

FACTORY TOUR: “MAKIN BACON BURGERS”

-Kevin Bolger (US SKI TEAM)

Maja and I got to visit the Salomon Headquarters last weekend in Annecy, France, which was one of the coolest experiences of my life. We got a whole tour of the factory from The History of Salomon, where they started in a tiny home in Annecy to now having a State of the art facility that allows Salomon to make the best and fastest gear in the world. We got to walk through the decades of Salomon where they began, and really got to see the progression, which was really cool. We then went into the ski room and from start to finish made a pair of skis or as Roddy said "we were making the best Bacon Burger." It was amazing to see what the process of making a ski looks like, I've skied on hundreds of skis, but never have really understood the process until now, the layers of the ski, and how precises each step is, how the machine works when pressing the ski into shape, then how you manipulate the machine to get different flexes. Then you move to a precision grinder to get the ski cleaned up from the press, grind it down to get the base flat and even, and the final process dissecting the ski, really looking at the numbers to see how the ski will perform, and what conditions it will excel in. We met the design team who created the boots, and hand sewed. Yes, they HAND sews most boots...which really made me feel bad with a size (47) or US 14. That's a lot of sewing....yikes. We were able to 3d image our feet so that we can best fit our boots...I mean it goes on and on. Afterwards, I told myself I'm never allowed to complain about a bad pair of skis, or boots that hurt my feet, because I now know and understand what goes on before all these products come to me and I get on snow, the research the hundreds of hours the hard work- it is truly incredible, and I feel so lucky to be part of the Salomon Family, and was humbled by this experience.



Check out Kevin and Maja trip to France out on their new Vlog post: https://youtu.be/aA_imJwnDJA

See their Factory Visit to make “Bacon Burge skis here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CiQRSqwI0dV/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY=>

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