



PHOTO BY CHARLES HODGES

# KEEPING IT QUIET

By Susan Loden

QMN'S LISA BEESON

» Metro Orlando entrepreneur Lisa Beeson, with a musician mother and a father who is almost deaf, appreciates both sound and silence. Thus, her professional passion came naturally — her own mechanical, structural and acoustical engineering firm, Quietly Making Noise (QMN).

Beeson, as a woman with 17 years of experience in designing energy and power systems, is a rarity as an acoustical engineer. Her team travels the world to master challenging projects, including the study of corrosion rates of oil and gas pipelines in Saudi Arabia, and design consulting on fluids and control systems for Westinghouse Power Corp. From a base within a few miles of one of America's premier research parks, and a high tech incubator and university, QMN designs, develops and markets new products and services in acoustics and noise control for residential, commercial and industrial markets. Products include Shut-Eye™ Acoustical Shutters and Blinds that cut noise by more than 25 decibels. Annual revenue has doubled each year since QMN was founded in 2002.

**T Texture: What's the attraction to Metro Orlando?**

**lb Lisa Beeson:** Business and opportunities are booming. I began with a global network of clients and have been surprised to find tons of opportunities and clients in my own backyard. As people worldwide are living closer to each other and to commercial/industrial areas, there is more noise pollution and stress. QMN is ahead of the curve in solving some universal problems.

**T Is it important that Metro Orlando nurtures techno industries?**

**lb** The more high tech companies, the more business opportunities for QMN. Everyone has a noise problem. As our high tech community grows, our workforce improves and is more highly qualified.

**T What is your priority in selecting employees?**

**lb** It is important to find the most talented people possible with the exact skills I need for any job. I have no trouble finding them here. QMN has a full-time team of five professionals with average annual salaries of \$65,000.

**T What does the future hold?**

**lb** Most significant is the introduction of new products, including enclosures for portable generators used during power outages. Companies have to innovate and grow. I am constantly talking with others about partnerships and alliances that create business for all of us.

**T What about quality of life?**

**lb** I treasure living and working near the coast. Great weather is a must and variety in recreation and entertainment is important.

**T What would you say to decision-makers weighing a move to Orlando?**

**lb** You cannot beat this area for quality of life and as an excellent place to do business — worldwide. And, the airport is one of the best. **x**