

Learning on Location

Ardent Mills • Newton, Kansas



Learn about the commercial flour milling process at a Kansas production facility.

The Ardent Mills' 100-year-old flour milling facility is located in Newton, Kansas. Ardent Mills is a leading manufacturer of flour and other grain-based products that operates 40 flour mills and blending facilities in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. Ardent Mills is an independent joint venture that began in May of 2014 between ConAgra Mills, Horizon Milling and CHS. This facility has 70 employees who work throughout the elevator, mill and warehouse. Teams of 12 operate the facility 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The U.S. Wheat Associates Flour Milling course for Sub-Saharan Region Millers often stops at this facility. On the tour, participants learn about grain storage, cleaning and blending of the grain to create the final products. Head Miller,

Brian Allinger oversees the daily operations of the milling portion of the facility all the way from wheat cleaning to the blending of the flour products.

This facility in particular brings in wheat directly from surrounding areas and stores it in their grain elevator that holds 3.5 million bushels of wheat. At this facility they can produce 800,000 pounds of flour per day, and last year they produced more than 207 million pounds of flour. The facility has the ability to bulk load flour or pack it into bags for their customers. This location of Ardent Mills supplies 60% of the private label small pack flour in the U.S. market.

Tours allow for Allinger to explain the passion he has for the company. He says, "We enjoy showing people the pride that everyone takes in this facility and the products that we produce."