We'll
14 take a break until five after 11.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Good. Thank you.

16 THE COURT: And when we resume you'll just take your
17 seat again.

18 THE WITNESS: Okay.

19 THE COURT: You're still under oath when you come
20 back.

21 THE WITNESS: No problem. I can do that.

22 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

23 (Recess taken at 10:49 a.m.)

24 (Proceedings resumed at 11:08 a.m.)

25 THE COURT: Please be seated. Before we begin, when



Stevens - Direct

78

1 we end today at one o'clock, I would request that each side
2 speak with my law clerks and maybe have a paralegal from each
3 side. There have been substitutions of exhibits over the last
4 week and there may still be some. I just want to be sure that
5 we, meaning the Court and my clerks, are operating with the
6 correct set of exhibits. So it's perfectly fine to your either
7 lawyers or paralegals speak with my law clerks. And it's just
8 really making sure that -- I mean coming to chambers and
9 looking make sure that we have the right -- that we're dealing
10 with the right -- the correct set of documents. Okay?

11 MR. WOLINSKY: We'll do that.

12 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead, Mr. Wolinsky.

13 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

14 Q Mr. Stevens, over the break we went back and researched
15 the question that the Court raised about the chiller and
16 whether Mr. Goesling classified it as a fixture or not.

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Bunky, could you put up Mr. -- for
18 Mr. Goesling's statement Exhibit A, Pages 84 to 85, and let's
19 start on the front.

20 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

21 Q So he's drawing a line 6.1 is the centrifugal chiller so
22 that's the same asset we're talking about, correct?

23 A Yes, actually I think it's the same photo as well.

24 Q And if you go down he's referring to a chilled water tank.
25 Is 6.1 the chilled water tank?



Stevens - Direct

79

1 A No. The tank is physically located just outside the CUC.

2 Q Okay. Now if we can go to the next page, just flipping
3 through some of the things that Mr. Goesling pointed out, so,
4 for example, on asset construction he says permanent and
5 reversible construction. And reversible construction -- well,
6 he'll explain what he meant by that. Asset typically sold with
7 land and building. If this building was going to be sold to an
8 OEM would they need that chiller?

9 A If the complex is being sold to an OEM for sure they would
10 need a chiller system. Yes.

11 Q Okay. And he says essential to use of real estate. If
12 the real estate is going to be used for auto manufacturing is
13 it essential to that purpose?

14 A Yes, it is.

15 Q Okay. And then his conclusion the centrifugal chillers
16 are not fixtures while the chilled water holding tank is a
17 fixture. That's consistent with how you prepared your report
18 -- your testimony.

19 A I would have concluded that the centrifugal chillers are
20 also at least would pass the three factor test that we were
21 asked to apply in this case.

22 THE COURT: The chilled water holding tanks were the
23 ones outside the building.

24 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

25 THE COURT: And I think I was told there's no -- that



Stevens - Direct

80

1 those are fixtures.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Correct, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Thank you.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q So let's go back to Paragraph 40 of Mr. Goesling's written
6 direct. Now he's talking about means of construction and
7 assembly and I think now we're moving into conveyors largely.
8 The use of such reversible assembly methods indicates that a
9 majority of its machinery and equipment GM planned for the
10 possibility of removal and did not intend to install the asset
11 permanently. Why don't we just go right to an asset, JX-1267,
12 JX-1268.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, it's Tab 15 and 16 in your
14 binder.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q And this is the kind of asset that Mr. Goesling is
17 speaking to in that paragraph?

18 A I assume so. These conveyors systems obviously would be
19 transported into and installed from sections of some length
20 because the transport or installation of a 1,500 foot system in
21 one piece would be physically impossible.

22 Q Why don't you just -- if you could approach and explain
23 the diagram on the left. Maybe let's focus on the left to
24 start.

25 A Just highlight the purpose of the conveying system that is



1 viewed from underneath and I honestly don't recall which
2 particular section from underneath. This particular process
3 the conveyor takes the body side -- left-hand body sides that
4 have been produced in other assembly area to the top left of
5 this diagram, transports them through a series of what we would
6 call (indiscernible) which would allow you to sort by model and
7 bring them then to the point of use on the framing line where
8 they would drop down or unloaded at the far level into the
9 framing system -- into a framing system for the
10 (indiscernible).

11 The total conveyor length is as I said about 1,500 feet.
12 What you don't see highlighted in yellow is the right-hand
13 side. So they're not quite (indiscernible) the right-hand
14 assembly comes from this are and the left side comes from this
15 area and are delivered to the (indiscernible). Both conveyors
16 -- both left and right (indiscernible) that's what we're
17 looking at involve raising the right side (indiscernible)
18 support level to the conveyor level and eventually lowering
19 them down into what would be the processing level
20 (indiscernible).

21 So there's numerous left to right or lateral changes in
22 the move through the conveyor and is specifically laid out to
23 access the installed framing system itself. And as I said
24 earlier the fact that this configuration could not be installed
25 -- the transporters aren't installed except in sections as



Stevens - Direct

82

1 highlighted by the what they call (indiscernible).

2 MR. WOLINSKY: And, Bunky, if you can run the video.

3 This is JX-1259. Oh, I'm sorry -- yes, this is it.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q This is it from the mezzanine level?

6 A (Indiscernible).

7 THE COURT: I'm sorry --

8 MR. WOLINSKY: Oh, different asset. I'm sorry, I'm
9 confused.

10 THE WITNESS: Sorry?

11 THE COURT: I couldn't hear you. That was all.

12 THE WITNESS: I said this is (indiscernible)
13 conveyor.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q Like this is another mezzanine conveyor system.

16 A It's a different mezzanine conveyor system that we also
17 viewed from underneath.

18 Q And how is this installed into the plant?

19 A Very similarly. The other was an overhead rail, this is
20 a, obviously a lower -- rail at the lower level of the system
21 but mounted on a mezzanine. These sections are impending on
22 the set portion of the conveyance system which probably comes
23 to it on lower sections that are transported into the plant
24 primarily on flatbeds or in large trailers as sections
25 (indiscernible) layout configuration (indiscernible), et



Stevens - Direct

83

1 cetera, ending onto a turntable (indiscernible). They're
2 brought in in sections. Eventually after the mezzanine has
3 been built, installed and supported from the structural steel
4 these conveyance systems would be brought to the location as
5 sections and installed as sections given that there's a
6 possibility (indiscernible).

7 The one thing to add here the turntables at the various 90
8 degree turns are part of the conveyor system. They obviously
9 are not sectional pieces of (indiscernible).

10 Q Okay. And when Mr. Goesling says that this engineering
11 system -- or he would suggest that this engineering solution
12 was done because GM planned for the possibility of removal,
13 true or false?

14 A False.

15 Q What's the true reason why GM chose this engineering?

16 THE COURT: Is -- can he resume the witness seat?

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, please.

18 THE COURT: Why don't you go ahead and sit down.

19 Thanks, Mr. Stevens. Go ahead.

20 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

21 Q And what was the engineering reason for this motive
22 installation and assembly?

23 A Primarily as I outlined during the review of the photos
24 any other non -- any other attempt to bring in as larger pieces
25 or as a single piece would have been physically impossible



Stevens - Direct

84

1 either for the transport or the installation in the mezzanine
2 levels.

3 Q And if GM was planning for the possibility of removal of
4 this asset would it look like that?

5 A No. The configuration as a consequence of that would
6 actually probably have made potential removal more difficult.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Stevens, the conveyance systems that
8 we've just been looking at were they installed before Lansing
9 Delta Township was first put into active service?

10 THE WITNESS: Yes, they were. All the assets that --
11 not only the 40 that we're reviewing, but all the assets in the
12 Lansing plant would have been physically installed and
13 attached, again, depending on the assets, anywhere from a year,
14 year and a quarter to four to six months prior to the start of
15 production of the plant. Part of the startup process involves
16 production of what we would refer to as pre-production or trial
17 vehicles. So all the equipment would be installed and fully
18 functional somewhere around four to six months prior so you
19 could run your trial vehicles to test your systems and prepare
20 your people for the regular volume of production.

21 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead.

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q Let me turn now to Mr. Goesling's testimony at
24 Paragraph 42. And this is damage to the realty. He says one
25 of the key benefits of using foundations, piers and pits is



Stevens - Direct

85

1 that the manufacturing asset may be removed in a way that
2 minimizes damage in contrast to an asset that is embedded in
3 the building floor itself without an intermediary asset like a
4 foundation pier or pit.

5 MR. WOLINSKY: And if we could go right to a picture,
6 Tab 18, Your Honor, JX-1459.

7 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

8 Q What are we looking at here?

9 A This is the foundation pit for the Danly Tryout Press
10 asset that is located in the Lansing Delta Township stamping
11 facility.

12 Q So in the visit we were at the shop floor level. We
13 didn't get to go down beneath.

14 THE COURT: Yes, we did.

15 THE WITNESS: No, not in this pit. This is the
16 Tryout plant -- Tryout. The single stand alone large 4,000 ton
17 very significant, but single unit. The pit we entered was for
18 the AA large transfer press system further down on the left
19 side of the stamping plant. The foundation concept would be
20 very similar though, you're right.

21 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

22 Q So if you could describe the foundation system we're
23 seeing here.

24 MR. FISHER: Objection. Beyond the scope of the
25 written direct. This is not one of Mr. Stevens' 11 assets,



Stevens - Direct

86

1 Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Response, Mr. Wolinsky?

3 MR. WOLINSKY: He's responding to Mr. Goesling's
4 assertion with respect to why foundations, pits and piers are
5 used.

6 THE COURT: Overruled. Go ahead.

7 THE WITNESS: The Danly Press has roughly -- has
8 exactly four of these large concrete pillars that you see in
9 the front center of the photo as foundations. You see one in
10 sort of the right background as well. These four foundations
11 are, in this particular case, at the upper site supported by a
12 huge I-beam on which the Danly Press partly rests, one in the
13 front, one in the back. And the foundation pillars themselves
14 in the pit rest on the pilings that were installed in the
15 ground prior to the building even being built and prior to the
16 pit even being built. The pilings to solidify the ground
17 beneath the foundations that were installed.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q Does GM design a foundation like this in order to obtain a
20 benefit that if the asset is removed there's no damage to the
21 asset?

22 A No, we don't.

23 Q Okay. And why do you?

24 A A pit of this nature provides not only the foundations
25 required to support the heavy assets above it, but also the



Stevens - Direct

87

1 ongoing operation of those assets. And as you probably recall
2 the pits are also installed to provide space for some of the
3 supporting equipment. Especially on the longer press lines you
4 would have scrap conveyors and conveyance systems to deal with
5 the process waste from the stamping itself as well as in the
6 case of the -- all the presses. There's air search tanks and
7 other equipment that relate to the operation of the press
8 themselves.

9 Q Okay. If we can move on to Mr. Goesling's testimony
10 Paragraph 44 where it says the GM tax classification data in
11 particular confirmed my conclusions about the assets. GM
12 itself categorized certain machinery and equipment this
13 personal property in its submitted tax documents confirming its
14 intent to keep the asset as personal property. Did you look at
15 the data that Mr. Goesling cited, provided us in connection
16 with this assertion?

17 A Yes, I did.

18 Q What did you do?

19 A I started with the files that plaintiff had identified as
20 fixtures. I compared those files -- cross-referenced those
21 files against the tax documents that he references from GM.
22 There were actually two of them. One referring to the majority
23 of the Michigan plants and the second tax file referring
24 specifically to the Lansing plant. I cross-referenced then his
25 fixture list -- or their fixture list against the



Stevens - Direct

88

1 classifications that General Motors reported in those two tax
2 filing documents.

3 Q And this analysis was in your rebuttal report, is that
4 correct?

5 A It was. Yes.

6 Q And it's repeated in your direct testimony?

7 A Yes, it is.

8 Q Okay.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: If you could put up DDX-4 which, Your
10 Honor, is Tab 19.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q What did you find as a result of your analysis?

13 A This check summarizes --

14 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.

15 THE COURT: Overruled.

16 THE WITNESS: This check summarizes the results of
17 the analysis process that I just outlined, the cross-
18 referencing of the tax files versus the plaintiff's asset
19 fixture file. Of the 5,300 assets in the Michigan plant
20 listings that were identified 2,242 or 42 percent were reported
21 in the GM files as personal property. And by implication the
22 other 58 percent were reported as real property or not personal
23 property.

24 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

25 Q And what conclusion did you reach from the data?



Stevens - Direct

89

1 A Given the data I concluded that the use of tax
2 classification data itself as an indicator is probably not
3 relevant.

4 Q If you can turn -- let me direct you now to Paragraph 45
5 of Mr. Goesling's testimony where it talks about leases.
6 Again, these leases were not the primary basis for my
7 classification determination, but they provide strong support
8 for my conclusion that even the large and heavy presses were
9 intended by GM to remain as personal property.

10 Let me just ask you as a factual matter based on your
11 history with the Lansing Delta Township plant, when was the
12 planning for the specing and the installation of the press
13 done?

14 A Press planning is significantly longer because the lead
15 time to produce presses so the planning for the presses and
16 specifications for the stamping plant would have been done in
17 the 2000 time frame.

18 Q And how does that compare to the date the leases were
19 entered into?

20 A Significantly before the leases were entered into.

21 Q And at the time you were planning for the installation of
22 the press did you have any knowledge one way or the other as to
23 whether the press was going to be leased?

24 A No --

25 MR. FISHER: Objection. Foundation.



Stevens - Direct

90

1 THE COURT: Sustained. Lay a foundation.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q At the time you were -- you were involved for the planning
5 for the -- the specing and the planning of the installation of
6 the press.

7 A Not this particular press. No.

8 Q Okay. How about the presses generally at Lansing Delta
9 Township?

10 A No, not the presses.

11 Q Okay. Then we'll move on. For the CUC did you review the
12 lease for the CUC?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What portions did you focus on?

15 A I reviewed the entire lease, but focused primarily on two
16 sections. The section that outlined the payment terms and
17 conditions as well as the conditions around getting out of the
18 lease or end of lease expectations. The second area I looked
19 at was the utility supply agreement which was related more
20 specifically to the individual assets that we saw within the
21 CUC.

22 Q And looking at the termination provisions what did you see
23 and what did you --

24 THE COURT: Stop. I don't understand what you mean
25 by you looked at the utility supply agreement which was related



Stevens - Direct

91

1 more specifically to the individual assets. Can you explain
2 that more?

3 THE WITNESS: There are two major sections to the
4 lease. One is the commercial side and one I would refer to as
5 the technical side -- more technical. The utility supply
6 agreement outlines by asset, in other words, which chillers
7 provide how much cool water at what rate, the electricity
8 requirements and the draw on electricity to which area from the
9 CUC and really specifies at the utility level the requirements
10 that the CUC had to meet for the processes in the plant.

11 THE COURT: Go ahead.

12 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

13 Q And as it relates to the business journals, what did you
14 see and what did you conclude?

15 MR. FISHER: Objection. There's no foundation for an
16 expert opinion on this topic.

17 THE COURT: Sustained.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q On a business perspective what did you see and what did
20 you conclude?

21 MR. FISHER: Objection. Relevance.

22 THE COURT: Overruled.

23 THE WITNESS: I reviewed the terms of termination and
24 it was apparent to me that at the end of the 16 or 17 year term
25 of the lease that the asset and all the utility equipment and



Stevens - Direct

92

1 machines inside would revert to General Motors for a nominal
2 price. I believe it was one dollar.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q And without the CUC could the plant operate?

5 A No, it could not.

6 Q Let me direct you now to Mr. Goesling's movement analysis.
7 This is something you covered in your rebuttal report, is that
8 right?

9 A That's correct.

10 Q And you covered in your direct testimony?

11 A That's correct.

12 Q Let me direct you to Mr. Goesling, Paragraph 47. This is
13 his basic movement analysis. He says based on his analysis --
14 this analysis I determined, among other things, that more than
15 10,000 asset entries with an installed cost of more than \$790
16 million had been transferred from 2009 and 2015. You had a
17 data file from Mr. Goesling that captured this?

18 A Yes. He presented a file at one point with the moves
19 indicated.

20 Q Okay. All right. Let me walk you through your analysis
21 of that file. Why don't we start with Table 1.2, DDX-5.

22 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, it's Tab 20.

23 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

24 Q And a table like this appeared in your rebuttal report?

25 A That's correct.



1 Q So why don't you just start on the left and make your way
2 across. Or start where you want and explain it to us.

3 A I'll start on the third bar just to relate it back to the
4 previous discussion. Mr. Goesling's report did identify the
5 10,598 assets that had moved. The eFast listings that we as a
6 group had been working from for the same time frame and same
7 plants had 254,000. So that indicated that 244,000 of them did
8 not move. But from the analysis that I did on Mr. Goesling's
9 10,598 3,300 of those were moved from plants that were not
10 party to this case. So they're uncovered plants in that sense.
11 There's 1,200 of them, roughly that were by our very quick
12 application of a three factor test probably wouldn't have met
13 the fixture requirement and that basically left a remainder of
14 6,000 that I continued my analysis from.

15 A small number were accounting changes with no physical
16 movement in the plants, but one department accounting record to
17 a different department accounting record. And of the 6,000
18 then with further analysis based on location and plant
19 information I concluded that roughly 3,000 were fixture type
20 assets that were moved from closed plants, and roughly 3,000
21 were fixture type assets that had been moved within the normal
22 operating business of new GM plants.

23 Q Okay. So let's take the analysis the next step.

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Although, Your Honor, we'd like to
25 offer DDX-5 into evidence.



Stevens - Direct

94

1 THE COURT: Hearing no objection, DDX-5 is in
2 evidence.

3 (Exhibit DDX-5 admitted into evidence)

4 MR. FISHER: Yes, Your Honor, this is an example of
5 an exhibit that we think is a demonstrative exhibit that helps
6 Mr. Stevens articulate his expert opinion, but it is not itself
7 a summary exhibit or something that's admissible into evidence.

8 THE COURT: You've got to speak up a little more
9 quickly when, you know. Is this a summary exhibit?

10 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, he's testified as to every
11 number on the page so his testimony is in the record. This is
12 an aid to the Court to Your Honor or any reviewing court
13 looking at the testimony and piecing it together.

14 THE COURT: I understand that. But, you know, for
15 example --

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Oh, this is a summary of his analysis.
17 Yes.

18 THE COURT: But what are the backup records which
19 would establish, for example, that 2,955 fixtures were moved
20 from closed idle plants? Are there -- if this is a summary
21 exhibit --

22 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes.

23 THE COURT: -- there needs to be sufficient backup
24 for it. And that's my question.

25 MR WOLINSKY: There is --



Stevens - Direct

95

1 THE COURT: What is the backup for it?

2 MR. WOLINSKY: There is an exhibit somewhere in the
3 masses that captures this data.

4 THE COURT: And have you identified for the plaintiff
5 the exhibits which this summarizes?

6 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Fisher.

8 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, this document embodies
9 arguments, positions, expert positions including, for example,
10 how the various parties characterize assets. We wouldn't
11 necessarily agree with Mr. Stevens that something characterized
12 as a fixture is characterized as a fixture and that that was an
13 asset that moved or didn't move. This simply helps him
14 articulate his expert opinion which he has the opportunity to
15 do with reference to this document--

16 THE COURT: Which parts specifically? I'm looking at
17 Federal Rule of Evidence 1006. Tell me why you don't believe
18 that DDX-5 satisfies the requirements of Rule 1006. Well,
19 here's what I'm going to -- I'm going to conditionally overrule
20 the objection. I'm going to give Mr. Fisher an opportunity if
21 he wishes to file a very short brief and you can -- a letter
22 brief and Mr. Wolinsky you can respond to it. I'm
23 conditionally admitting it into evidence subject to striking
24 after I see letter briefs that address whether DDX-5 satisfies
25 the requirements of Rule 1006 of the Federal Rules of Evidence.



Stevens - Direct

96

1 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Thank you.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q If we can move on to -- from your direct testimony Page
4 36, Table 2.

5 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, it's Tab 21.

6 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

7 Q This is your analysis of the 3073 fixtures that moved from
8 which plants, operating or closed?

9 A This is the total list of plants, operating plants at that
10 period of time.

11 Q Okay. And what did you find looking at the assets that
12 moved from operating plants?

13 A Just to relate the Court to the numbers the 3073 --

14 THE COURT: Please stop. I was making notes. Where
15 will I find this?

16 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, this is Tab 21.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. I'm sorry.

18 THE WITNESS: The 3073 in the lower line is the same
19 3073 from the previous chart, Your Honor. This chart breaks
20 the information of movements down by operating plant and I --
21 as you can see from the chart the vast majority of plants had
22 zero or very, very minimum moves. I would note there are
23 several at the top where the number of moves impacted were
24 slightly higher than those four plants at the top. The average
25 move of fixture type assets from those plants would have been



Stevens - Direct

97

1 in the six or seven percent range.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q Okay. So the reason why you get the six or seven percent
4 is because Pontiac has 25.8 percent, but relatively small
5 number of fixtures.

6 A That's correct. Lower denominator. But the average of
7 those four plants, I forget the exact number, I think it's 7.4
8 or something in that neighborhood.

9 Q Okay. And if you could explain what the significance of
10 those four plants are in the context of your assessment of Mr.
11 Goesling's data.

12 A Part of the bankruptcy process was some additional
13 restructuring that was mandated after the date -- the official
14 date of the bankruptcy. These plants were particularly
15 impacted with those decisions. There are some labor
16 requirements, labor negotiations as part of the settlement that
17 required the establishment of additional jobs in southeast
18 Michigan. For example, Orion which had been idle was decided
19 to remain open and install a brand new product, a new
20 architecture in that plant. And Pontiac, the top line on the
21 item was assigned to be its stamping plant. The distance is
22 geographically five or eight miles. So it's very close. So
23 those two were impacted by the decision to meet the labor
24 requirement to add jobs in Michigan.

25 The Tonawanda very similar. The moves there were dictated



Stevens - Direct

98

1 or decided because of another labor agreement to keep jobs in
2 the Flint area. One of the old Flint engine plants without
3 flexible equipment was closed and there was a union demand to -
4 - and decision to keep jobs in the Flint area. The Flint
5 Engine South plant was chosen to take and install idled lien
6 agile flex machining stations from Tonawanda at the time.

7 Q So just take another example, GM assembly Lansing Delta
8 Township almost 7,500 assets, eight moved.

9 A That's correct. From Mr. Goesling's list that's correct.
10 Their the ones that were identified by us as fixtures.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: So, Your Honor, we're going to be
12 offering this into evidence, I guess, on the same basis --

13 THE COURT: Well, it's in his report.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: It's in his testimony.

15 THE COURT: Yes, it's in his testimony. It's Page
16 36.

17 MR. WOLINSKY: But I think Mr. --

18 MR. FISHER: It's the same objection, Your Honor.
19 His testimony and his expert opinions of course are coming into
20 evidence. What doesn't come into evidence is this document
21 because it is even the premise for Mr. Wolinsky's question was
22 that this was a summary of his analysis. The headings talk
23 about number of fixtures in plant, number of fixtures moved.
24 That's based on their expert's characterization of assets. So
25 it doesn't come into evidence as a summary of some voluminous



Stevens - Direct

99

1 exhibit. It comes in because it's a paragraph in his direct
2 testimony and the Court is hearing him explain it. But it's
3 not a document that ought to be admitted into evidence.

4 THE COURT: Response, Mr. Wolinsky?

5 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, the defendants have
6 identified assets that they consider to be fixtures. That was
7 done way back early on to facilitate the trial of the case. So
8 that is the underlying source of the information. So that is
9 -- he's capturing our position, he's then transposing that
10 against a file that Mr. Goesling provided us and that we
11 analyzed.

12 THE COURT: The objection is overruled. It's in
13 evidence.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q If we can move to Tab 22, this is Table 3 from your direct
16 testimony. Now this again there were 3073 fixtures -- assets
17 that the defendants identified as fixtures that were moved
18 within new GN, correct?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q And what happened if you exclude the assets associated
21 with those four plants?

22 A It walks down the total number of fixture type assets that
23 moved in the normal course of business into about 489 --

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor --

25 THE WITNESS: -- in that six year period.



Stevens - Direct

100

1 THE COURT: I'm sorry, I'm missing this point.
2 Explain this to me again.

3 THE WITNESS: The 3073 is the number of fixtures
4 moved from the previous chart in all plants. These four
5 impacted plants are the ones I just mentioned that had been
6 impacted with restructuring subsequent to the date of -- the
7 official date of bankruptcy and that the impact with --
8 excluding the impact of those additional restructurings that
9 had not yet taken place in the normal plant -- normal course of
10 business in plants that had no subsequent restructurings post-
11 bankruptcy is approximately 489 fixture type assets that moved
12 over that six year period.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, we're moving this into
14 evidence along with Mr. Stevens' witness statement.

15 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, same objection. And with
16 respect to this table I'll simply point out to the Court that
17 the word fixtures is in quotes because it's a litigation
18 position. Ordinary course of business is a judgment that Mr.
19 Stevens made as part of his analysis as to whether the asset he
20 was evaluating moved in what he would consider to be the
21 ordinary course of business. This is not a summary.

22 THE COURT: I'm permitting it as part of his opinion
23 testimony. The objection is overruled. You can cross examine
24 him about it.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

101

1 Q Let's move on to Table 5 from your direct testimony, Tab
2 23.

3 MR. WOLINSKY: Actually Bunky, let's include the
4 bottom.

5 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

6 Q So this is the same 489 assets that we saw in the prior
7 chart?

8 A That's correct. Analyzed and classified in a different
9 way, but the same assets. Yes.

10 Q Okay. And what would you highlight -- what would you like
11 to highlight for the Court here?

12 A The rationale behind the looking -- the alternative way to
13 look at the data by category of types of equipment rather than
14 category of plant or the location of the plant was an attempt
15 to understand the types of assets that may or may not have been
16 moved during that period. So the 489 representing point five
17 percent of the fixture type assets in the operating plants at
18 that time of point five percent. You can see the types of
19 assets. The GM categories that were pulled directly off the
20 eFast listing they're not anything other than the same data
21 from eFast.

22 The GM categories tend to be sometimes over inclusive,
23 they tend to not necessarily be a hundred percent equivalent in
24 each application in every plant, but they do give an indication
25 from this chart are the types of things, the types of assets



Stevens - Direct

102

1 that may have moved during this time. And as you can see in
2 this particular case other than, you know, some administrative
3 type categories which I do not completely understand you can
4 look and see there were some production equipment point four
5 percent, there was some process equipment point six percent,
6 and it appears that 200 robots or basically one percent out of
7 the total number of robots in GM operating at that time were
8 moved over this six year period.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, we're offering this into
10 evidence as well.

11 MR. FISHER: Same objection.

12 THE COURT: Overruled.

13 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

14 Q Now Mr. Goesling at Paragraph 49 of his testimony talks
15 about the secondary market and he did an analysis of the
16 secondary market for machinery equipment. And he concludes
17 that this analysis was significant to my conclusion because not
18 only did it demonstrate the possibility of removal with minimal
19 damage, see discussion above, but also that the machinery and
20 equipment was of the type that GM and the market at large
21 treated as saleable goods with value separate from the real
22 estate. Let me just ask you when -- from an engineering
23 perspective, planning perspective when GM installed assets was
24 it considering the secondary market?

25 A No, it was not.



1 Q Is there a reason why?

2 A It wasn't on our to do list. It was not part of the
3 planning process at all.

4 Q Again on the secondary market in that same paragraph Mr.
5 Goesling states similarly evidence that GM frequently sold
6 assets similar to the representative assets in the context of
7 plant closings or downsizings is strong evidence that GM did
8 not intend to keep these assets permanently with the realty.
9 Did you draw the same conclusion?

10 A No, I did not.

11 Q And why not?

12 A It makes -- as I mentioned earlier the time frame just
13 prior to bankruptcy 2005 to '06 was -- until 2009 or '10 was
14 certainly an abnormal period of time, does not represent let's
15 say an ongoing and normal situation or circumstance. The fact
16 that plant closures happened during that period of time is
17 obvious. The fact that GM did attempt to and did sell some of
18 the assets in those closures makes sense from an economic
19 standpoint. If there is some useful life left on those -- on
20 some of those assets it would make some sense to try to recover
21 some value if at all possible knowing that those plants were no
22 longer going to be part of GM.

23 THE COURT: Other than equipment that was moved to
24 Lansing Delta Township from other GM plants was all of the
25 other equipment purchased new or was any of it purchased in a



1 secondary market?

2 THE WITNESS: No. All equipment installed in GM
3 plants are conceived and purchased as new.

4 THE COURT: Go ahead.

5 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

6 Q And the one asset that the Court was referring to was the
7 Danly Tryout Press?

8 A Danly Tryout Press there was two paint applicators that
9 were moved from Orion. There were one or two utility fixtures
10 that were moved -- or utility equipment machines that were
11 moved from the old Lansing site ten miles away. But by and
12 large it's a practice to only buy new equipment except for the
13 few circumstances within General Motors where you might be able
14 to reuse an asset and cover some economic value that way.

15 Q Moving on to Paragraph 50 of Mr. Goesling's testimony,
16 let's see, he says, for example, I assessed whether each of the
17 representative assets exclusively served the specific use of
18 the building or whether the asset was more broadly useful for
19 any manufacturing use to which the building might be put. The
20 fact that an asset was exclusively useful to a specific GM
21 manufacturing process being conducted in the building tended to
22 weigh against a finding of permanence because a different user
23 of the realty would not keep that asset in place. Let me just
24 ask you, the underlying factual premise of this statement, is
25 it true or not?



1 A I believe --

2 THE COURT: I didn't understand your question.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q The underlying factual premise of this statement is that
5 assets were installed specifically -- exclusively -- that the
6 assets were installed that were exclusively useful to a
7 specific GM manufacturing process. Were the assets that were
8 installed specific to GM's manufacturing processes?

9 MR. FISHER: Objection. Vague. What asset?

10 MR. WOLINSKY: The same ones that Mr. Goesling's
11 talking about.

12 THE COURT: Overruled. This is an area I'm not clear
13 on. I'm going to let him answer that question, but --

14 MR. WOLINSKY: I think the question --

15 THE COURT: -- you better focus in.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q Okay. Help everybody out Mr. Stevens.

18 A Can you repeat the question?

19 Q Sure.

20 A Sorry.

21 Q Sure. Let me just ask it a different way. Are the assets
22 that GM installed in its manufacturing plant specific to GM's
23 manufacturing process?

24 A No, they are not.

25 MR. FISHER: Same objection.



1 THE COURT: Overruled.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q Explain your answer.

4 A Several answers -- several previous answers would support
5 that conclusion. The fact when we were reviewing the plant
6 sales with assets outlined several examples where plants were
7 sold with assets installed and as part of the deal to other car
8 companies that were intent on producing automotive products on
9 those same installed asset basis. So that fact that the
10 interest in purchasing plants with assets by other OEMs by its
11 nature would imply, at least, that the assets can be used by
12 them and they have -- they sense and see some economic value in
13 it.

14 The second major piece of evidence I'd mention is the
15 discussion we had earlier on lien systems in general and the
16 application of flexible equipment and flexible conveyance
17 systems and flexible machining throughout our entire
18 manufacturing network. I've highlighted that they're somewhat
19 transparent to model change. I've highlighted that the ability
20 to change on the fly from one product to another product is
21 possible with these flexible systems. And I would certainly
22 extend that to say I could produce other brands and other car's
23 companies on our assembly line should that be -- should that
24 ever be required.

25 Q Actually, do you have personal experience in producing



Stevens - Direct

107

1 other manufacturer -- other brands on GM equipment?

2 A Yes, it's done frequently in the industry. My personal
3 experience and knowledge would be an example from our Luton
4 plant which is near London, England which produces mid-size
5 vans for Renault, Nissan and for Opel and Vauxhall on the same
6 assembly line with the same installed set of assets.

7 Q We can move on to Paragraph 51 of Mr. Goesling's
8 testimony. This is where he takes you to task. Former GM
9 employee suggest that I should also have considered whether a
10 representative asset was necessary for GM's production and what
11 losses to GM's productivity might have been had -- might have
12 been had a representative asset been removed from an operating
13 facility. And then he continues, skipping down, machinery and
14 equipment maintained by a manufacturer is presumably necessary
15 for its business operations. This is not a sound basis on
16 which to differentiate between fixtures and non-fixtures. You
17 obviously had a different view.

18 A That's correct.

19 Q And why did you think it was relevant to look at the
20 impact on GM from the removal of a representative asset in
21 order to assess GM's intent?

22 MR. FISHER: Objection. Legal conclusion.

23 THE COURT: Overruled.

24 THE WITNESS: Two reasons. Obviously the fact of its
25 usefulness or necessity for the business being performed is one



1 of the key considerations that was offered by defense counsel
2 in our application of the three factor test and therefore would
3 have been considered as an indicator in each case over a scale
4 of continuum in our analysis.

5 The second major issue I'd say is the fact that
6 something is necessary for the business in the sense that we've
7 been identifying assets within the plant and in our visit the
8 integration of the assets of -- into systems in many cases
9 indicates the system itself could not operate without that
10 asset and the asset could not necessarily operate independently
11 of that system. And those are the two key drivers that
12 certainly gave some indication of intent which we weighed in
13 our -- in my final consideration.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q Let's put this in a business context. What was GM's
16 investment in Lansing Delta Township to build and open that
17 plant?

18 A The initial investment was over a billion. I think it was
19 1.2 billion.

20 Q And how much has GM put into the plant since it opened?

21 A Since 2006 probably around 500 million or so for various
22 capacity adjustments or especially the most recent new product
23 changes.

24 Q And how many cars is the car capable of producing --

25 THE COURT: Can you ask that again just -- start the



Stevens - Direct

109

1 question again.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q How many cars is the plant capable of producing an hour?

4 A Roughly 60 an hour at the current production rate.

5 Q And how many a day?

6 A That's 1,100. I think they're at 1,150 right now on a
7 three shift basis.

8 Q And if you pulled out the stamping press, zero.

9 A Until you found that some other alternative supply, yes.

10 Q And fair to sum up that's why you thought looking at the
11 impact on the plant was a relevant consideration.

12 A Yes.

13 Q Now just because you concluded that assets were integral
14 to the operation of the plant does that mean you automatically
15 concluded that it met each of the three factors under the
16 Michigan test?

17 MR. FISHER: Objection. Leading.

18 THE COURT: Overruled.

19 THE WITNESS: No.

20 MR. WOLINSKY: Bunky, if you could put up DDX-6.

21 This is --

22 THE COURT: What tab?

23 MR. WOLINSKY: Tab 24.

24 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

25 Q And Mr. Stevens if you could approach.



Stevens - Direct

110

1 MR. WOLINSKY: This is Your Honor, this is the
2 schematic that the GM guys provided us as part of the Lansing
3 stamping visit.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q Yes, go ahead, Mr. Stevens. What are we looking at?

6 A The red lines indicate the (indiscernible) relevant to the
7 discussion (indiscernible). This particular layout as you
8 recall we had the two (indiscernible) transfer presses, the two
9 large AA transfer presses (indiscernible) press itself. And
10 this large area here --

11 THE COURT: The large area you're pointing to is on
12 the right side of the exhibit.

13 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, if you could --

14 THE COURT: We need words to --

15 THE WITNESS: Okay. Got it.

16 THE COURT: -- explain what you're showing -- what
17 you're saying.

18 THE WITNESS: The large right side -- the large area
19 on the right side of the diagram is primarily dedicated to die
20 storage and to die storage equipment is part of the that
21 process. The large area on the left side has changed somewhat
22 since 2006, but primarily these are all the outputs from
23 (indiscernible) press systems and the transitional storage in
24 racks or transfer racks (indiscernible).

25 THE COURT: On the schematic, it's Exhibit 6, what's



Stevens - Direct

111

1 -- on the left side, lower left side there are things that are
2 in blue. What are those?

3 THE WITNESS: Well, I know what they are. I'm not
4 sure why they're blue. Okay.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Well, there's green at the top and
6 blue at the bottom so I was just wondering so you could
7 explain.

8 THE WITNESS: This is an older (indiscernible)
9 diagram that was provided by GM. I'm not sure of the rationale
10 behind the drawing. But again, these are storage racks the
11 typical storage --

12 THE COURT: No significance for our purposes whether
13 it's green or blue.

14 THE WITNESS: To my knowledge, no.

15 THE COURT: All right.

16 THE WITNESS: But the storage racks are in place for
17 somewhere between two and eight hours. No more than that as
18 the processes are -- that the stamping are delivered off of the
19 line systems (indiscernible) the racks are transported
20 (indiscernible). So the green and the blue for the purposes of
21 this exhibit (indiscernible).

22 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

23 Q And could you move forward in the -- so what are we seeing
24 here?

25 A This is the same layout with the assets that we reviewed,



Stevens - Direct

112

1 the representative assets are whited out at least from the
2 defense standpoint we implied (indiscernible). Again, the
3 press system from the (indiscernible). The remaining assets
4 throughout the stamping plant including the dies themselves,
5 the die storage system and the dye moving systems, the racks,
6 et cetera, some of which are affixed to the building
7 substantially would not, in my opinion, (indiscernible).

8 Q Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, just for the aid of the
10 Court we'd like to move DDX-6 into evidence so when someone
11 goes back and looks at the transcript they can follow the
12 testimony.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Fisher?

14 MR. FISHER: No objection, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. DDX-6 is in evidence.

16 (Exhibit DDX-6 admitted into evidence)

17 MR. WOLINSKY: Just to clear up one -- we're going to
18 move now into individual assets. Your Honor, we're not going
19 to cover asset two because the parties agreed that the general
20 assembly, pits and trenches are fixtures. There's one small
21 evidentiary objection that I'd like to cover.

22 Bunky, if you could pull up DX-1007 and JX-30,
23 Page 2. No, that's not right. DX not J. Right. And JX-30,
24 Page 2. Okay. Bring that up. Thanks.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

113

1 Q So when we visited the CMM machine -- well, just explain
2 to the Court what these two pictures represent.

3 A The picture on the left represents an example, a --

4 THE COURT: The picture on the left is DX --

5 MR. WOLINSKY: 1007.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 THE WITNESS: DX-1007 represents a photo from my
8 initial report as well as from my rebuttal report of a
9 representative CMM given that the asset itself -- the
10 representative asset had been removed at the time of our visit.
11 This particular representative asset is similar, not identical
12 to the one that was removed. This particular one has
13 construction and configuration of the floor plate on which the
14 mounting towers are installed is roughly two feet off the
15 floor. Our representative asset was very, inter terms of
16 function, identical, but the floor plate -

17 THE COURT: The function quality control measurement?

18 THE WITNESS: Correct. Dimensional checks of the
19 body and therefore the integrity of the equipment that had
20 welded it. The representative asset, though, the floor plate
21 was level with the floor. The two towers at the back, the
22 automated measuring towers and the system by which the
23 measurements were done were very, very similar. So the
24 difference would be the floor plate mounting. The photo on the
25 right which is -- I'm not sure of the reference --



Stevens - Direct

114

1 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky, I can't read the exhibit.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. It's JX-30.

3 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

4 Q When we were visiting the CMM machine there was one that
5 had been removed --

6 A Right. That's what I was going to say.

7 Q -- and one that was in place.

8 A That's correct. This is the LY90, slightly different
9 model, but same supplier and basically the same CMM. This is
10 the one that would --

11 THE COURT: One tower each side.

12 THE WITNESS: -- one tower each side.

13 THE COURT: (Indiscernible) was being measured.

14 THE WITNESS: Exactly. And it is -- now at the floor
15 level as the asset in question would have been.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q Actually I've been corrected. This is the one that was
18 removed JX-30, Page is the one that was removed. There was a
19 sister in shop.

20 A We viewed the sister. Correct. Floor mounted dual tower.
21 That's the difference from the representative photo that we had
22 in our earlier report.

23 Q And for DX-1007 everything that we see above the floor
24 level in JX-30 is below the floor level.

25 A That's correct. Yes.



Stevens - Direct

115

1 MR. WOLINSKY: So, Your Honor, we're going to be
2 offering DX-1007 into evidence.

3 MR. FISHER: No objection, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. DX-1007 is in evidence.

5 (Exhibit DX-1007 admitted into evidence)

6 MR. WOLINSKY: Moving on to asset number 15, Bunky,
7 if you could put up JX-1215 and JX-1224. Your Honor, that's
8 Tabs 26 and 27.

9 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

10 Q And this the GA Soap Mount and inflation system.

11 A That is correct.

12 Q And in a sentence what does it do?

13 A In a sentence it takes wheels and tires from the delivery
14 system of those components, prepares them to be mated together
15 and assembled into a wheel and tire assembly and inflates them
16 to the proper required air pressure.

17 Q Okay, you did it. Run-on sentence, but still a sentence.

18 A Okay. Got it.

19 Q Let's look at Mr. Goesling's testimony, Paragraph 111. On
20 this asset I gave significant weight to the wheel assembly
21 machine's non-permanent method of attachment, the various
22 stations that comprise this asset are attached to the floor
23 with lag bolts.

24 So going back to the asset do you consider this method of
25 attachment to this asset to be non-permanent in the sense that



Stevens - Direct

116

1 he's using it or in any sense?

2 A No, I don't.

3 Q Okay. And why?

4 A Bolting attachments to the floor of industrial processes
5 is fairly standard process for several reasons. Obviously it
6 gives some of the advantages I mentioned earlier in terms of
7 managing relative motion of the equipment. This equipment as
8 well would have a significant amount of libation and movement
9 of that sort over its long useful life, and the floor bolts
10 would allow for corrections, tightening as required throughout
11 the life of the equipment. Other alternatives obviously would
12 not provide those kinds of advantages.

13 Q So Mr. Goesling suggests as an alternative that GM could
14 have embedded the feet of the machine into the concrete pad,
15 concrete floor. Is there a reason why GM doesn't do that?

16 A In my opinion it's not a good engineering solution for the
17 reasons I just outlined.

18 Q If you did that what would happen? If you had embedded
19 the feet of the machine into the floor what would happen?

20 A Again, primarily because of the inherent vibration in
21 these kinds of equipment, these kinds of large machines
22 probably through time the concrete embedment, the concrete
23 mounting would need to be either replaced, repaired on an
24 ongoing basis. But certainly you would have some additional --
25 you could have some additional vibrations that would impact the



Stevens - Direct

117

1 operation of the equipment.

2 Q How did this asset wind up in the place in this location?

3 A The wheel and tire assembly process in most automotive
4 manufacturers is either done inside an assembly plant or in
5 some cases by a supplier that delivers the fully assembled and
6 fully inflated wheel to the assembly plant. That decision
7 process of whether to do it in or out, as we've called it, was
8 being done as the LDT plant was being finalized. It was a late
9 decision. The decision to move it inside for economic reasons
10 it was determined to be more cost effective to do it inside
11 even though the investment required would be high. That
12 decision was made -- at the time that that decision was made an
13 additional building bubbled to provide space for this equipment
14 was designed and built because the original plant was already
15 in construction and being facilitated with the equipment.

16 Q Was this equipment in place before the plant began
17 operating?

18 A Yes, it was.

19 MR. WOLINSKY: If you could, Bunky, put up
20 Mr. Goesling's direct Paragraph 112.

21 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

22 Q This is his discussion of a patent associated with the
23 machine. And he says not only did this confirm my analysis of
24 this machine as a portable item, but it also told me that GM
25 specifically purchased a machine who's overriding



Stevens - Direct

118

1 characteristic was modularity. Let me break that into two. Is
2 this a portable item?

3 A No, I don't think so.

4 Q Why not?

5 A The weight and size of the system, 90 feet long, five
6 major machines each of which is connected and joined to the
7 building, but also to each other would in my mind make it
8 certainly not portable.

9 Q And at the time the machine is installed is modularity its
10 overriding characteristic?

11 A The modularity in this sense of the patent would refer to
12 the capacity that

13 THE COURT: I'm sorry, could you start that again?
14 You said in this sense of the patent. I don't understand.

15 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

16 Q Yes. Why don't you just expand your answer.

17 A Okay. The patent refers to this modular concept. In the
18 sense of the patent the modularity allows you to install the
19 number of machines that would be required to meet your volume
20 requirements. For specific example in this case the Lansing
21 Delta Township tire and wheel line has two machines performing
22 the assembly operation or the mounting operation and two
23 machines performing the inflation operations.

24 So the fact that that would be -- that would imply that it
25 was designed with the intent of having the capacity that



Stevens - Direct

119

1 required two of the supplier modules for the assembly operation
2 and two of the modules for the inflation operation. A higher
3 volume plant could take advantage of this modularity so-called
4 by installing three if they required. A lower volume plant
5 might install and plan one. But it would be based -- the
6 number of modules would be based on the planned and engineered
7 capacities and volumes that were required to come out of the
8 system.

9 Q So once you've planned the capacity -- just explain to the
10 Court for this plant there was a planned capacity for entire
11 assemblies -- finish the sentence. That meant what?

12 A That necessitated the installation of two mounting
13 stations or machines and two inflation stations. This is a
14 relatively high volume plant as we stated, up to 60 jobs an
15 hour and it required obviously more than the one single module
16 for each of those operations.

17 Q So two -- they move in tandem down the line in twos.

18 A The tires themselves are cycled in units of two into the
19 two machines. Yes.

20 Q Now this asset is connected to another asset that we saw,
21 asset number 20, the conveyor system. Conveyor system is how
22 long and why is it so long?

23 A The conveyor system that moves the tires from the balance
24 stations which is subsequent to the one we just looked at to
25 the point of use on the assembly line and the final line is



Stevens - Direct

120

1 roughly 400 feet long. The rationale and the reason again is
2 in my previous answer was the decision -- the late decisions to
3 install the equipment in the Lansing plant and the fact a
4 bubble was constructed specifically for the equipment given the
5 location of the bubble in relation to the final line that was
6 -- is significant length of almost 400 feet.

7 Q So if we can turn to Mr. Goesling's testimony on this,
8 Paragraph 126. A primary consideration in my determination was
9 how the wheel and tire delivery conveyor was attached together
10 and to the wheel to using non-permanent methods.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: And if we could put up JX-1290 and
12 1291.

13 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

14 Q So this is the asset that we saw. JX-1290 is what and JX-
15 1291 is what?

16 A JX-1290 is the entry to the conveyor system from the
17 balance machine on the right-hand lower part of the photo. The
18 conveyor inclines -- it's a belt incline conveyor that takes
19 the turn wheel finished assembly up to the mezzanine level.
20 What we don't see in these photos is the transport of the
21 mezzanine level 350, 380 feet on a powered roller system.

22 The right-hand photo, 1291 is the delivery from the
23 mezzanine level of those completed tire and wheel systems
24 through a gravity conveyor in a tower system to the point of
25 installation where the tires are actually put on the vehicle on



1 the final line.

2 Q And approximately how many connection points are
3 associated with this system?

4 A Many, many. The floor connections from the input area and
5 the floor connections from the tower areas of delivery hundred
6 of bolts. And the conveyor supports -- white steel supports to
7 the building structure not only for the incline, but also for
8 the power roller conveyor at the mezzanine level of thousands
9 of bolts.

10 Q And was the bolting system chosen to facilitate removal of
11 this asset?

12 A No, it was not.

13 Q Why was it chosen?

14 A Bolts again give relative motion -- or more flexible to
15 relative motion between the elements being connected. I've
16 already highlighted that our policy for structural integrity
17 reasons prohibits the use of welded connections to structural
18 steel. And certainly at the floor level you're not able to
19 weld to concrete. So we would not. From an engineering
20 standpoint bolts provide a much better solution.

21 Q So bolting was used to help or retard keeping this asset
22 in place permanently?

23 A Bolts were intended and specified to help keep the assets
24 in place and operating for at least their useful lives.

25 MR. WOLINSKY: If you could turn to asset 18, Bunky,



1 if you'd put up JX-1279.

2 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

3 Q This is the -- well, what is this?

4 A This is an upper view of the vertical adjusting carrier
5 that we looked at from below at the beginning of my testimony.
6 Also we would have not seen this level of detail from our tour
7 given that we were at the floor level.

8 Q And maybe you can approach and explain for the Court how
9 this asset is -- well, how -- no, let me show you Mr.

10 Goesling's testimony --

11 THE COURT: Just tell me which asset you're going to.

12 MR. WOLINSKY: This is asset 18 and it's Tab 30 new
13 book. I apologize, Your Honor.

14 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

15 Q And then Mr. Goesling says this asset is not physically
16 attached. And then he continues, the connection of the rails
17 of the cracked white steel is significant to me because it
18 suggests that GM did not intend to make the rails a permanent
19 part of the realty. The actual VACs, vertical adjusting
20 carriers have no physical points of attachment to the realty at
21 all. They are moving pieces of equipment regularly traveling
22 hundreds of feet along the monorail track.

23 MR. WOLINSKY: So Bunky, if you could put back JX-
24 1279. Thanks.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

123

1 Q And Mr. Stevens, if you could explain for the Court how
2 this -- the VACs are attached to the rail and the rail is
3 attached to the white steel. And the white steel is attached to
4 the building.

5 A Okay. Got it.

6 Q I got it in one sentence. Go ahead.

7 A As I mentioned this is the top (indiscernible) carrier.
8 The carrier, this level is made of what we call top frame and
9 the top frame is what we'll focus on for the moment. There's
10 two major points of connection -- three major points of
11 connection with the rail and the carrier. The first is the
12 location of the five wheels. The back ones are what we call
13 idle wheels. They're more for location than the actual drive.
14 The drive wheels are located and (indiscernible) contact with
15 the top of the rail.

16 The second major contact point or connection is the silver
17 rail here with the black electrical supply strip. It's in
18 contact with the pickup -- the electrical pickup from the -- on
19 the carrier itself, physical contact provide the power directly
20 from the strip through to the control box that provides the
21 motor for the actual movement of the carrier.

22 The third major connection is between the carrier and the
23 rail is the configuration of the upper train itself. The
24 creation of the box type configuration (indiscernible) carrier
25 position allow the rail top to bottom as it transports --



Stevens - Direct

124

1 sorry, this way down the assembly line. The rail itself is
2 attached, you can see, by a series of C-brackets along its'
3 entire length, 2,000 foot system overall. The carrier is about
4 just under 9,000 pounds supporting a vehicle 3,500 pounds. So
5 the entire system of 2,000 feet is supported by these kind of
6 C-brackets which are bolted to white steel.

7 These white steel structures themselves are connected and
8 bolted to various portions of the roof structure. In some
9 cases through these kinds of stress brackets with numerous bolt
10 connections bringing it to the white steel level throughout the
11 length of the conveyor path. You don't see it, but there's an
12 identical one on the other side of this so any (indiscernible)
13 would be -- if you were to take the opportunity (indiscernible)
14 very similar fashion.

15 White steel alone for this system was roughly a million
16 dollars on the significant portion of the system in terms of
17 the requirement to make it permanently attached to building
18 like these.

19 Q And I think you can take your seat. Thank you.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Wolinsky, I'm looking at defendant's
21 appendix to the pre-trial brief and asset 18 is -- there's a
22 picture at Page 50. Is that the asset we're looking at? A
23 different view of the same asset?

24 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

25 Q Yes. We're looking -- Eric, why don't you confirm. We're



Stevens - Direct

125

1 looking at the top of this asset?

2 A Yes, we are. You see in the --

3 THE COURT: The reason I look at the picture is
4 because it shows a vehicle moving as part of this conveyor
5 system.

6 THE WITNESS: Correct. You see the orange swing arms
7 at the lower left which you're highlighting in the other photo.
8 Each of those carriers, as I said is an individual drive motor
9 which you see in the center right which transports the carrier
10 along that rail.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q So this system as a whole both the -- it carries vehicles.
13 When the system is fully loaded what's the weight that's
14 associated with it?

15 A The loaded weight is roughly a million, million point one
16 pounds. The system weight if you include the rail and the
17 white steel would be well over two million pounds. It's a
18 2,000 foot run, two chassis lines and a return loop, basically.

19 Q And what kind of person is involved in figuring out how to
20 get this asset safely in the building?

21 A Certainly I'm not qualified to do it. This is certainly
22 the work of a structural engineer or certified structural
23 engineer to determine the adequate and proper connection and
24 load bearing requirements.

25 Q Did the carriers have any value without a rail?



1 A No, they don't.

2 Q Does the rail have any value without a carrier?

3 A No, it does not.

4 Q Does the white steel have any purpose without the system?

5 A The white steel is purposely put there to support the
6 system. So the answer is no.

7 Q And the U-connections that you referred to, can this asset
8 -- I mean an image of an asset on a rail as a boxcar, can this
9 asset and the VACs be taken off the rails in the way you would
10 take a boxcar off a train tract?

11 A No. As I tried to highlight in my illustration of that u-
12 box connection of the upper orange part of the frame it
13 prohibits you from actually lifting the carrier straight up off
14 the rail. It would not be possible.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I'd like to move on to
16 asset 21, JX-1304. If you'd put up the picture at Tab 31 in
17 the book.

18 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

19 Q This is a skillet conveyor system.

20 A It is.

21 Q Let's quickly put up Mr. Goesling's testimony. He says
22 other than being mounted inside of the shallow pit I conclude
23 that the skillet conveyor system is the most lightly attached
24 and easiest to remove of the eight conveyance systems.

25 THE COURT: Which tab in the book is that?



Stevens - Direct

127

1 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, I'm sorry. I hop I'm not
2 confusing you. Tab 31 in the handout that we gave you for his
3 testimony.

4 THE COURT: Yes, that's what I want to know. For
5 other witnesses would it help, Your Honor, if we track the 40
6 asset book?

7 THE COURT: Not necessary. You don't have to do
8 that.

9 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

10 Q So again, let's look at JX-1304. Why is there a pit?

11 A The pits were designed and installed throughout the
12 general assembly shop in Lansing Delta Township as in many
13 other assembly plants especially the newer ones in GM to
14 facilitate the location of the skillets at floor level for
15 operator reasons. The skillets not only allow the operator to
16 walk along with the vehicle on the skillet itself at floor
17 level, so you're reducing walk time, more efficient process, et
18 cetera, but also the fact that the skillets are height
19 adjustable allows the adjust -- or the vehicle to be adjusted
20 to the height that the operator would require for his
21 particular operation. So the pits enable the operator
22 interface options that you have with the skillets.

23 Q From an engineering perspective does it make -- is the pit
24 part of the overall system?

25 A Yes, it is.



1 Q And can you explain that?

2 A Yes, without the pits the skillets would -- the skillet
3 system itself and the conveyor would be -- would not deliver
4 the two major advantages I just mentioned, and certainly the
5 conveyor itself without the pit would have less value for the
6 same reasons.

7 Q Let me move onto the body shop overhead power and free
8 conveyor, Asset 17.

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Bunky, let's start at JX-1268 and
10 1260. Tabs 32 and 33, Your Honor, in your book, 1268 on the
11 left.

12 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

13 Q In a sentence, what does the system do?

14 A The system delivers the body -- left-hand body side inner
15 that had been welded together in the subassembly areas to the
16 point of use at the beginning of the framing -- the inner
17 framing line.

18 Q Okay. So this is the -- what part of the car body are we
19 talking about?

20 A The left-hand side, which would be the structure into
21 which the doors would be eventually installed and the fenders
22 would be eventually attached to.

23 Q If we turn to Mr. Goesling's testimony at Paragraph 141.

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Can you pull that up, Bunky? Thanks.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



Stevens - Direct

129

1 Q He says with respect to this asset, a significant factor
2 in my conclusion is that despite its length of the BSPF -- PNF
3 conveyor, it has relatively minimal points of attachment. For
4 example, although overhead it is only connected with bolts to
5 steel members that are suspended from the roof truss. Okay.
6 If we can go back to the asset, JX-1268 and JX-1260, and maybe,
7 Mr. Stevens, if you could walk through the nature of the
8 attachment of this asset, 126 -- yeah, it doesn't -- 1268 on
9 the left, 1260 --

10 A That's fine.

11 Q -- on the right? Right.

12 A Yeah, the method of attachment of the conveyor system and
13 conveyor rail to the white steel and -- is bolts, and I would
14 say add from the right-hand photo, which is 1260, the method of
15 attachment of the mezzanine structure that supports that
16 operation is by bolts. This particular photo shows a series of
17 strap-type steel pieces that connect the bottom of the
18 mezzanine level to some white steel trusses that are connected
19 to the building steel.

20 I would add and this particular conveyor is roughly 2,000
21 feet long. The number of bolted connections for the conveyor
22 and the mezzanine are well over -- well into the thousands.
23 There's thousands of bolted connections here supporting the
24 weight and configuration of the conveyor system.

25 Q Okay. And from your perspective it that relatively



1 minimal attachment?

2 A No, it's not.

3 Q What kind of person figures out how to get this asset
4 safely into the plant?

5 A Again, this would have to be done by and calculated by a
6 structural engineer and certified by a structural engineer.

7 Q Okay. Let me move onto Asset 16, the body shop skid
8 conveyor. Again, let's start with Mr. Goesling's testimony,
9 Paragraph 145, a significant factor in my classification
10 conclusion for the BS skid conveyor was its modular
11 construction and nonpermanent method of attachment.

12 MR. WOLINSKY: And let's see, Bunky, could you play
13 JX-1259, a video.

14 (Video played)

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. And, Your Honor, the still is
16 Tab 34 in your book.

17 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

18 Q So this is all at the mezzanine level?

19 A That's correct.

20 Q Okay. And it's installed in the mezzanine level for the
21 reasons you discussed previously?

22 A Correct, there's an elevator at each end, one to raise the
23 body to the mezzanine level and at the output end to the lower
24 the body back down to the final line.

25 Q And all these vertical members and diagonal members that

1 we see, what are they?

2 A They're various pieces of white steel, in some case
3 strapping, in some case horizontal beam structure. They're
4 used to support the weight and structure of the mezzanine as
5 well as the conveyor itself --

6 Q And --

7 A -- as well as the load of the bodies as they're
8 transported along the path.

9 Q And this was installed in a modular way?

10 A Each of the sections was brought into the plant, as I
11 think I estimated earlier, probably in 20-foot sections, and
12 they were installed in that way in place due to the difficulty
13 and the complexity of the layout configuration.

14 Q And the bolts are for the reasons you discussed
15 previously?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q So was this design, the engineering plan behind this
18 design to facilitate the removal of this asst?

19 A No, it was not.

20 MR. WOLINSKY: If we can go to the body shop overhead
21 welding robot, and, Your Honor, we have a video. Let's start
22 with --

23 THE COURT: What asset number are we on?

24 MR. WOLINSKY: I'm sorry. Asset 12. And, Bunky, if
25 you could put up the beginning of the video, DX-1084.



Stevens - Direct

132

1 (Video played)

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Just explain -- oh, go back, the
3 beginning, if you can. There you go.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q So this is the video of an ABB machine?

6 A That's correct. This is taken of the ABB website. It's a
7 -- ABB is one of the major, as I mentioned, framing system
8 suppliers in the world, and this is a video showing a framing
9 system with an identical concept, slightly different
10 configuration due to it being a different supplier, but
11 identical concept to the LDT system.

12 Q The basic design and engineering of the ABB system, how
13 does it compare to the --

14 A Comau.

15 Q -- system that we saw?

16 A Very, very similar. They do similar things. They perform
17 similar functions and are quite similar in the engineering
18 thinking behind them.

19 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. If you could play the video.

20 (Video played)

21 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

22 Q And if you could narrate or explain what we're seeing.

23 A This is the vehicle entering into the framing station
24 itself and being lowered into position. The next thing we'll
25 see here are the framing gates, which as I mentioned before



Stevens - Direct

133

1 were the model gates that come into position. You can see how
2 they're clamped into position, and the robots synchronously
3 start performing their weld requirements. This particular
4 framing station has four at the upper level whereas the LDT had
5 two, but the access for upper level welding is facilitated by
6 the mezzanine in both cases.

7 The framing concept of being able to cycle different
8 frames in and out of position is what gives the system its
9 flexibility. The yellow frames actually get moved in and out
10 and slid along rails along the line to access a different frame
11 for the next model that comes in.

12 The clamps are released. The frames slide back out into
13 the frame rail system and the vehicles moves onto the next
14 station in the line.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. If you could put up
16 Mr. Goesling's testimony about this.

17 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

18 Q Paragraph 151, he says, in my experience bolts are
19 relatively insignificant methods of attachment and here GM only
20 used eight of them, suggesting that GM attached the robot to
21 ensure that it retained its position rather than indicating
22 anything about an intent for permanence.

23 MR. WOLINSKY: JX -- and if you could put the picture
24 of the asset JX-1174.

25 BY MR. WOLINSKY:



1 Q This is a different view of the same asset we looked at
2 earlier?

3 A That's correct. It's the view from the opposite side of
4 the mezzanine, the other catwalk that we talked about earlier.

5 Q And how this asset, this robot affixed into place?

6 A As you can see, it's one of the mezzanine -- one of the
7 two mezzanine robots. The lower level robots are visible
8 below. This robot is bolted to a mounting plate that is
9 attached physically by welds to the mezzanine itself. The
10 mounting plate is roughly three and a half or four feet square,
11 so a linear run of somewhere around 15 feet, and it's attached
12 to that plate with eight seven-eighths inch bolts.

13 Q And would you call that a relatively insignificant method
14 of attachment?

15 A No, I would not.

16 Q Why not?

17 A A seven-eighth inch bolt is a substantial attachment, much
18 later than a standard bolt, and certainly eight of them within
19 a run of 15 feet is -- indicates permanence in my mind.

20 Q Okay. And why not welds?

21 A Various reasons. Certainly the primary one would be, as I
22 said earlier, there is some relative motion that you want to
23 protect against, and the fact that -- or the fact that bolts
24 can perform the required function of, as Mr. Goesling himself
25 states, holding it in place permanently would lead to that kind



Stevens - Direct

135

1 of engineering solution.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor, before I move on, I'd like
3 to move DX-1084, the video, into evidence.

4 THE COURT: (Indiscernible).

5 MR. FISHER: No objection. We had earlier stated an
6 objection. We withdraw it, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: It's in evidence.

8 (Exhibit DX-1084 admitted into evidence)

9 MR. WOLINSKY: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 Asset Number 13, the --

11 THE COURT: Just so my record -- what was the exhibit
12 number?

13 MR. WOLINSKY: It was Exhibit 10 -- DX-1084. The
14 body shop weld bus duct, Asset 13, I think JX-1186 is a video.
15 Bunky, could you play that? Thanks.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q So the bus duct is that dark black strip that we see?

18 A It's dark gray, yes, at the higher level of the --

19 THE COURT: What asset number is this?

20 MR. WOLINSKY: Asset Number 13.

21 THE COURT: Thank you.

22 THE WITNESS: This is a portion of the bus duct.

23 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

24 Q Right. Actually give us -- the Court a sense of how big
25 this asset really is.



Stevens - Direct

136

1 A The bus duct distribution network itself is approximately
2 10,000 feet along, distributed over the major positions within
3 the body shop in a network that really geographically covers
4 most of, if not all of the floor space in the body shop.

5 Q So the --

6 THE COURT: So that you can tap in for power anywhere
7 along the line?

8 THE WITNESS: Correct, correct, it allows the
9 flexibility to use this asset in place independent of where you
10 need to tap in for the power.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q Okay. And let me direct you to Mr. Goesling's testimony
13 about this asset, Paragraph 160, a factor in my conclusion is
14 my understanding of why bus ducts are used, based on my
15 experience, confirmed in my review of relevant literature, bus
16 ducts, first introduced in 1932, fuel the automotive industry's
17 need for a flexible power distribution system to serve its
18 linear layouts. Could you just lay out the history of, you
19 know, what proceeded bus ducts and why they've replaced what
20 proceeded them?

21 MR. FISHER: Objection, foundation.

22 MR. WOLINSKY: Do you have --

23 THE COURT: Go ahead.

24 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: Well, I will admit I wasn't around



Stevens - Direct

137

1 before 1932, but I can express my knowledge based on
2 alternatives to bus ducts. I mentioned earlier a smaller
3 example with relation to the quick connect fittings that we
4 talked about, the running of long runs of numerous wire and
5 cables from power supply sources, whatever they are, to points
6 of use in industrial factories, especially in an industrial
7 factory of this size, would require not only miles and miles
8 and miles of wire, many of them going to the same point, but
9 also a significant amount of labor to not just to install, but
10 to maintain and run diagnostic and trouble shooting approaches
11 to -- if there were problems with the current supplier to
12 locate that.

13 So certainly labor, the miles of wire and the
14 maintenance diagnostics are facilitated by this kind of a
15 permanent distribution system in a large area.

16 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

17 Q Were bus -- the switch to bus ducts, was that in order to
18 facilitate their removal?

19 A No, it was not.

20 Q What was the reason?

21 A What I just stated. It was intended and in all cases
22 supporting the concept to leave the power supply distribution
23 network in place for the facility to be able to full power
24 wherever.

25 Q And in the two-mile stretch of this asset, how is it



1 attached to the building?

2 A The two miles are -- encompass several long vertical
3 sections, each of which is connected every ten feet or so with
4 a hanger mechanism attached to the building steel. The hanger
5 mechanism is primarily made up of two threaded rods on each
6 side of the bus duct supporting a tray holding the bus duct,
7 and the top of the threaded rods would be supported by the
8 building steel with nuts and bolts on another attaching
9 bracket.

10 Q So at least a thousand attachment points?

11 A A thousand attachment points, each with at least two
12 connections, probably more given the 90 degree turns and other
13 configuration changes, but the main runs would be at least a
14 thousand connections, yes.

15 Q Now, the last asset that you're covering for us, Asset
16 Number 11, the CUC, and we've talked a little bit about it
17 already. And I won't take the time to show Mr. Goesling's
18 testimony, but I think it's fair to say he makes two points.
19 First, he says that everything is easy to remove because
20 everything is bolted. That might be an overstatement. Second,
21 he focuses on removal, ease of removal. Let me -- let's start
22 with JX-1156. These are the hot -- what are these?

23 A These are the hot water boilers. I'm sure you remember
24 them too, Your Honor, the major boiler systems that are in
25 place for the LDT plant.



Stevens - Direct

139

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. WOLINSKY: And, Bunky, could you put up, I'm
3 going to do this on the fly, Mr. Goesling's Exhibit A, Page 87.

4 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

5 Q This is -- he characterized this as not a fixture,
6 correct?

7 A That's correct.

8 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. All right. So let's put up JX-
9 1156, which, Your Honor, is Tab 38 in your book. And if we
10 could focus on the gray pad at the bottom.

11 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

12 Q Okay. Just what are we seeing here?

13 A Several things. The gray pad itself is a poured
14 foundation that was designed and poured prior to installation
15 of the boilers to support the boiler pad that you see in green
16 that is attached to the gray foundation pad with a series of
17 large bolts. You also see the yellow is the gas utility
18 connection hard piped to the boiler system.

19 If we've expanded the photo, the upper left is the exhaust
20 system from the boiler system for the natural gas exhaust from
21 the burners. You can see a flex connection between the two
22 large flanges, the flange of the piping and the flange of the
23 boiler itself. There's a flex connection there for heat
24 expansion purposes, as well as relative motion purposes.

25 And you also see in the upper middle of this photo the



Stevens - Direct

140

1 white water piping that's part of the system as well.

2 Q And that's in and out, in-flow, out-flow?

3 A It's one or the other. It's not both in one pipe.

4 Q Okay. And, again, this is bolts, bolted?

5 A These are bolted to the pallet. The pallet is bolted to
6 the poured foundation to support the exact size of that pallet.

7 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay. Now, let's put up
8 Mr. Goesling's testimony, Paragraph 225.

9 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

10 Q Particularly relevant to my decision was the steel skid
11 mounting and how several lifting points attached to each boiler
12 demonstrating that the how water boilers were designed for
13 portability. Okay. Now, if you could push that on the side.
14 Let -- we talked about the steel skid mountings.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Bunky, if you could pull up the
16 lifting points that he's referring to there.

17 BY MR. WOLINSKY:

18 Q The lifting point is, what, that two-inch piece of steel
19 coming off, three-inch piece of steel?

20 A There's two, yeah, eye hooks there, probably two on the
21 other round side of the tank itself.

22 Q Okay. And if you can pull back, would these tanks -- was
23 this hot water boiling system designed for portability?

24 A No, it was not.

25 Q How did they get into the building?



Stevens - Direct

141

1 A Many of the larger pieces of equipment had to be sequenced
2 in during the actual construction of the building just due to
3 their large side. The particular case of the boilers, the
4 walls of the building in that area were left unbuilt or
5 unconstructed until the boilers were put in place, and at that
6 point in time then the walls were completed. There were other
7 sequence equipment, but it was related to the location of the
8 boilers.

9 Q Right. And how tight or expansive is the spacing between
10 these pieces of equipment, if you can remind the Court?

11 A Yeah, very, very space limited. What you see, the aisle
12 where the photographer is standing to take the picture, you
13 might recall is probably 10 or 12 feet wide, but a very
14 restricted access space in the entire CUC to be honest, but
15 certainly the aisle width was not designed with any intent of
16 trying to do anything with these kinds of large assets.

17 Q And if you wanted to remove this asset, what would you
18 have to do?

19 A Well, I anticipate because the aisle width and constraints
20 are so constrained, you would have to remove some parts, some
21 pieces of the walls again to transport these out, either by
22 rigging to some of the small eye hooks that we just looked at
23 with some sort of overhead crane or some sort of roller system
24 to roll the steel skid out somehow through the openings that
25 you've created in the walls of the building.



1 Q And was this system designed to be removed?

2 A No, it was not.

3 MR. WOLINSKY: Thank you, Your Honor. That's all I
4 have, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Fisher?

6 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, I presume the Court would
7 like me to begin my cross examination.

8 THE COURT: Yes, yes, I -- we have 20 minutes.

9 MR. FISHER: May I proceed?

10 THE COURT: Yes, please.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MR. FISHER:

13 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Stevens.

14 A Good afternoon. It is afternoon. You're right.

15 Q I just double checked. Your view, Mr. Stevens, is that
16 your experience at GM qualifies you to offer the opinions that
17 you've offered about 11 of the representative assets, is that
18 right?

19 A Yes, that's correct.

20 Q And those 11 assets are all located at the Lansing Delta
21 Township plant, correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Now, you were working overseas in Europe from June 2004
24 until approximately July or August of 2009, is that right?

25 A That's probably correct, yes.



1 Q And the GM bankruptcy of course occurred in June 2009,
2 right?

3 A That's correct.

4 Q So you were not involved in planning for GM's bankruptcy
5 filing, correct?

6 A For the planning directly, no. As I stated, as a senior
7 executive in the company, I was directly aware of bankruptcy
8 planning and bankruptcy planning detail through numerous senior
9 executive reviews, meetings, et cetera.

10 Q And my question, Mr. Stevens, is you were not involved in
11 planning for GM's bankruptcy filing in any way, correct?

12 A That's correct.

13 Q Now, during the 2004 to 2009 time period, when you were in
14 Europe, there are more than 20 GM automotive plants that were
15 closed in the United States, is that right?

16 A It's probably correct. I don't recall the exact years on
17 the chart that I used, but it's -- the magnitude is probably
18 correct, yes.

19 Q And you were not involved in any decision about the
20 closure of any of those U.S. manufacturing facilities, correct?

21 A The U.S. manufactured facility closings, I was not
22 directly involved. That's correct.

23 Q And you were not a decision maker with respect to the
24 repurposing of any U.S. manufacturing facility during that
25 period of that time, correct?



1 A That's correct.

2 Q Now, Lansing Delta Township, as you described, has a
3 stamping plant and it also has an assembly and body shop plant,
4 is that right?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And the stamping plant I think you said was built in 2003?

7 A It was -- the operation started there in 2003. It would
8 have been under construction for probably roughly two years
9 prior to that.

10 Q Okay. And with respect to the stamping plant at Lansing,
11 to be clear you were not involved in the design of that plant,
12 correct?

13 A That's correct. I tested that when asked the same
14 question by my -- by defense lawyer.

15 Q And you were not involved in the construction of that
16 plant?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q And you were not involved in the installation of any
19 assets at that point?

20 A That's probably not totally correct. I was, as I
21 mentioned, at least involved as a manufacturing engineering
22 lead for North America in the years 2002 to 2004, but it would
23 have been at the very tail end of what you're describing, so no
24 impact probably, yes.

25 Q There's not any specific asset at the stamping component



1 of the Lansing plant that you can tell me you were specifically
2 involved with, correct?

3 A At the stamping component plant at Lansing, that's
4 correct. I have seen and installed identical presses, very
5 identical presses in many other places on several occasions at
6 other times.

7 Q Well, Mr. Stevens, during the course of my cross
8 examination I'm going to try really hard to ask you questions
9 that are capable of being answered yes or, and so to the extent
10 that I do ask a question that you can answer in that way, I
11 would ask that you please do so.

12 A Uh-huh.

13 Q Now, the Lansing Delta Township assembly plants, I'm
14 leaving the stamping plant and now moving to the assembly and
15 body shop, that was built you said or the construction was
16 completed in 2006, is that right?

17 A The start up of the facility was in 2006.

18 Q And in your written direct testimony at Page 6, Paragraph
19 13, you say among other things, quote, that teams designed and
20 developed the new greenfield assembly operation destined for --
21 that your teams, I'm sorry, designed and developed the new
22 greenfield assembly operation destined for Lansing Delta
23 Township, right?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Now, just to be clear, you were overseas when all of the



1 assets were actually installed at Lansing Delta Township
2 assembly plant, correct?

3 A Yes, the installation phase, yes.

4 Q And you were also overseas for the two years leading up to
5 the construction of the Lansing Delta Township assembly, right?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And there have been many documents produced in discovery
8 in this case, right?

9 A I believe so, yes. I've seen --

10 Q And --

11 A -- many documents.

12 Q And you've had the opportunity to review any documents
13 you've asked for, right?

14 A I think so.

15 Q And General Motors produced documents in this case, right?

16 A They did. They didn't produce everything we requested, so
17 I was not able to review everything I asked for, but certainly
18 we reviewed what was presented and produced, yes.

19 Q And, Mr. Stevens, there's not a single document about the
20 Lansing Delta Township assembly plant that mentions your name,
21 is that right?

22 A I did not see my name mentioned on any of the technical
23 productions that General Motors may have provided us, no.

24 Q And there's not a single document that describes the
25 planning process for LDT that you say your teams were involved



1 with, right?

2 A That's probably correct also.

3 Q And now with respect to the 11 assets about which you
4 offer an opinion, you did not yourself inspect any of the 11
5 assets, correct?

6 A Not as part of the primary -- preliminary tour. I
7 certainly saw them most recently in -- several weeks ago with
8 the Court visit to Lansing.

9 Q And so setting aside for a moment the visit to the site
10 with the Court, before you offered your expert opinion in this
11 case, you had not inspected any of the 11 assets about which
12 you offered an opinion, right?

13 A Not the specific assets at Lansing. Similar assets at
14 many other places, but not at Lansing.

15 Q So you didn't inspect the 11 Lansing assets?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q And you offered some general testimony about plants other
18 than the Lansing assembly and body shop. To be clear, you have
19 no experience whatsoever with designing the Warren Transmission
20 plant, right?

21 A No, I don't believe I've claimed so.

22 Q And you were not involved in any way in any planning for
23 the Defiance Foundry, right?

24 A I -- when I came back in 2009, there was significant
25 activity going on in Defiance to install the new aluminum



1 machining areas under my direction, under my team's direction,
2 so certainly some of the newest installations in Defiance were
3 -- I have some personal direct knowledge of.

4 Q You weren't involved in the installation of any of the
5 assets that are among the 40 representative assets at Defiance,
6 right?

7 A That's probably correct, yes.

8 Q And you don't have any experience with the installation of
9 assets at Defiance before 2009, right?

10 A That's correct.

11 Q And turning now to the Warren Transmission plant, you're
12 not involved in any way with construction decisions about the
13 Warren Transmission plant, right?

14 Q Could you outline the time frame you're asking about?

15 A Sure. So before the bankruptcy was filed, so before
16 June --

17 THE COURT: This whole plant was built in 1941.

18 MR. FISHER: That's true, and Mr. Stevens already
19 testified that he couldn't remember back to 1932 with respect
20 to the bus ducts.

21 THE WITNESS: I still -- 41 is not much more recent,
22 so the same answer.

23 BY MR. FISHER:

24 Q So I understand that you were not involved in the initial
25 construction of what became the Warren Transmission plant, but



1 were you involved in any construction decisions involving the
2 installation of GM assets at Warren Transmission before the
3 bankruptcy in June 2009?

4 A In terms of direct construction, no. In terms of the V6
5 project that eventually went into Warren, I was directly aware
6 and involved in the initial planning for that during --

7 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Which project?

8 THE WITNESS: The V6 -- I'm sorry, the six-speed
9 transmission --

10 THE COURT: The six-speed transmission.

11 THE WITNESS: -- project, yes.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 BY MR. FISHER:

14 Q The six-speed transmission line, that's the line that you
15 said replaced the four-speed line?

16 A Correct.

17 Q And you testified that all the four-speed assets were
18 taken out of Warren in order to make room for the six-speed
19 assets, is that right?

20 A I think I referred that question to further testimony of
21 Mr. Deeds. I don't recall stating that directly.

22 Q Okay. And just a moment ago when you said that you were
23 involved in planning for installing the six-speed line at
24 Warren, in fact, you didn't know that that line was even going
25 to be allocated to Warren, right?



1 A That's correct. I don't believe I said I was involved in
2 planning for it to be installed in Warren. I believe I said I
3 was aware of and involved in the planning for the six-speed --
4 or the six-speed transmission processing and equipment.

5 Q And GM's decision to locate --

6 MR. WOLINSKY: Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Let him finish. Let him finish.

8 MR. FISHER: I'm sorry, Your Honor.

9 THE WITNESS: No, and I was going to say and I have
10 preciously testified that it was under discussion and a site
11 review and a site selection process was underway and remained
12 underway after I left in 2004.

13 BY MR. FISHER:

14 Q And GM's decision to allocate the six-speed line to the
15 Warren Transmission facility as opposed to some other facility
16 happened while you were in Europe, right?

17 A That is correct, yes.

18 Q And your career with GM began in 1978?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So I want to focus on the period from 1978 until the
21 bankruptcy in June 2009, so that's approximately 31 years,
22 right?

23 A Okay.

24 Q I would not trust my arithmetic, but it's a long time,
25 right?



1 A It's a significant part of my total career, yes.

2 Q And over that entire period of time you spent a little
3 less than two years based in the United States, is that right?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q And that was from 2002 until 2004, right?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q Now, in this case you were asked to apply a three-part
8 fixture test, right?

9 A Correct.

10 Q And that three-part test was supplied to you by counsel?

11 A Yes, it was.

12 Q And all of the considerations that you took into account
13 were supplied to you by counsel?

14 A That's correct.

15 Q And I want to ask you to please have a look at Pages 11
16 and 12 of your direct testimony. It's part of Paragraph 29,
17 and I'll ask Mr. Cole to please put that up on the screen. So
18 what's in the boxes -- the text that appears in the boxes on
19 Pages 11 and 12, those are all of the considerations that were
20 supplied to you by counsel in connection with your application
21 of the three-part fixture test in this case, right?

22 A Yes, I think so.

23 Q And these considerations that we're looking at on these
24 two pages, those are the only considerations that you took into
25 account in applying the three-part test, correct?



1 A Yes, obviously each one of them had to be judged and
2 interpreted in the way that was appropriate for the assets, but
3 they certainly were the only considerations.

4 Q So you had to apply these considerations and evaluate a
5 three-part fixture test that was supplied to you by counsel,
6 right?

7 A Yes.

8 Q You've never before applied this fixture test to any group
9 of assets, correct?

10 A Not as a fixture test, that's true. Certainly many, many
11 of these elements were part of my daily work in terms of
12 manufacturing, engineering and machinery and equipment over
13 many years.

14 Q But specifically you've never worked with this three-part
15 fixture test before, right?

16 A I've not been asked to apply the factors in relation to --
17 their relation to a fixture, non-fixture evaluation, no.

18 Q And you've never been asked to do an analysis that's
19 anything like the analysis that you did in this case, right?

20 A As I said, many of these considerations were inherent in
21 the day-to-day work, so in terms of attachment and adaptation,
22 was it called adaptation and attachment, maybe not, but
23 certainly the questions, considerations were in the day-to-day
24 nature of what I did and what my teams did.

25 Q Mr. Stevens, you understand that in offering an opinion



1 about how the three-part fixture test applies, you're
2 essentially deciding whether an assets ought to be classified
3 as personal property or real property, do you understand that?

4 A No, I don't -- that's not my understanding. I was asked
5 to apply these relatively directly objective factors to my
6 analysis of the assets and my knowledge of these assets or
7 similar assets that I've worked with in many cases elsewhere.

8 Q And you've never applied these considerations to decide
9 whether a three-part fixture test has ever been satisfied,
10 right, aside from this case?

11 A I've never been asked to before this case.

12 Q And you've never been designated an expert witness before,
13 correct?

14 A Not for technical purposes, that's correct.

15 Q And you've never been an expert witness on any topic,
16 correct?

17 A I assume that's correct. I did have one previous case
18 where I testified which I believe was a business case, not an
19 expert witness case.

20 Q So you've testified at trial once before, but not as an
21 expert?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q And in your written direct testimony you also offer an
24 expert opinion about the useful life for each of the 11 assets,
25 correct?



1 A Yes.

2 Q And in your written direct testimony the useful life
3 opinion can be found at Pages 111 and 112, correct?

4 A Yes, that's correct.

5 Q And there's a column that says average operational useful
6 life, do you see that?

7 A Yes, I do.

8 Q That's not what you called it in your expert report, is
9 it?

10 A I don't recall the terms -- exact terminology. I might
11 have used useful life or expected useful life. I'm not -- I
12 don't recall exactly.

13 Q And if I told you you used the term mechanical useful
14 life, would that refresh your recollection as to what term you
15 used in your expert report?

16 A I don't believe I used the word mechanical useful life.

17 Q And when you say average operational useful life, what
18 were you averaging?

19 A Several things. Again, I have extensive experience with
20 assets similar or identical to the assets that I'm testifying
21 to in other plants in other locations in other parts of the
22 world. I've been directly responsible for putting together
23 capital forecasts based on replacement plans based on useful
24 lives in plants as part of the budgeting process at the
25 regional level -- at the plant level, at the regional plan and



1 at the corporate level in my last position. So I'm basing it
2 on the knowledge and the experience in putting together those
3 kinds of plans based on the needs and the condition of the
4 assets and the life of the assets at the time that they -- that
5 we were making decisions on replacement.

6 Q So you're not using the word average in its statistical
7 meaning?

8 A No, I'm not using --

9 Q You're not actually calculating an average, right?

10 A No, I have not.

11 Q And, in fact, you didn't look at any written data in
12 connection with coming up with your average operational useful
13 life estimates, correct?

14 A As a part of this case, I did not look at written data.
15 Certainly in the course of my normal job in manufacturing
16 engineering, especially over the last several years, I would
17 have reviewed hundreds of documents relating to useful life
18 replacement plans, as well as the capital impacts of those
19 plans.

20 Q But to be clear, Mr. Stevens, you have never before,
21 before this case you have never provided a useful life estimate
22 for a specific asset like any of the 11 assets about which you
23 offer an opinion, correct?

24 A Never provided to who or to where? I'm not clear --

25 Q You've never --



1 A -- on the question.

2 Q -- had to determine what the useful life is for a specific
3 asset in the way that you've had to do in this case, correct?

4 A Not -- that's correct, in the way I've had to do it here.
5 I've been asked many times, you know, in terms of does this
6 conveyor need replacing as a course of our normal business, and
7 I would offer an opinion at the time, yes, we can replace it
8 or, no, we can defer that capital cost. So I've been asked on
9 numerous occasions for a recommendation based on the condition
10 of the asset and its useful life in relation to, as I
11 mentioned, the capital planning process.

12 Q And in terms of the answer to my question, you have never
13 before had to assign a specific number of years to a specific
14 asset just like you've had to do in this case, right?

15 A That was part -- that was inherent in our process. I have
16 not personally put a number into a system which would define
17 that. That's correct.

18 MR. FISHER: Your Honor, I'm happy to continue,
19 although --

20 THE COURT: No.

21 MR. FISHER: -- this is --

22 THE COURT: It's 12:59 on my watch. It's a very
23 convenient break point. You can step down --

24 THE WITNESS: Okay.

25 THE COURT: -- Mr. Stevens. Let's just --



1 Mr. Wolinsky, what did you -- you wanted to say something?

2 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes, Your Honor. Two things, we've
3 talked about how we see the trial progressing and how we're
4 going to fit everything into two weeks. Today was longer than
5 we anticipated, but hopefully since Mr. Stevens got into a lot
6 of substance, we can cut back on some of the witnesses.

7 To finish what we collectively hope to do this week,
8 we think we're going to need to make up three to four hours,
9 maybe more, but we can go back. So, you know, I -- we're going
10 to ask to impose on you to go some longer days.

11 THE COURT: Additional hour Tuesday, Wednesday and
12 Thursday, that's three hours right there --

13 MR. WOLINSKY: That should do it.

14 THE COURT: -- or we'll just go longer.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Yeah, and then we can see where we are
16 on Wednesday and see if it's --

17 THE COURT: Fridays I don't go long.

18 MR. WOLINSKY: Got it. The other thing, Your Honor,
19 for both the teams, there are a lot of people in the room, but
20 people working behind the scenes --

21 THE COURT: I think they'll lose interest pretty
22 soon, but I suspect we're going to see dwindling crowds.

23 MR. WOLINSKY: In the pretrial order Your Honor said
24 you would advise us whether you wanted briefs or proposed
25 findings, and if you can give some thought to that, it would



1 help us.

2 THE COURT: Well, I am going to want proposed
3 findings.

4 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

5 THE COURT: And, you know, just to give you the
6 recent Lyondell experience as an example, I left it to -- with
7 -- I did want proposed findings of fact, and I left it to each
8 side whether they were going to give me the conclusions of law,
9 whether they were going to essentially do it as a brief or
10 whether they were going to do numbered paragraph.

11 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

12 THE COURT: I -- and I would say the same thing to
13 you. I'll leave you the flexibility how you think you can best
14 persuade me.

15 MR. WOLINSKY: Great.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Let me raise one thing from -- one
17 issue that came up this morning. So I reserved decision, I
18 admit -- conditionally admitted some of the evidence and
19 reserved decision on Mr. Fisher's objection. If I
20 conditionally admit it, if I don't hear from you again, Mr.
21 Fisher, about it, if I get a short letter brief addressed to
22 it, I'll rule on it again, but I'm not going to go back to my
23 notes and tick off, well, that issue is still open. It's
24 incumbent on each of you if I reserve -- if I give you the
25 opportunity to challenge something I've conditionally admitted,



1 to raise it again, otherwise it's in. Okay. I just wanted to
2 make clear that. I don't think -- is there -- either of you
3 have anything you want to raise?

4 MR. FISHER: No, nothing from the plaintiff, Your
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay. So we'll start tomorrow morning at
7 nine. You know, in terms of stop time for the next three days,
8 you got to assume we're going to go at least until six o'clock.
9 And, again, if you're going to finish up a witness and you need
10 another half hour, we'll take the extra half hour to finish up
11 a witness.

12 MR. WOLINSKY: Okay.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. WOLINSKY: All right. Thank you.

15 THE COURT: See you in the morning. Thanks very
16 much. Carry on. And, again, you can tell my law clerks, you
17 can tell them make sure --

18 MR. WOLINSKY: Yes.

19 THE COURT: -- I've got the latest and greatest of
20 your exhibits. The other -- I'll raise this, the pretrial
21 order has been -- I've gotten amendments and things like that.
22 I would like in a three-ring binder the current version of the
23 pretrial order and all exhibits to it. Okay. Thank you.

24 (Proceedings concluded at 1:03 p.m.)

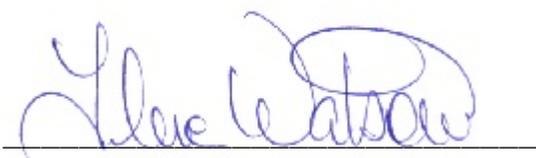
25 * * * * *



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Ilene Watson, court-approved transcriber, hereby
certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the
official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the
above-entitled matter.



ILENE WATSON, AAERT NO. 447 DATE: May 1, 2017

