NCTO completed a successful 16th Annual Meeting, March 19-21, 2019 at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C. A record 165 people attended the event, including representatives from 79 NCTO member companies.

The roster of high-level government and industry speakers allowed attendees to gain first-hand insight into relevant government policy and industry trends. One of this year’s highlights was the keynote address by Larry Kudlow, Director of the National Economic Council and Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, during the NCTO Annual Meeting dinner on March 19.

A nationally syndicated columnist and one of the most knowledgeable Washington insiders on budget, tax, and economic policy, Kudlow shared his insight on America’s long-term economic outlook and the current U.S.-China trade negotiations.

NCTO FIBER MEETING SEPTEMBER 19-20

NCTO’s 2019 Fall Fiber Meeting will be held September 19-20 at the Belmond Place Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina. Eligibility requirements to attend this meeting include being an NCTO member in good standing and paying a separate fiber fee which, in addition to NCTO Fiber Council membership, qualifies member companies for special fiber services. Sponsorship opportunities will be available for this meeting.

For additional information please contact NCTO’s Robin Haynes via email or at (704)-824-3522.
NCTO ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

As part of NCTO’s regular governance process, a new slate of officers was elected during the 2019 NCTO Annual Meeting in Washington.

Leib Oehmig was elected as NCTO’s 2019-20 Chairman. He is CEO of Glen Raven, Inc., an innovative leader in textile research and development, dyeing, spinning, weaving and finishing, and distribution and logistics based in Glen Raven, North Carolina. Oehmig succeeds 2018-19 NCTO Chairman Marty Moran, CEO of Buhler Quality Yarns, Corp.

David Roberts was elected NCTO Vice Chairman. Roberts is CEO of CAP Yarns, Inc., based in Clover, South Carolina. CAP Yarns is a specialty yarn manufacturer and a leader in developing unique yarns for the knitting and weaving industry.

NCTO’s other officers are Kimberly Glas, NCTO’s incoming President & CEO, effective at the end of April 2019; Sara Beatty, Secretary; and Robin Haynes, Treasurer. Auggie Tantillo, NCTO’s outgoing President & CEO, will serve as an officer through the end of April 2019.

2019 TEXTURES MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ONLINE

NCTO’s 2019 TEXTURES magazine was released on March 19. Produced in partnership with Textile World magazine’s editorial team, this year’s edition showcases several NCTO member companies through eight different features, including a first-person “Last Stitch” opinion editorial by 2018-19 NCTO Chairman Marty Moran, CEO of Buhler Quality Yarns.

Textile World will be syndicating each of the eight stories in print between now and next winter, as well as posting them on the publication’s American Textiles: We Make Amazing™ webpage.

TEXTURES magazine features inspirational and thought-provoking stories that highlight the American textile industry’s contemporary renaissance. In these articles, you’ll gain access to insights and perspectives from experts who are shaping the future of the textile trade and see every day as a new opportunity to make something amazing.

NCTO members seeking to participate in the 2020 edition of TEXTURES should contact NCTO’s Digital Projects Manager Rebecca Tantillo.
2019-20 NCTO COUNCIL CHAIRS

NCTO’s 2019-20 Fiber, Yarn, Fabric & Home Furnishings, and Industry Support Council chairs are below:

**Fiber**
David Poston, Palmetto Synthetics

**Yarn**
Marty Moran, Buhler Quality Yarns, Corp.

**Fabric & Home Furnishings**
Jeff Price, Milliken & Company

**Industry Support**
Jack Goetz, Goetz & Sons, Inc.

The Fiber, Yarn, Fabric & Home Furnishings, and Industry Support Councils elected new Board representatives for NCTO’s new fiscal year. Click here for the full list of NCTO’s 2019-20 Board of Directors.

2019-20 NCTO COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NCTO’s 2019-20 Cotton, Government Textiles, Microfiber, Regulatory & Standards, and Upholstery Fabrics Committee chairs are below:

**Cotton Committee**
Anderson Warlick, Parkdale, Inc.

**Government Textiles Committee**
Nick Pence, Under Armour

**Microfiber Committee**
Ned Cochrane, Mount Vernon Mills, Inc.

**Regulatory & Standards Committee**
Jim Booterbaugh, National Spinning Co., Inc.

**Upholstery Fabrics Committee**
David Swers, Glen Raven Custom Fabrics, LLC

2019 STATE OF THE U.S. TEXTILE INDUSTRY ADDRESS

Outgoing 2018-19 NCTO Chairman Marty Moran delivered the trade association’s 2019 State of the U.S. Textile Industry overview during the meeting’s General Session on Thursday, March 21 at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C.

Moran’s speech outlined (1) U.S. textile supply chain economic, employment, and trade data, (2) the 2019 policy priorities of domestic textile manufacturers, and (3) other NCTO activities.

The text of his remarks as prepared for delivery are included in this press statement along with a hyperlink to an economic data infographic illustrating the current economic status of the U.S. textile industry.

Mr. Moran is CEO of Buhler Quality Yarns, Corp., a fine-count yarn supplier headquartered in Jefferson, Georgia with plants and/or offices in America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia.
NCTO’s Government Textiles Committee (GTC) met on March 19 in conjunction with the NCTO Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. In a closed session, the committee was briefed by Todd Ethington, NCTO Director of Government Affairs, on the upcoming National Defense Authorization Act, the Berry Amendment, the Kissell fix in USMCA, and the Section 809 report to Congress. The Army’s efforts to develop and employ a new direct delivery process for supplying textiles, clothing, and materials to troops and an update on the procurement of camouflage uniforms by the Afghan Army and Police were also discussed.

Following the business session, the committee met with Mr. Roy Dillard, Deputy Director, Clothing and Textiles Directorate at the Defense Logistics Agency – Troop Support (DLA-TS). Discussions with Mr. Dillard included an update from DLA-TS on domestic capability to supply high tenacity polyester filament yarns for military shelters and other matters of interest to committee members.

Nick Pence, Director of Material Sourcing, Under Armour, will chair the NCTO GTC for the 2019-20 term. For more information about NCTO’s Government Textiles Committee, contact NCTO’s Hardy Poole.
DLA DIRECTOR KICKS OFF ANNUAL MEETING


NCTO’S HARDY POOLE, VP OF-regulatory & Technical Affairs, Recognized

NCTO recognized Hardy Poole, NCTO’s VP of Regulatory & Technical Affairs, for his 48 years of service to the American textile industry. A retired Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army, Hardy served on active duty at the U.S. Army Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center where most Department of Defense research and development on textiles and materials is conducted, and as a reservist at the Defense Logistics Agency in Philadelphia.

Hardy has held this role at the National Council of Textile Organizations since 2013. Thank you, Hardy, for your hard work and dedication to our country and industry!

KIMBERLY GLAS, NCTO’S INCOMING PRESIDENT & CEO, FORMALLY INTRODUCED TO NCTO MEMBERS

Kimberly Glas, NCTO’s incoming President & CEO, was formally introduced to NCTO members at the NCTO Annual Meeting. Ms. Glas addressed members, presenting her personal history and professional background and announcing her commitment to serve the American textile industry with passion and dedication.

Ms. Glas most recently served as Executive Director of the BlueGreen Alliance, a national partnership of labor and environmental organizations working to advance the creation of quality U.S. jobs in the clean energy economy.

Prior to that, from 2009 to 2014, Ms. Glas served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Textiles, Consumer Goods and Materials at the U.S. Department of Commerce under the Obama administration.

Ms. Glas also brings extensive Capitol Hill experience, having worked for U.S. Representatives Michael Michaud of Maine and John J. LaFalce of New York.

NCTO POLICY BRIEFING

NCTO staff concluded the annual meeting’s Day 1 program session with a comprehensive PowerPoint briefing on policy matters and NCTO’s public relations efforts. Following the staff briefing, NCTO’s Fiber, Yarn, Fabric & Home Furnishings, and Industry Support Councils held their respective annual meetings.

NCTO’S AUGUSTINE TANTILLO, PRESIDENT & CEO, TO RETIRE THIS YEAR

NCTO recognized Augustine Tantillo, NCTO’s President & CEO, for his 38-year Washington policy career, the vast majority of which has been as an advocate for the American textile industry. Tantillo has worked in government service or government relations in Washington, D.C. since 1981. Prior to joining NCTO in 2013, he served as Executive Director of the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition. At earlier points in his career, Tantillo was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Textiles & Apparel at the U.S. Department of Commerce under President George H. W. Bush, and Chief of Staff to U. S. Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina. Tantillo earned a B.S. in Agricultural Economics from Clemson University.

Thank you, Auggie, for your hard work and dedication to the American textile industry!
BOCKOVEN DELIVERS TEXTILEPAC REPORT

2018-19 NCTO Vice Chairman Don Bockoven, in his role as TextilePAC Committee Chairman, delivered the TextilePAC's annual report. The TextilePAC raised $147,820 and made $182,500 in contributions to 63 Members of Congress over the past 12 months.

VISITING CAPITOL HILL

A visit to Capitol Hill on Wednesday, March 20, was the centerpiece of NCTO’s 2019 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The focus of this year’s congressional outreach was to connect NCTO members with the trade staff and advisors of the U.S. senators and representatives who represent states with significant textile production. As a result, NCTO organized Q&A panels between Senate and Congressional staff and NCTO member companies to discuss the domestic textile industry’s legislative priorities.

Specifically, NCTO members asked Congress to:
- Support and pass USMCA
- Oppose various initiatives designed to erode the U.S. tariff code for textiles and apparel that would hurt U.S. textile jobs
- Fix the Simplified Acquisition Threshold for the Berry Amendment

Following an afternoon of lobbying, NCTO held its annual congressional reception in the Rayburn House Office Building. The reception provided a unique venue for NCTO members to socialize with U.S. House and Senate staff in an informal atmosphere.

TRADE UPDATE FROM USTR & U.S. CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION

Trade updates were delivered by Curtis Joseph “C.J.” Mahoney, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) for Investment, Services, Labor, Environment, Africa, China and the Western Hemisphere, and Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner of the U.S. Office of Trade’s U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Ambassador Mahoney outlined the Trump administration's plan for gaining congressional approval of USMCA, while also discussing upcoming negotiations with Japan and the European Union. EAC Smith discussed the steps that CBP is taking to enhance customs enforcement efforts in the textile/apparel sector.

GENERAL SESSION SPEAKERS

The final day of NCTO’s Annual Meeting began with the 2019 State of the U.S. Textile Industry address from 2018-19 NCTO Chairman Marty Moran, CEO of Buhler Quality Yarns, Corp.

Presentations followed on the prospects of strengthening American apparel manufacturing through nearshoring, automation, and sustainability efforts from Patricio Ibáñez, Partner at McKinsey & Company; the innovative progress SoftWear Automation is making in the field of sewn product's automation from Raj Rajan, Chairman & CEO of SoftWear Automation, Inc.; and the story of American Giant's journey to establish itself as a completely vertical apparel manufacturer and brand in the United States from Bayard Winthrop, Founder & CEO of American Giant.
Lt. Gen. Williams kicks off the 16th NCTO Annual Meeting

A record number of attendees socialize & dine in anticipation of Larry Kudlow’s keynote address.

EAC Smith addresses NCTO members.

NCTO members & affiliates network at the Welcome Reception.

NCTO members & guests listen and discuss during the NCTO Members Only Session.

NCTO members visit Capitol Hill.

Auggie Tantillo delivers NCTO’s key points on the Hill.

General Session Speakers, Raj Rajan & Bayard Winthrop, close out the 16th NCTO Annual Meeting.

Leib Oehmig succeeds Marty Moran as NCTO Chairman.