

# Welcome to the Cotton Connection Delivering The Latest Cotton Companies Updates & Industry Related News



Cotton Wraps The Year With 2017-18 Annual Cotton Success Meeting The Cotton Team celebrates "success" with a two-day event at Corporate Headquarters

Every year as Cotton prepares for Christmas, we also celebrate "Success". Each December, Cotton Holdings invites full time employees from all divisional lines to a twoday event at our corporate headquarters. The event allows us to review and celebrate the "success" of the past year, and to define our "success" in coming years as we set future goals. The event culminates in our Cotton Christmas Party.

**"The holiday season** presents a great opportunity for the team to come together and celebrate. It was so exciting to meet all the new faces and see the tremendous amount **of growth we've had over the last calendar year."** - Britney Smith, VP of Marketing

This year the Cotton Team was treated to a <u>"Cotton Harvey" video</u>, reflecting the hard work, dedication and self-sacrifice of our team members following this epic storm. The Cotton Team also celebrated Martha Colvin and Mirna Garcia for their continued dedication of 20 years at Cotton.

Most important to Cotton, our annual "Success" meeting allows our team members of all levels and locations, to focus together on what truly makes us successful – our culture! The Cotton Team spends an enormous amount of time working in various locations around the world focused on our clients' needs. Coming together each year as we do, the Cotton Team gets to individually and collectively reflect on our past goals, envision the future of this organization, and define the milestones and goals necessary to get there. Having the whole organization present really allows every voice and perspective to be heard, and as a way for the Cotton Team to come together and do what we do best – be a team!

Head over to <u>Cotton TV</u> for a video recap of the event: <u>2017-18 Annual Success</u> <u>Meeting</u>



Cotton International Responds To The Caribbean Despite facing major obstacles while being in a remote location, Cotton responds to the island of St. John.

While <u>Cotton</u> was responding to the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in our hometown of Houston, and other areas of Texas, two category 5 hurricanes hit the U.S. Virgin Island of St. John, in the Caribbean. Cotton quickly mobilized assets and personnel to respond to our clients in the affected area. Cotton is very proud to be involved in this project, and other ongoing efforts in Puerto Rico. The scale of the project combined with its geographic location has presented logistical challenges; however, Cotton has not compromised on our quality of work, and has learned considerably from this project.

## SCOPE

Our client in the <u>hospitality industry</u>, tasked us to mitigate damage and restore 28 buildings, 33 pools, and the grounds of the 47 acre property and beachfront, while salvaging as much landscaping as possible. This job required the man power of over 500 personnel, to have enough coverage of the hotel's 100,000 square feet footprint. Because resources were hindered, a team from <u>Cotton Culinary</u> also mobilized onsite to

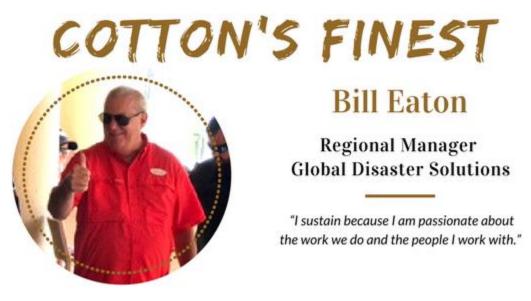
provide food service to the workforce, aiding in the accelerated recovery.

### CHALLENGES

Some of the major obstacles that the Cotton Team encountered during this project involved the logistics due to it being on a remote island. However, one particularly difficult hurdle proved to be communication, as there was no phone or internet connection for the first several weeks. The Cotton Team rose above this challenge, and exercised patience and understanding to help each other while away from home for over 60 days of continuous work.

### OUTLOOK

With the job over 60% finished and looking to finish ahead of schedule while accomplishing all of the goals set out by the client, we are very proud of the work our team has done. Cotton loves to take on challenges of all sizes in many diverse locations. It allows us to provide our quality service to a larger client base, be innovative in our approach, and most of all, help those in their time of need.



# Cotton's Finest

Employee Spotlight on Bill Eaton, Regional Manager

At Cotton, we are thankful for each and every one of our Cotton Team members who work tirelessly to give our clients nothing short of the best. With the recent disasters **during hurricane season, we've seen all of the members of our Cotton Team shi**ne and work relentlessly to achieve the mission. While many have worked long hours and/or been away from their homes and loved ones responding to our clients' needs, the efforts of Bill Eaton, have earned him this month's "Cotton's Finest." Bill, Regional Manager for Cotton's Global Disaster Solutions division, deployed to St. John, Virgin Islands, where he has now been away from home and loved ones for over 100 days.

When asked what keeps him going during these long periods of times on the road, he responded saying, "I sustain because I am passionate about the work we do and the people I work with." We are thankful for exceptional team members like Bill, whose

passion and principles embody the "Cotton Way."

1. What is your role on the Cotton Team? What ar**e 3 words you'd use to describe** it?

I am a regional manager of for Cotton Global Disaster Solutions. Three words I'd use to describe my role would be the phrase to "Lend a Hand" whenever possible.

### 2. Where is your favorite place in the world?

Colorado, because the mountains bring serenity and peace to me!

## 3. What does "Cottonuity" mean to you?

Everyone working for the same goal, PERFECTION!!!

# 4. How does Cotton go above and beyond for our clients? Performing all work Fairly and Ethically.

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

I am the youngest of 7 children and have beat all odds by staying positive and bringing a calming effect during tumultuous times.



Fast Food vs. Business Dining: Which Is Better for Your Workers? Are you giving your employees the fuel they need to power through the workday? See why you should invest in business dining services provided by Cotton Culinary. Today's workforce is much different than what existed decades ago. Most work environments today are exceptionally fast-paced and chaotic. Providing business dining services for your employees can be yet another way you can demonstrate your care and compassion for the hard work they perform for your company. Choosing to utilize the services of a professional business dining caterer can provide your organization and employees with many benefits over the traditional fast-food lunches that workers have relied on in the past. Consider the following ways that business dining services can help boost morale and serve to provide a more productive work environment for all.

### Benefits Offered by Cotton Culinary

Lunch break is about so much more than filling an empty stomach and providing energy to employees in order to continue with their day. The following are just a few of the **rewards that can be reaped from Cotton Culinary's** <u>business dining services</u>.

### Superior Nutrition

Fast food may be fast indeed, but how much nutrition are your employees really getting? Lunchtime shouldn't just be about stopping hunger pangs in their tracks as today's workers are more health-conscious than ever before. This means that there is an increasing demand for healthy lunch options that will sustain your employees while providing them with the nutritional requirements needed to perform at peak levels. Professional dining service companies are capable of catering to a wide range of dietary restrictions and can provide nutritious meals to keep your employees healthy year-round. Healthy workers take far less sick days and are much more productive and efficient.

### Camaraderie

Sending each of your employees off on their own to fend for themselves during lunchtime doesn't do much to spur camaraderie within the workforce. Providing professional dining services for your employees encourages them to have meaningful discussions during their lunch break, which can help them develop stronger bonds. Coworkers with deeper attachments to one another tend to work better as a team and have fewer disagreements as a result. Employees who have deeper connections with one another are also more likely to work together in ways that positively impact the profitability of your company.

#### Services and Hospitality

To fast food joints, you and your employees are just another number. These types of locations are designed with speed in mind, not necessarily customer service or hospitality. When you provide your employees with professional dining services, they receive personalized services that are just not available at fast food establishments. They're treated like important members of a happy family rather than just another mouth to feed in the quickest way possible.

We know that your business is important to you. As such, we also understand that your employees deserve to be treated as the important people that they are. Providing them with professional business dining services such as those offered by <u>Cotton Culinary</u> is one important way you can take care of your employees and provide them with the continued support they need in order to do their job well. Chef-inspired meals created with the freshest ingredients and served with love is a great way to express to your employees that you treasure their continued support and hard work.



Home Away From Home, Even During The Holidays Let Cotton Logistics make your staff feel at home, this holiday season and always

<u>Cotton Logistics</u> understands that your business' operations continue through the holiday season. That's why our <u>Cotton Logistics</u> staff takes special care to make sure our OneLodge residents feel at home while away from their families, even during the holidays! Our lodges are decked out in seasonal decor, including a beautifully lit tree. Although our residents are away from home, we do not want them to miss out on any festivities the season brings. This Christmas, <u>Cotton Culinary</u> will curate an elaborate menu consisting of peppercorn crusted prime rib, steamed snow crab legs, roasted cornish game hen, wild rice pilaf, red potatoes, chef cut vegetable blend, sauteed green beans, and to for dessert - red velvet cake and creamy New York Style cheesecake.

Residents have the opportunity to take advantage of our camp amenities as they take holiday evenings for themselves. Guests can remotely join their family for an evening with our state of the art WiFi, turn on the TV for some leisure time, or why not join others for a workout at the fitness facility? Our residents are also welcomed to head to the theater room for a movie or play billiards. <u>Cotton Logistics</u> offers our patrons a variety of options for leisure or relaxation when off the clock.

While it is never easy to be away from your loved ones, particularly during the holidays, <u>Cotton Logistics</u> goes above and beyond for our guests. Let <u>Cotton Logistics</u> make your staff feel at home, this holiday season and always.