

NATION NOW

As tariffs continue, panic beginning to sink in among Wisconsin manufacturers



In 2002, Carver Yacht did so well at the New York boat show that it called back 75 workers it had laid off at the start of the recession. Carver is now facing a 25 percent tariff the European Union placed this year on boats built in the U.S. *Journal Sentinel Files*

Delta Children's Products Corp. has a mattress factory and product design center in Neenah, in Wisconsin's Fox Valley. The New York-based company says it is the world's largest maker of baby cribs.

Many of its products and raw materials are imported from China.

The tariffs are making it harder for families to afford a new crib, said Joseph Shamie, Delta Children's president.

"Now, more moms are going to turn to less safe hand-me-downs," he said.

To sidestep the tariffs, the company has looked at moving manufacturing from China.

But that would take at least a year, Shamie said, and it would be a costly endeavor to establish another factory and line up suppliers.

"If we invest in the changes, and the tariffs go away, then we have wasted a lot of time and money. But if we don't, and the tariffs continue, we have a huge problem," he said.