

MEET NOTIONS SPONSOR: American & Efird

A&E has been in the textile business for over 115 years, surviving through depressions, technological upheavals, and challenges from abroad to become one of the world's largest global manufacturers and distributors of industrial sewing thread, embroidery thread, and technical textiles.

The company began in 1891 as Nims Manufacturing Co., a water-wheel driven textile plant on the banks of Dutchman's Creek in North Carolina. In 1920, it consolidated into American Yarn and Processing Company. Later, after a merger between Efird Manufacturing Co. and American Yarn and Processing, its name was changed to the one we know today: American & Efird Mills, Inc.

Today, the company, with headquarters in Mount Holly, N.C., manufactures threads and yarns for apparel, non-apparel, embroidery, and technical textile applications. It produces specialty thread products that are used in electrical cords, cables, and other specialized commercial applications. The next time you sit down to have a cup of tea, think of A&E. The company produces thread that is used in tea bags, which requires a specialized environment to meet U.S. Food & Drug Administration standards.

The Consumer Products Division was established in 1979. Since that time, the A&E family of brands has expanded to include the Robinson-Anton embroidery threads, At Home With Signature home décor threads, Signature Quilting and Embellishment threads, Maxi-Lock serging threads, Mettler premium sewing threads, and YKK zippers.

In addition to being one of the first *Notions* sponsors, A&E is a long-time supporter of ASG and, as a member of the American Home Sewing Association (the former trade organization

for the home sewing industry that funded the start-up of ASG), consistently supported early chapter development. A&E regularly supports a wealth of charitable organizations and industry events, both locally and nationally. In addition to ASG, the extensive list includes Allegro Foundation, United Way, Quilts of Valor, Kissing Pillows for deployed military, National Make It With Wool Competition, National Sewing Council, and New Hampshire Quilt Museum, to name just a few.



A&E has been focused on the environment for years. They have developed an Eco-Driven Sustainability program. The area is given high priority, to the extent that A&E has a vice president of environmental, health and safety, and social responsibility, who reports directly to the president of A&E. Details about the company's commitment to environmental policies can be found on their Web site: www.amefird.com.

at Home with
Signature

Signature
MACHINE QUILTING

Maxi-Lock

AMANN
GROUP **Mettler**

Robison-Anton 
Embroidery Threads

YKK

Little Parts. Big Difference.