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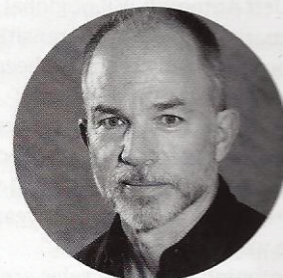
What's the biggest issue affecting your business?

Materials and components executives weigh
in on the obstacles that trouble them.

By Peter Verry



La Sportiva
Gore-Tex
hiker



Matt Schreiner

*Global product leader,
Gore-Tex Footwear*

"The incredibly **outdated U.S. tariff structure** for 'protective' performance footwear in the U.S. affects our ability to grow and invest in the innovation that is the lifeblood of our industry. These tariffs deny consumers access to footwear with the performance features they need, narrowing their choice of product and forcing them to compromise."



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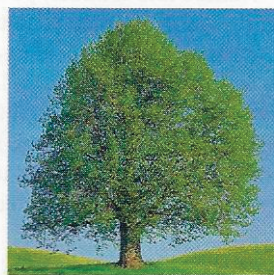
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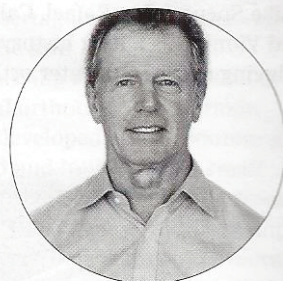
Christine Lynn

*VP of business development,
Basic Adhesives*

"Environmental impact and the demands of consumers for eco-friendly products without sacrificing quality has been a major issue. The **protection, preservation and conservation of the environment** continues to be an important issue, and these efforts will gain traction in the future. The number of eco-friendly products will subsequently continue to increase."



Eco issues



Glenn Barrett

CEO, OrthoLite

"We must react to the **changing geography of manufacturing**. We have factories in Vietnam and Indonesia that require us to replicate what we do in different venues. Three challenges [this presents] are the transfer of technology, working out logistical issues in new countries and maintaining the level of quality and service we're trusted for."

Global changes

