

AAFA Executive Summit 2025

Inspectorio's Key Takeaways on Supply Chain Adaptability & Agility

The AAFA Executive Summit 2025 brought together industry leaders from across the apparel and footwear space to confront today's trade realities and share strategies for building agile, resilient supply chains. Couldn't attend? Here's what you need to know.



1

Adaptability & Agility Are Now Strategic Imperatives

Static sourcing strategies have become liabilities in today's unpredictable environment. Companies must now anticipate, rather than react to:

- Fluctuating tariffs and trade policy shifts
- Rising costs across sourcing regions
- Increasing pressure to balance sustainability with operational realities

The once-reliable U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is now in flux, prompting brands to reassess their long-term sourcing commitments and diversify strategically.

2

Risk Isn't Just a Challenge—It's a Strategic Lever

The definition of supply chain risk is evolving. Forward-looking companies—including Inspectorio—are reframing risk through the lens of performance, transparency, and partnership.

- Decision-making is shifting from national-level sourcing to evaluating individual factories, ownership structures, and compliance records.
- Nearshoring markets like the Dominican Republic are gaining ground for their trade stability and proximity to the U.S.
- India and Vietnam remain essential players—but with tariff uncertainties, brands are treading carefully.

3

Sustainability Must Be Embedded, Not Bolted On

Sustainability hasn't taken a back seat—but it has been reframed.

- Companies are adopting frameworks like SPI (Style, Performance, Impact) to better balance sustainability with commercial demands.
- Sustainability is no longer treated as a separate initiative—it's being integrated into broader resilience and agility strategies.
- However, compliance and cost-efficiency sessions saw greater engagement than those on circularity and EPR, showing where the industry's immediate priorities lie.

4

Diversification Requires More Than a Backup Plan

Having a Plan B isn't enough—Plan C and D are now part of the equation.

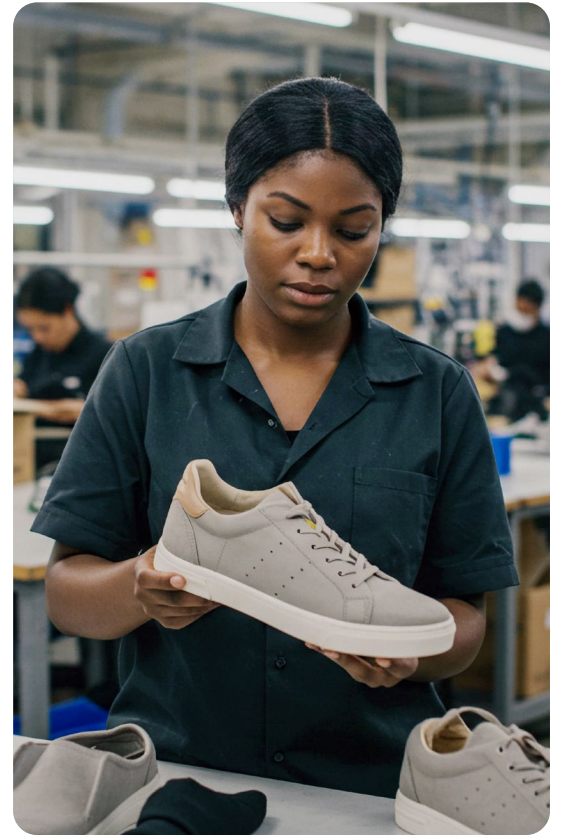
- Supply chain resilience requires multi-layered sourcing strategies that account for both geographic and ethical risk.
- Brands moving away from China are still facing forced labor concerns in other regions like Vietnam and Indonesia.
- The true differentiator is partnering with factories that demonstrate transparency, ethical standards, and agility—not just shifting regions.

5

Agility Is the Path Forward—and the Competitive Edge

Every brand is grappling with the same global pressures. The difference? Agility.

- Companies that can pivot fast—without sacrificing compliance or brand integrity—will outperform.
- Inspectorio is enabling this transformation by providing real-time data, actionable insights, and intelligent platforms that make adaptability operational.
- The future belongs to brands that don't just react to change—but build agility into the fabric of their supply chains.



Missed the Summit? We've Got You Covered.

We know not everyone could attend, but the insights shared were too important to miss. We'd love to continue the conversation and explore how adaptability and agility can shape your sourcing strategy for 2025 and beyond.

Let's connect!

[Reach Out Today](#)