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Volume 3, Number 11

BFI News brings you news from around the world related to humanity's option for success and comprehensive anticipatory design solutions. It also features updates from BFI and periodic special offers for members.

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Food For Thought

"My biggest hope that we're going to make it here is that this thinking is being manifested and really employed by the young world. Will they be going fast enough to overcome the initiatives of the bureaucracies and the fears operative in those bureaucracies? It's a very touch and go question."

-R. Buckminster Fuller

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Trends and Perspectives

Iceland Invents Energy-from-Water Machine

An Icelandic team has invented a radical device that can produce electricity from water. The Thermator could play a major role in the non-polluting economies of the future. It works by something called the thermo-electric effect, which scientists have known about for many years, that translates the difference between the temperature of hot and cold water into energy.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/2352853.stm>

(Source: BBC News)

Lowly Microbe Takes on Toxic Waste

An industrial chemical that pollutes groundwater and has resisted cleanup can be neutralized by an obscure microbe that researchers have discovered in the Hudson River bottom mud. The microbe lives in the absence of oxygen, which means it could be useful for cleaning TCA (trichloroethane) from aquifers and groundwater where the chemical is a common pollutant. TCA is present in 696 of 1430 clean-up priority sites identified by the Environmental Protection Agency. The chemical is used as an industrial solvent.

<http://www.msnbc.com/news/828946.asp>

(Source: MSNBC News)

Scientists Say a Quest for Clean Energy Must Begin Now

Meeting the world's rising energy needs without increasing global warming will require a research effort as ambitious as the Apollo project to put a man on the moon, say a diverse group of scientists and engineers. To supply energy needs 50 years from now without further influencing the climate, up to three times the total amount of energy now generated using coal, oil, and other fossil fuels will have to be produced using methods that generate no heat-trapping greenhouse gases. In addition, the use of fossil fuels will have to decline, and to achieve these goals research must begin immediately.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/11/01/science/01CLIM.html>

(Source: New York Times)

Global Poverty

Each year, millions of people are climbing out of destitution, helped in part by smart aid projects aimed at stimulating development at the grassroots level. With the help of microcredit agencies, a rapidly growing movement that has enabled some 2 million poor families in dozens of nations to start and expand small businesses, this transition is occurring in many nations that not long ago were viewed as hopeless cases.

http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/02_41/b3803601.htm

(Source: BusinessWeek)

U.S. States Acting on their Own to Fight Global Warming

While the Bush administration has pulled the United States out of an international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, individual U.S. states have taken steps on their own to fight global warming, according to a recent environmental report.

http://enn.com/news/wire-stories/2002/11/11152002/reu_48960.asp

(Source: Environmental News Network)

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Resources**Dell Offers Recycling Option to Consumers**

Dell has begun offering U.S. consumers the option to recycle their used computers. Through the new Dell Exchange option, consumers can recycle any desktop or notebook computer from any manufacturer.

http://enn.com/news/enn-stories/2002/10/10312002/s_48826.asp

Also see:

Green Computing: Practical Tips to Make Your Computer Environmentally Friendly Looking for ways to be environmentally responsible when using your computer? Visit www.dellexchange.com which provides options for donating, trading-in and auctioning older computers alongside the opportunity to recycle.

<http://www.ewire-news.com/wires/A5B91742-A05B-48B9-882680343CE60F87.htm>

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Events**Ecology, Economy, Equity: The Architecture of William McDonough + Partners
The Atlanta International Museum of Art & Design**

through February 28

An exhibition presenting the work of this internationally recognized architectural firm and highlighting related innovative technologies in sustainable architecture. Instead of limiting ourselves, McDonough suggests we should marshal our design intelligence to fulfill our needs differently. This exhibition looks to explore avenues of applicable expressions and to find increased understanding of this "second industrial revolution." The Museum will also create a series of special events and programming to engage all audiences.

http://www.atlantainternationalmuseum.org/exhibit_upcoming.htm

R. Buckminster Fuller: "The History (and Mystery) of the Universe"

Wednesdays-Sundays, San Francisco, CA

We highly recommend this inspiring one-man show about the life and work of Buckminster Fuller.

To read reviews and find out more about show times and ticket prices, visit the BFI home page at

<http://www.bfi.org> or the producer's site at <http://www.foghouse.com>

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BFI Update**"Bucky Up Close" Speaker Series**

In association with the Buckminster Fuller one-man show "The History (and Mystery) of the Universe," BFI is sponsoring a speaker series at the theater that features special guests recounting their unique, personal experiences with Buckminster Fuller. Upcoming speakers include:

Sunday, December 1st at 4:30 PM

Allegra Fuller Snyder, Bucky's daughter, Professor Emerita of Dance and Dance Ethnology, UCLA, and co-founder of the Buckminster Fuller Institute.

Sunday, December 15th at 4:30 PM

Robert Kahn, Ed.D., former staff at Bucky's office, strategic communications consultant and renewable energy advocate from Seattle, Washington.

Upcoming speakers and dates will be announced at <http://www.bfi.org> and

<http://www.foghouse.com>. Or call BFI at 707-824 2242.

Our Fall/Winter Trintab Newsletter Now Online!

Visit our home page (<http://www.bfi.org>) to download the current issue of our Trintab newsletter in pdf format. Our site will be updated soon so you can read the articles directly on our web pages.

In this issue, we have a special interview with D.W. Jacobs, writer/director of the inspiring one-man show

"The History (and Mystery) of the Universe" as well as excerpts from the play (including the popular "Love" poem).

Also in this issue:

- Synergetic Explorations
- Reports from the World Summit in Johannesburg
- PlaNetwork Consortium Launched at U.N. World Summit
- EARTHscope Update plus What Is GIS?
- Dome Raising at Project Artaud
- Meaningful Gifts from BFI's Online Store

Status Report on New Higher Resolution Satellite Map

If you are also on our mailing list, you have probably received our postcard announcing the new satellite map poster. When we sent out the postcard, we expected to have the map poster printed, however, revisions and improvements to the file delayed the process. We do expect to have the maps printed very soon.

If you would like to receive an email when the map is ready, please email lauren@bfi.org with the words "map poster" in the subject line.

Thank you for your patience and we apologize for any inconvenience! You can look forward to a beautiful new map!

For other gift ideas, browse our store at <http://www.bfi.org>.

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