



Welcome to the Cotton Connection

Delivering The Latest Cotton Companies Updates & Industry Related News



Cotton Dallas Expansion

Cotton expands its reach in the Dallas-Forth Worth Market

Over a decade ago, Cotton expanded its national footprint to include a satellite office in Dallas to support the greater Dallas-Fort Worth market. Through the years, this location has grown into a centralized hub for Cotton’s international logistics, allowing for quick deployment of assets to destinations all over North America and beyond, and housing the company’s main inventory of heavy equipment. To support ongoing operations, that initial office has grown from a modest 4,000 square feet to a roughly 80,000 square foot Global Response Center. “I’ve had the privilege of being a part of that exceptional growth both nationally and within the DFW market for the last 10 years”, said Stewart Geldersma, Vice President. “I’m excited to build upon the opportunity for continued growth and to support our local clients with a new world class facility”.

Cotton’s full suite of services is available to commercial clients within the DFW market including Disaster Restoration, Construction, Roofing, Environmental Remediation, Workforce Housing and Catering services. We look forward to showcasing these services and our new Global Response Center at an upcoming Open House on July 20

of this month. For more details or to RSVP, email Susan Link at susan.link@cottonteam.com.



Better Safe Than Cindy!

Cotton prepared for the worst of what was to come from Tropical Storm Cindy

On Thursday June 22nd, Tropical Storm Cindy made landfall in the Northern Gulf Coast between Cameron, Louisiana and Port Arthur, Texas. According to the National Hurricane Center, Cindy had a real chance of doing serious damage to the Gulf Region. Thankfully however, these predictions didn't come to fruition, and the storm resulted in only heavy rain and winds.

Though Cindy didn't cause major devastation, Cotton used the potential threat as a response training opportunity. Prior to Cindy's landfall, Cotton exercised its CAT deployment procedures by standing up an internal command, notifying on call staff and vendors, staging equipment, mobilizing first response staff, and staying in constant contact with clients who had exposure along the coast. "In these situations, we have many clients counting on us and it is our duty to be ready to respond and service their needs when the call comes in," said James Scaife, President.

Cotton achieves success through strategic planning and execution on every project and event. While every successful job can be treated as practice while working, this unique situation allowed Cotton to fine tune its craft without having to deal with a disaster. Mixing the pursuit of perfection with a disaster may seem impossible, but Cotton strives every day to turn challenging tasks into successful results.



The Cotton Experience

5 Reasons Why Cotton Culinary Should Cater Your Next Event

When you host a corporate event, all the details are a reflection of your business. Regardless of whether the event is for your department, the entire company, or a client, the quality of the event will have a lasting impression on all who attend.

At Cotton Culinary, we are proud to be a leading catering company providing a wide variety of food services for corporate events, meetings, and more. Below are 5 of the many reasons to invest in quality catering and service at your next event, making Cotton Culinary a natural choice!

1. Five Star Staff

Our diverse team is equipped with executive level chefs trained in the culinary arts, utility chefs, wait staff, event coordinators and more who come from a variety of culinary backgrounds. The management team has more than 50 combined years of restaurant and catering business ownership, is versed in all aspects of the trade and capable of orchestrating events of all sizes. Our culinary professionals will create a unique and welcoming event for your guests, whether the event requires service via a buffet, seated, family style, or food station set up. You can be certain that you will have excellent service and quality, and with a smiling, friendly staff as an added perk.

2. Versatile Menu

Cotton Culinary has experience in preparing and serving a wide selection of cuisines. The menu can be customized to meet the needs of your event, from casual to formal, or even themed! Whether you pick something offbeat or stick to a more traditional fare, Cotton Culinary can adapt to make your culinary vision a reality. We also pride ourselves in our ability to meet any dietary restrictions, so everyone can enjoy a

delicious meal.

3. More Focus

There are a lot of key ingredients that go into making an event complete and memorable. Hiring a professional company like Cotton Culinary reduces the stress of planning and executing a complex event and allows you to focus on your guests. Spend valuable time socializing and leave your guests with a long-lasting impression instead of hiding out in the kitchen. With Cotton Culinary in charge of the food and other details, you can concentrate on the attendees and enjoy yourself.

4. Additional Services

Cotton Culinary does a lot more than our name suggests. While food may be the main act of the show, it doesn't make up the entire experience. We can also manage furniture rentals and props, book entertainment for the event, decorate and provide janitorial services, and even find entertainment for your event. Instead of hiring and paying multiple companies for these individual services, hire Cotton for a turn-key event catering solution.

5. Proven Track Record

Cotton Culinary has a proven track record of hosting successful events of all sizes. Our list of satisfied clients continues to grow with each event entrusted to our team. Check out our [blog](#) to see some of the past catering events we've orchestrated for our clients!

Bring The Cotton Experience to Your Next Event!

Your next corporate event should be a memorable one, exceeding the expectations of your most detailed critic. Delicious food will be remembered by all those who attend, and superior catering services will reflect well on your company's reputation.

At Cotton Culinary, we provide services for all types of corporate events including luncheons, business meetings, fundraisers, board meetings, office parties, and more. [Contact us today](#) to see how we can help make your next event a success through our exceptional hospitality and service!

COTTON'S FINEST



Scott Birdwell

National Project Coordinator

"Our employees care deeply about ensuring our customers endure minimal impact after a disaster, no matter the scale."

Cotton's Finest

Employee Spotlight on Scott Birdwell

1. What is your role on the Cotton Team? What are three words you would use to describe it?

My title is National Project Coordinator! Three words that would describe my role would be leadership, integrity, and of course, passion.

2. Where is your favorite place in the world?

My favorite place in the world is Isla Mujeres, Mexico.

3. What does "Cottonuity" mean to you?

Cottonuity is a culture that has been instilled in me during my 18 years with the greatest company I have ever seen. It's how we interact with our customers and ourselves. Cottonuity is treating others with respect and truly caring about each other. It's the camaraderie.

4. How does Cotton go above and beyond for our clients?

I believe that Cotton's dedication to true customer service is what sets us apart from our competitors. Our employees care deeply about ensuring our customers endure minimal impact after a disaster, no matter the scale.

5. Tell us something about yourself that might surprise us!

I have 8 siblings, which probably explains why I only have one child!



Summer Travel Safety Tips

Travel safety begins before you leave your home

FBI statistics show that property theft crime rates rise by 10 percent in June, July, and August, the peak summer vacation months. Thieves know this, so it is imperative to take steps to help protect your home while you are away. Secure your home by making it look occupied, even while you are traveling, to deter potential burglars.

Before you Leave for Vacation

- Tell a trusted neighbor, family member, or friend your travel itinerary and ask them to keep an eye on your property and alert the police of any suspicious activity.
- Have mail and newspaper delivery paused. A clear sign that nobody's home is a stack of mail, as well as garbage cans left at the curb. You can temporarily stop delivery by contacting your newspaper carrier and the United States Post Office and have a neighbor bring in your garbage bins so that it isn't obvious you are away.

At the Airport

Once at the airport keep a close eye on your luggage at all times

- Do not leave your luggage unattended, especially in bathrooms, restaurants or kiosks.
- When going through security, put your laptop on the x-ray belt last, as you don't want it in the open too long. This way, your laptop will come out after your carry-on luggage and hopefully around the time you are cleared.

- During flight, place your luggage in the overhead bin across the aisle from you, enabling you to keep an eye on your bag during the flight to ensure nobody is opening it

While on Vacation

As you arrive at your destination, whether it is a theme park or a fancy resort, there are a few safety precautions you can take:

- **Stay off social media.** While it is tempting to post about your vacation, refrain from posting photos, status updates, or “checking in” during your trip. This can tip criminals off that you are away, regardless of your security settings on Facebook, Twitter and other social platforms.
- **Keep cash and credit cards in separate places.** Never carry your credit cards, cash, and passport simultaneously. You’ll want to keep enough cash in your wallet for the day, and stash the rest away in your hotel room safe.
- **Make copies of your passport.** Be sure to make two copies of your passport. Leave one copy at home with a friend or family member and take the other copy with you. When you go out sightseeing, take the copy with you and leave the original in your hotel safe.
- **Do a security sweep of your hotel room.** Always keep your hotel door locked and never answer it for someone you don’t know. If any security device (door lock, room key, window lock) isn’t functioning, notify hotel management and ask to be moved to another room.

You can never be too careful when it comes to traveling. Have peace of mind by ensuring your home is secure while you are away and be vigilant along your journey.

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