



# 2024 AAPN CAROLINA MILL TOUR

## AGENDA

### Monday, April 15

4:00 pm **Badge Pickup & Orientation**  
Queen City Room, Springhill Suites  
311 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Charlotte

6:00 pm **Dinner Buffet**  
Hornet's Nest B, Springhill Suites  
*Sponsored by Milliken*

### Tuesday, April 16

7:00 am Breakfast Buffet for Springhill Suites guests

7:30 am Bus departure for Lumberton, North Carolina

#### Tour: Contempora Fabrics

Contempora is offering a full day of learning about how circular knit fabrics are made!



Our sessions will be:

**KNITTING 101:** this will be an interactive classroom setting

- Interactive analysis of 3 key knit constructions.
- Lesson on knit stitches and machine operation principles.

**KNITTING MACHINERY:** this session is held on the manufacturing floor with a knitting machine

Arrive at 10:00am,  
Depart around 2:30pm, hotel by 5ish

- Instructors will show participants how circular knitting machines function
- Experts will identify different parts of the machine and will show cams with the 3 stitches found in knit fabrics.
- Participants will see the difference between how double knits and single knits are made.

**QUALITY:** interactive classroom setting

- Contempora's Director of Quality will show participants common knitting defects.
- Participants will learn how to determine the cause and how defects can be prevented.

**UNIFI'S REPREVE MOBILE TOUR:** this section will be held by the Unifi team in their mobile classroom

- Intro to Unifi and team
- Textiles 101

The REPREVE difference

6:30pm Group Dinner at **Chima Brazilian Steakhouse**  
201 S College St (walking distance from hotel)

**Wednesday, April 17th**

7:00 am Breakfast Buffet for Springhill Suites guests

8:00am Bus departs for Gaffney, South Carolina  
**1<sup>st</sup> Stop: Hamrick Mills** – weaving overview and walkthrough

**2<sup>nd</sup> stop – Parkdale Mills** (includes lunch on the grounds)

YARN MANUFACTURING 101 “FROM FIELD TO YARN”

INTRODUCTION TO THE COTTON STAPLE FIBER

- How cotton is harvested from the field and transitioned to a bale form
- Cotton properties and classifications; USDA Permanent Bale Identification
- Cotton warehouse to yarn spinning facility

IMPORTANT PARAMETERS RELATING TO STAPLE YARN SPINNING

- Engineered cotton laydowns
- Yarn Counts
- Types of Yarn Spinning; Open End, Vortex, and Ring Spinning
- Differences in manufacturing between the various yarn types
- Differences in the yarn properties between the various yarn types
- Yarn end uses; Knitting, Hosiery, & Weaving
- Quality Characteristics & Quality Control
- Additional fibers used in spinning
- SUSTAINABILITY
- Parkdale’s story

YARN MANUFACTURING PROCESS / TOUR; OPEN END

- Opening
- Mixing
- Carding
- Drawing
- Spinning
- QC Lab



**3<sup>rd</sup> stop: Color Solutions International** – intro to color and walk through

5:30pm **Happy Hour with A&E**  
**Olde Mecklenberg Brewery**, Charlotte  
Sponsorship by American & Efid

6:30pm **AAPN Charlotte Networking Event**  
**Olde Mecklenberg Brewery**, Charlotte



**Thursday April 18th**

7:00 am Breakfast Buffet for Springhill Suites guests

8:00am Bus departs for Mount Holly

**Tour: American & Efird**

- American & Efird will present **“Thread Basics 101”** and provide a tour of their manufacturing operations.
  - > “Thread Basics 101” explains the different fiber types and construction methods used to produce quality sewing thread. The presentation demonstrates proper thread application based on garment type.
- **The Dyeing and Finishing Facility** tour showcases the final stages of thread manufacturing – dyeing, lubricating and winding. This facility produces finished thread for apparel, non-apparel, footwear and embroidery applications.
- Box lunch in CSC Auditorium at A&E

11:45am

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12:30pm Bus Departs for Charlotte Douglas Airport

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