

FORTUNE

SMALL BUSINESS

WILL CONGRESS
SLAM SMALL
INVENTORS? >> PAGE 14

THE

FSB 100



LESSONS
FROM
THE FASTEST-
GROWING
SMALL PUBLIC
COMPANIES

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JOHN NORRIS, CEO
of Fuel Tech (#12), with
a computer simulation
of a process that helps
power plants run cleaner.

Take On the Outdoors

New active gear from small companies.

BY KATHARINE KELLY AND JAMIE CARROLL
PHOTOGRAPH BY BRAD HINES



E Osprey's Cypher Daypack \$84

Osprey, based in Cortez, Colo., has sold mountaineering packs for 35 years. Its Cypher pack is made mostly of recycled materials such as ground-up plastic soda bottles. ospreypacks.com

F Chrome Transport's Lightweight Shins \$136

Inspired by the rugged demands of bike messengers, new pants by Chrome are cut so that the cuffs won't get caught in bike spokes. The San Francisco company offers a lifetime guarantee on its bags and clothing. chromebags.com

G Esatto's Classic Hiker \$699

After years of working for Nike, David Smith, 47, launched Esatto in 2001 to create better-fitting hiking boots. Smith makes his full-grain leather boots by hand in Portland, Ore., based on customer measurements. esatto.biz

H Ellsworth Handcrafted Bicycles' Rogue \$5,000 to \$7,500

Designed for extreme mountain bikers, the Rogue's unique suspension system keeps the bike steadier over rocky terrain. Ellsworth, a 16-year-old company, is based in Ramona, Calif. ellsworthbikes.com

READ MORE ABOUT THESE COMPANIES AT FSB.COM.