

# Frontier Spinning Mills investing \$6 million in Wetumpka plant

By [William Thornton | wthornton@al.com](#)

Email the author | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on April 28, 2017 at 9:19 AM, updated April 28, 2017 at 9:57 AM



Frontier Spinning Mills plant in Wetumpka

Frontier Spinning Mills is planning a \$6 million expansion of its Wetumpka plant, according to a news release from the Alabama Department of Commerce.

The expansion will add 18 jobs and warehouse space, as well as new fiber preparation and open-end spinning equipment at its plant which currently employs 120. The expansion should be completed by August.

Frontier has operated in Elmore County since 2001.

Robin Perkins, the company's CEO, recognized the support of the Elmore County Economic Development Authority.

"The Wetumpka Plant has a history of excellence in quality, safety, productivity, and cost," Perkins said in a statement. "This project provides stability and growth for this operation, Elmore County and Frontier."

Frontier is one of the world's largest producers of 100 percent cotton and cotton-blend yarns.

Alabama Commerce Secretary Greg Canfield said the expansion shows Frontier "has great confidence in its Alabama workforce and in the partnership we have developed with the company at a state and local level."

"Frontier is an industry leader in open-end spinning technology, and this new investment will enhance productivity at the Elmore County facility and position it for the future," Canfield said.

## **OFFICIAL RELEASE**

### **Frontier expansion**

#### **Frontier Spinning Mills investing \$6M at Alabama facility**

[Frontier Spinning Mills](#), the second largest yarn spinner in the Western Hemisphere, plans to invest \$6 million to add new, state-of-the-art fiber preparation and open-end spinning equipment at its plant in Elmore County.

The expansion project will add 18 jobs to the Alabama plant's workforce of 120, according to Sanford, North Carolina-based Frontier. The project also involves the addition of warehouse space at the facility.

*Frontier Spinning Mills, Inc. is very pleased to announce this significant investment in the Wetumpka Plant. We appreciate the support of the Elmore County Economic Development Authority and the State of Alabama. The Wetumpka Plant has a history of excellence in quality, safety, productivity, and cost. It has been the commitment and dedication of our employees over the years that has established Frontier as the premier yarn producer in the United States and globally. This project provides stability and growth for this operation, Elmore County, and Frontier.*

—Robin Perkins, CEO Frontier Spinning Mills

Frontier expects to complete the expansion project at the Alabama plant by Aug. 1. The facility primarily uses cotton and polyesters fibers in an open-end spinning process that creates yarn without using a spindle.

"Frontier is an industry leader in open-end spinning technology, and this new investment will enhance productivity at the Elmore County facility and position it for the future," said Greg Canfield, secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce.

"In addition, this expansion project shows that Frontier Spinning has great confidence in its Alabama workforce and in the partnership we have developed with the company at a state and local level," Secretary Canfield added.

Starting with a single open-end spinning facility in North Carolina two decades ago, Frontier has grown into one of the world's largest producers of 100% cotton and cotton-blend yarns for the knitting and weaving industries.

Its yarns find their way to major retailers in the form of denim, sweat shirts, socks, underwear, T-shirts, and home furnishings. Finished industrial products produced with Frontier yarn include medical gauze, tape, scrim fabrics, inner liners for gloves, and support bandages.

Frontier, which has operated in Elmore County since 2001, is one of the county's largest manufacturing employers, according to the [Elmore County Economic Development Authority](#).

*We are delighted that 16 years ago Frontier Yarns selected Elmore County as one of their manufacturing sites and are now expanding their facility. We sincerely appreciate committed corporate partners like Frontier who choose to grow with Elmore County.*

-Troy Stubbs, Chairman Elmore County Commission

*It is a pleasure for the Eclectic Industrial Development Board and Town of Eclectic to assist with the expanding of Frontier Yarns in Elmore County. Anytime we can help bring new jobs and business to our county it is a good thing.*

-Gary Davenport, Mayor of Eclectic