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INDUSTRY BULLETIN

June 27, 2014

To: NATIONAL COTTON COUNCIL
Certified Interest Organizations Representing Cotton Shippers, Marketing Cooperatives,
Warehousemen and Ginners

From: Mark Lange
President and CEO

Subject: Update on Industry Initiative to Improve Cotton Flow

Please distribute this bulletin among your membership as an update on industry efforts to improve cotton flow.

Batch 23 File Testing

EWR Inc.'s programming modifications to their Shipping Order Update (Batch 23) files are in place and ready for testing by key USDA staff to insure that the audit report features work as desired.

USDA and warehouses will be able to view shipment date reports for a week's active shipping orders that include a weekly "flow percent" for bales shipped plus bales not picked up. Merchants can view their shipping order lists by warehouse. At the shipping order level, all three groups can view an audit report that captures Batch 23 file date stamped merchant "requested" (asked for) dates and warehouse "scheduled" (offered) dates.

eCotton warehouse software is capable of automatically submitting a scheduled date for a shipping order or early shipping order at a warehouse's discretion. Warehouses using eCotton's "IsMyLoadReady.com" calendar may automatically provide a scheduled date via Batch 23 once a warehouse places the shipping order on the calendar. Other software vendors may use the EWR Inc. software protocols to include Batch 23 enhancements in their calendar tools, warehouse and shipper software, if they choose.

Important Implementation Information

The target date for having the updated Batch 23 features in place and functioning is July 1.

It is anticipated that warehouses with good performance histories are not likely to see merchant initiated Batch 23s. However, warehouses with a history of slow shipments or considerable "days out" are the likely targets of merchant Batch 23s.

After July 1, delivery of Batch 23s can no longer be blocked by a recipient from their EWR Inc. mailbox, but all recipients are reminded that use of the Batch 23 files remains voluntary.