



Mission Builder

A W A R D

2009

U.S. COTTON, LLC

Management at U.S. Cotton, LLC took a whole-systems approach to improving performance. They created new technologies to streamline production, invested in workforce training, recognized individual and team performance, and fully integrated Lean concepts throughout the plant.

Today, the U.S. Cotton plant in Cleveland is a best-in-class facility. They have doubled their output, with improved efficiency and secured their place as the global leader in their market.

The company has cemented their position by improving productivity. U.S. Cotton nearly closed its Cleveland facility several years ago. Instead, their management team decided to reinvest in the plant by implementing Lean techniques and strengthening its corporate culture. These actions enabled the company to increase its share of the global market. Today, U.S. Cotton produces 89% of the world's cotton products for the health and beauty markets—up from 48% in 2000.

The U.S. Cotton management team has also been important leaders within WIRE-Net as well. Greg Tilton is completing his second year as Chairman of WIRE-Net's Board of Directors and Ken Erb plays an important role as a member of WIRE-Net's Personnel Committee.

WIRE-Net



Where Manufacturing Matters

Since 1990, WIRE-Net has recognized companies and individuals who demonstrate—through their extraordinary efforts—a commitment to WIRE-Net's mission and values. Mission Builder Award winners are companies that exemplify our mission, which is to strengthen manufacturing to create healthy communities and fuel economic growth.