## COTTON NONWOVEN INNOVATIONS Mac McLean Cotton Incorporated Cary, NC

This presentation will define Cotton Incorporated's role within the nonwoven industry specific to fiber, research, implementation and global product marketing. Recent product developments, related to the short-life nonwovens market sector, will be revealed involving processing and performance characteristics.

#### **Cotton Nonwoven Innovations**

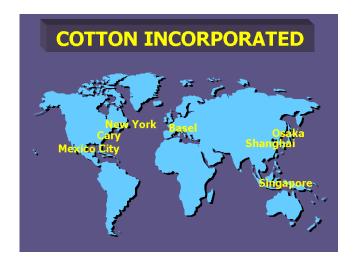
2001 Beltwide Cotton Conference International Nonwovens Symposium January 12 - 13, 2001 Anaheim, California

**Mac McLean** 



## COTTON INCORPORATED MISSION STATEMENT

To increase the demand and profitability of cotton through research and promotion



## Cotton Incorporated World Headquarters

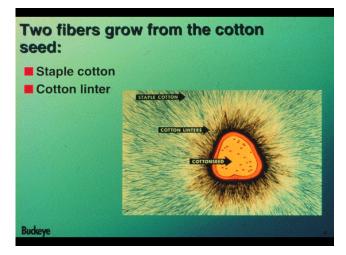


#### **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE**

- Spinning and yarn research
- Shrinkage control for knitted fabrics
- Wrinkle resistant technology
- Non-wovens technology
- Dyeing and finishing
- Engineered fabric development
- Textile chemistry research
- Technical services to the industry



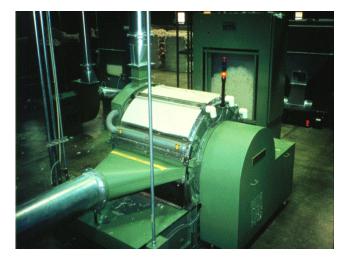


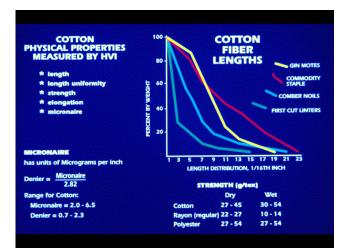














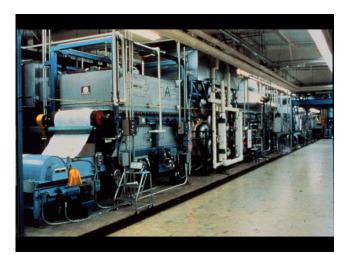
LINTMASTER<sup>TM</sup>
OPENER/CLEANER

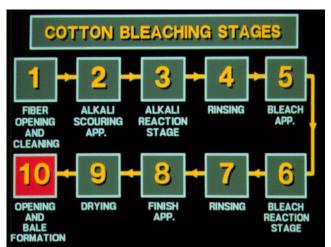




# CONTINUOUS BLEACHED FIBER

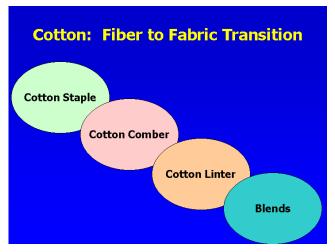


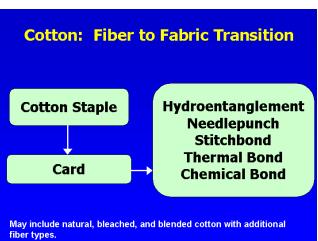


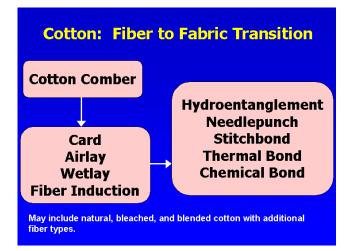


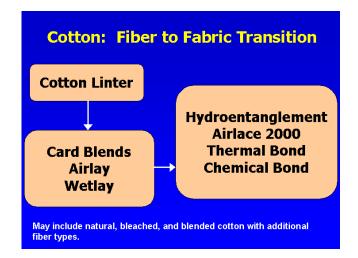
## **COTTON PROPERTIES**

- Absorbent
- Breathable
- Stronger when Wet
- Biodegradable (under certain conditions)
- Excellent Wicking
- Sterilizable by All Industrial Methods
- Low Static Potential
- Printable
- Dyeable
- Chemically Modifiable
- Renewable Resource
- In Demand by Consumers





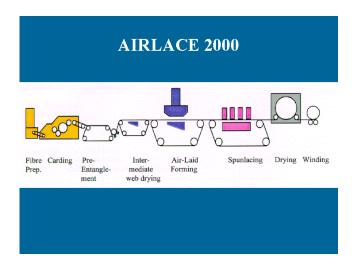




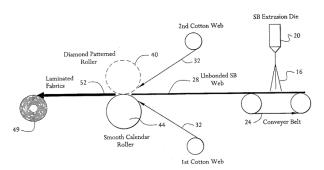
## POSSIBLE TREATMENTS FOR COTTON NONWOVEN PRODUCTS

- Flame Resistance
- Water Repellency
- Increased Resiliency
- Resistance to Biodegradation
- Crosslinking for Durability to Washing

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL
FORMATION/BONDING



#### Lamination on the Spunbond Line for Three-Layer Cotton Laminates



EXISTING/POTENTIAL
COTTON NONWOVEN
PRODUCT CATEGORIES

#### **COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL**

- **□ Natural Appeal/Performance**
- **□ Consumer Demand**
- **□ Manufacturing Mentality**
- □ Potential Consumption in North America Annually:
  - 7 absorbent core (331K tons)
  - 7 cover stock (175K tons)
  - 7 wipes (107K tons)



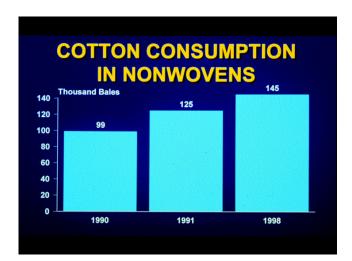


## DURABLE - SEMI-DURABLE PRODUCTS

- v Apparel
  - ™ clothing, performance wear, outerwear, medical gown and drape, interlinings
- v Home Furnishings
  - ™ bedding, mattress pads, window treatments, wall coverings, decorative felts

#### **INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS**

- Filter Media
- υ Geo Textiles
- v Protective Apparel
- v Wipes
- v Packaging
  - ∑ paper board
- v Absorbent Media
  - ∑ chemical, oil
- v Insulation
  - **∑** thermal, acoustical





#### NONWOVENS Emergence of Air-formation Systems

- Fastest growing segment of industry
- High production
- Short fiber utilization
- Single production composite structures
- Ultra-thin, high absorbency concepts
- Multiple fiber and powder induction
- Production simplification/versatility
- Raw material economics

#### **DISPOSABLE COTTON:** THE ECONOMICS Fluff Wood Pulp \$0.34 Bleached \$0.56 **Cotton Linters** Bleached **Cotton Comber** Rayon (High \$1.45 Wet Modulus) Bleached \$1.45 Cotton Staple Price per pound

## THE NEW GENERATION OF COTTON DISPOSABLES

## **Unique Cotton Blends Incorporating**

- bleached cotton staple
- bleached cotton linters
- bleached cotton comber
- super-absorbent powders

## NONWOVENS RESEARCH Airlaid Products

## **Key Markets**

- Wipes
- Diaper Cores
- Feminine Hygiene
- Adult Incontinence

## COTTON AIRLAID ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- v Pulp Formation
  - ∑ cotton, cotton/fluff pulp
- v Fiber Opening
- v Formation
- **D** Bonding
- **Performance**
- v Machinery Developments
- v A. Lunt Designs



