

1st Anniversary Edition

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Adams-Millis

Amco News

Adams-Millis Plant
Barnwell, S.C.

Special Edition

May, 1994

4 Walls And An Echo

Barnwell Operation Moves Ahead

It was late in 1992 that today's Adams-Millis Barnwell Plant was a mere "four walls and an echo." A little more than a year later it is on its way to becoming the largest sock manufacturing facility in the world. It is expected to achieve that status sometime during 1994.

"We've come a long way since we began our operations here," said Plant Manager Dan Bulman. "Our employees have worked extremely hard to make this operation work and work well."

"The employees have responded very well," said Director of Manufacturing Dennis Hodges. "They have been very positive in getting production to the point it is today. And they have done it even though they had no prior

experience in making socks."

When the plant began operations February 25, 1993, there were 50 employees. Fifty knitting machines were put into operation in the beginning with others brought on line soon afterward.

There are now 400 knitting machines in operation and more than 425 employees. In the beginning the plant was knitting about 1,200 dozens a week. The plant now knits more than 130,000 dozens and finishes nearly 90,000 dozens weekly.

The plant's first seaming line with six seaming and six boarding machines went on line March 15, 1993 as did the dyehouse and packaging areas. The new tunnel washing operation began two weeks later.

Everything has not been totally smooth in the first year of operation, according to Bulman.

"Starting a new plant is the hardest thing I have ever done

in manufacturing," he said.

The startup operation simultaneously incorporated construction, installing equipment and employee training.

Construction involved al-

terations of the 650-foot long building that contains some 250,000 square feet of space. It was built in 1968 by the E.T. Barwick Company as a carpet
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Ready To Go

Chabela Washington prepares to place a six pack of Hanes white athletic socks into a box ready for shipping from the Barnwell Plant. Washington has worked at the plant since May 1993.

CEO Reflects

Barnwell Output A Tremendous Achievement In Short Time

When Adams-Millis began two years ago looking for a location for a new manufacturing facility, the former Burlington Industries carpet yarn plant made the list of possibilities. A six-month search ended with the decision to purchase the Barnwell facility in October 1992.

Since then a lot of work by many people throughout Adams-Millis has turned the facility into what ranks among the top five largest sock manufacturing facilities in the world. Production is expected to increase this year to move it neck and neck with Mount Airy as the leading sock manufacturing facility in the country.

"Since we began production just over a year ago, we've asked a lot of the people in Barnwell and they are working very hard to deliver everything we ask," said Adams-Millis CEO Rich Noll. "Today they are routinely produc-

ing more than 100,000 dozens a week. That's a tremendous achievement in that amount of time."

Expansion plans for
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Framed Seamer

A series of pneumatic tubes on a seaming machine form a frame for Linda Broughton, a seamer at the Barnwell plant. She joined Adams-Millis in August.