



THE AMERICAS: UNITED STATES

What are the most significant global issues facing us today?

Shortage of water.

Energy continues to be a major issue, particularly finding clean energy solutions.

We are still facing global economic challenges with very slow growth, and in some regions of the world economies are not growing at all.

What do you see as the main innovations happening around the world, those which are game changing and/or disruptive?

Social networks.

Technology such as cloud computing, smart phones, tablets, etc.

Human genome.

Biotechnology.

What do you see as the main innovations in the spa/wellness industry (existing and future)?

Spa Evidence Portal.

Better technology that makes boomers look, feel and act younger, such as DNA-type skin-care, hair-coloring products that change color from the inside out, and joint rejuvenation products.

What do you see as the greatest opportunities/challenges for the global spa and wellness industry?

Challenge: That in general, the medical community sees us as witch doctors as opposed to bona fide healers. Until preventative becomes part of more of the medical community's vernacular, we will continue to struggle with nomenclature that diminishes the benefits of what the spa and wellness community offers.

This actually is the opportunity.

What are some practical ways for businesses to create a climate for creativity and innovation?

Risk tolerance at all levels of an organization.

Non-traditional learning environments where creativity can leave the main road.

Create a workplace environment that welcomes ideas from all levels, and where fear is not in the mix.

SUBMITTED BY

Nancy Nemer

Founder and CEO

Red Cashew

United States

E: nancy@redcashew.com

W: www.redcashew.com



RED CASHEW

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