GORE BACKGROUND

Profile

As an advanced materials company committed to improving life, Gore has changed lives and industries since 1958. We are passionate about addressing the toughest technical challenges in the most demanding environments.

Gore combines our materials science expertise with market insights to deliver meaningful, uncompromised solutions — from filters that keep our environment clean to medical devices that improve patient outcomes and fabrics that protect first responders in the line of duty.

A privately held company with \$5 billion in annual revenues, Gore has approximately 13,000 Associates, with manufacturing facilities in the United States, Germany, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Japan and China, as well as sales offices around the world.

Commitment to Innovation

Our continued innovation is a direct result of our strong, team-oriented culture. United by common principles that lay the foundation for our culture and help define how we work with each other and with our customers, our global teams bring together diverse perspectives and deep knowledge to help us solve complex market and customer challenges. Our shared commitment to integrity, innovation and sound science sets the foundation for Gore to help look for opportunities and solutions where others may see none.

Our curiosity, creativity and collaboration ignite the development of advanced materials and new technologies. Generating more than 3,100 unique inventions to date, our materials science expertise

drives innovation across our businesses. We continue to explore and deliver new composites and materials that bring value to customers, end users and the world — enabling, for example, the production of garments with a lower environmental footprint and innovative bioabsorbable medical devices.

History

More than 65 years ago, Bill and Vieve Gore marked their 23rd wedding anniversary with a dream — to realize the great potential of fluoropolymers to contribute to society through a new Enterprise that energized the tremendous creative and inventive powers inherent in each Associate. And so, W. L. Gore & Associates was founded.

From the very beginning, Bill Gore made this connection between our materials capabilities and the potential to contribute value to society. He also introduced novel ideas about how to organize a company and unleash creative potential.

A hallmark of a true family business, the couple's son, Bob Gore, discovered how to modify the fluoropolymer PTFE to form a strong, porous material in 1969. This invention — expanded PTFE or ePTFE — changed the future of the Enterprise and paved the way for waterproof, breathable GORE-TEX Fabric and thousands of market-changing innovations.

Today, we remain committed to building on our founders' dream of using advanced materials to improve lives and contribute to the greater good. Our technologies enhance everyday experiences, improve patient outcomes, help explore the origins of the universe and much more.

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