



PRESS RELEASE

Glen Raven Hosts Deputy Assistant Secretary Jennifer Knight, Highlighting Industry's Competitiveness, Sustainability, Capital Investments & Jobs

May 9, 2023

WASHINGTON –Glen Raven hosted Jennifer Knight, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Textiles, Consumer Goods, Materials Industries, Critical Minerals and Metals with the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration, at the company's state-of-the art manufacturing facility in Anderson, South Carolina today, where the company manufactures its Sunbrella® flagship brand. The company is beginning to scale a major expansion plan started in 2021, illustrating continued investment and growth by a leader in the U.S. textile industry and its importance to the U.S. economy.

"We were honored to host Deputy Assistant Secretary Knight at our Sunbrella facility in Anderson, South Carolina to give her a firsthand experience of our advanced manufacturing facilities, sustainable initiatives, and the passionate work of our U.S. manufacturing teams," said Glen Raven CEO Leib Oehmig. "The opportunity to discuss with a key trade official the impact of our nation's global trade policies on our company and our dedicated workers is invaluable. We highlighted the importance of Glen Raven's contribution to our local communities, as well as the critical need to maintain a domestic textile and apparel industry and to promote policies that support a resilient and competitive supply chain, innovation and research and a vibrant and well-trained workforce. We are thankful for Deputy Assistant Secretary Knight's commitment to understanding the challenges we face in the global trade arena and appreciate the dialogue we had with her here today."

"Public-private sector engagement is key to supporting a competitive and resilient textile and apparel supply chain and I am pleased to visit Glen Raven, a prime example of our modern domestic textile industry with its state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities for high-performance fabrics," said Deputy Assistant Secretary Knight. "ITA continues to support American manufacturers and recognizes the importance of building an innovative, diverse and skilled workforce."

Glen Raven, a family-owned company founded in 1880, operates five manufacturing facilities in North and South Carolina employing 2,500 people, including their joint venture with Shawmut Corporation. The company is currently in the process of scaling a \$250 million multi-phase U.S. capacity expansion plan of its facilities and infrastructure to meet customer demand.

At Glen Raven, Knight toured Glen Raven's Sunbrella® facilities, part of the company's Custom Fabrics division, which includes flagship brands Sunbrella® and Dickson®. Glen Raven also has two other divisions, including Glen Raven Technical Fabrics with GlenGuard®, Strata™ and Glen Raven Logistics; and Trivantage, one of the nation's largest business-to-business distributors for the awning, marine, upholstery and shade sail industries.

Glen Raven is a leader in the upholstery, marine, shading, automotive, military, geotextile, and protective workwear markets and operates national distribution and logistics subsidiaries.

Knight's visit to Glen Raven's Sunbrella® facilities comes at a critical time for the company and the U.S. textile supply chain, which produced \$65.8 billion in output in 2021 and employed 538,000 workers. Glen Raven is part of the broader textile industry that is a critical manufacturing segment contributing to job growth, investments, and innovation. From 2012-2021, capital investment in U.S. yarn, fabric, apparel & sewn products manufacturing totals \$20.9 billion.

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NCTO is a Washington, DC-based trade association that represents domestic textile manufacturers.

- U.S. employment in the textile supply chain was 538,067 in 2022.
- The value of shipments for U.S. textiles and apparel was \$65.8 billion in 2022.
- U.S. exports of fiber, textiles and apparel were \$34 billion in 2022.
- Capital expenditures for textiles and apparel production totaled \$2.27 billion in 2021, the last year for which data is available.

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