



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT:

George Hargrove
800.277.0380 ext. 1213

Announcing the Acquisition of the Fiberweb Bleachery

Barnhardt Manufacturing Company, located in Charlotte, North Carolina announces the acquisition of Fiberweb's Natural Fibers Business in Griswoldville, Massachusetts, which bleaches cotton fibers.

Barnhardt, a privately held company founded in 1900, is the leading supplier of bleached cotton fiber used in products ranging from feminine care, medical products, consumer products, wet wipes to specialty products, such as flame retardant and anti microbial applications. Barnhardt has been in the bleaching business for over 85 years and with the acquisition of the Fiberweb facility will now be able to meet the growing global demand for bleached cotton in the market place.

Barnhardt has led the way over the years with their innovation and attention to quality that has led to many new uses for cotton. In 2005, Barnhardt was once again the market leader in initiating the use of cotton as a fiber of choice in the wet wipe category when Costco introduced their Kirkland brand wet wipes with cotton.

Lewis Barnhardt states: *"We are excited about the opportunity to expand our bleached cotton business and also joining the two sites operation and market intelligence together to form a stronger company that is eager to meet the changing needs of the global cotton market. We also look forward to the opportunity to service the existing Fiberweb customers with the great quality and dependability that the Barnhardt customers have become accustomed to."*

You can learn more about Barnhardt Manufacturing Company at their web site:
www.barnhardt.net.