



THEY SAY THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME. AS WE EMBARK ON OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY, IT'S A VERY PROUD TIME FOR OUR COMPANY AND EMPLOYEES.

Indera Mills was founded in 1914 by my great grandfather, Francis “Colonel” Henry Fries. Back then, we were a producer of knit underwear, mostly for women. Today, we still are, though our products are now worn by men, women, children, and even dogs! Yep, dog thermals. After all, there are 80 million canine customers in this country and we aim to keep them all warm.

Oh, if only great grandpa could see us now. Gone are the Montgomery Wards, National Bellas Hess, F. W. Woolworth, etc., replaced by Walmart, Target, Tractor Supply Co., Sears, etc. Nonetheless, customer service and product value remain at the core of the business equation.

From our modern plant headquartered in Yadkinville, NC, we design, knit, fabric finish, cut, warehouse, distribute and manage our business in the United States, having only the assembly of the product done in our factories in Monterrey, Mexico. We are extremely proud to be an American company for 100 years, so proud that every package has a sticker attached that reads “Designed and Knit in the USA”.

We believe in sustainability and in doing things right to protect the planet for future generations. Not only have we spent the better part of a decade examining our facilities and processes, but we’re now using 100% post-consumer fiber Repreve in a number of our products. Furthermore, in 2013, we joined the organization “1% for the Planet”, giving 1% of our annual revenues to accredited conservation causes. Point blank, we love Mother Earth, and we want our customers to know it.

A few things have changed along the way this past 100 years. More precisely, everything has changed...or has it? Consider this:

- Today’s production machinery is all high speed and very sophisticated, yet the knitting stitch is still formed the same way.
- The buzz today in our products is technical fibers with performance features. Still, cotton is used quite a lot and wool has made a startling comeback.
- To be successful today, you must have sophisticated systems, customized computer programs, EDI, websites and social media presence. Always though, it is the human element that makes it happen.

Indera Mills as a 100 year old company has done more than simply stand the test of time. We have survived, prospered and found a unique niche in the market.

If I had to choose one word that captures the essence of Indera Mills that word would be VALUES. We are steeped in the deep traditions of the Southern Textile Industry, bound by a strong commitment to family and community, and committed to hard work, trust and the important things in life. These values permeate our soul and translate into the products that we produce.

For us, this is what it is all about. Here’s to the next 100 years,

John Willingham
President of Indera Mills Co.