



# Building a Better Mousetrap

**Mouse in the house?  
Forest City Gear has  
the answer with the  
*Better Forest City  
Gear Mousetrap.***

At its location in Roscoe, IL, the Forest City Gear facility is surrounded by wildlife splendor. Fruit trees, nature walks and the occasional cute and furry animal sighting create an unlikely landscape for a manufacturing site. Of course, cavorting with the cute and furry does have its drawbacks.

Prior to the company's adoption of lean and 5S initiatives, Forest City Gear employees would find the occasional renegade rodent scurrying across the manufacturing floor.

"Desiring the need to rid ourselves of the wee beasties, my set-up guys utilized some leftover gears to create the *Better Forest City Gear Mousetrap*," says Fred Young, CEO.

Set-up "technicians" Kent Blatchford and John Schwable, along with Gear Lab "sleuth" and mousing "expert" Amy Chiodini, carefully engineered the mousetrap in the hopes of ridding the facility of any uninvited guests.

After months of rigorous testing and research, the mousetrap was put to work on the floor at Forest City Gear. In a strange turn of events, the *Better Forest City Gear Mousetrap* (patent pending) recently lured a suspicious looking rodent that appeared to be assembled from other gearing type products (pictured right).

This either proves the theory that gears truly are an intrinsic part of our everyday lives or that certain people over at Forest City have too much time on their hands!

Regardless, the Addendum staff is not here to judge.

If a mouse is not caught in the deathly grip of the *Better Forest City Gear Mousetrap*, Young and his engineering team have other options for the furry trespassers.

"We bait the trap with peanut butter so if it misses, they die of salmonella."

Are you currently cooking up your own personal gear gadgets? Briefly discuss your latest invention with us in an e-mail and send it to [addendum@geartechnology.com](mailto:addendum@geartechnology.com). We'll post some of your technological advancements in a future issue. ⚙️

