

*Edward Burtynsky - Clip 3*

## Inside Industry: Part I

When I was fairly young, GM used to have these open houses, and my father worked at GM, so he would take the kids through on this tour of the plants. And we'd see everything from molten metal going down these chutes into sand-casting of engine blocks. Or we'd see these men dressed in asbestos suits working on these huge forges, looked like monsters almost and pounding out the ingots and things of that nature... Red-hot ingots and turning them into parts for cars.

And I can remember being really taken aback by those things. I'd drive by this industry all the time and then all of a sudden I was walking through it. I had no idea that these things were going on inside.

And, interestingly enough, as I was going through Ryerson, I had an opportunity to come back to St-Catharine's, live with my mother and save some money and work at GM. And it was a period where they were... where PCBs were no longer allowed to be used in industry and they were usually used around things like welders so that the oil wouldn't catch fire.

So I had a whole summer job working as many hours really as I wanted, removing these oils and... and, again, had a chance to see the plant through and through, working there for a whole summer. And, again, it's something that

I found interesting, and even now, I'm starting to work my way back into those spaces to see if I can make images of them that are interesting.

