

BUCKMINSTER FULLER INSTITUTE									
home		membership		donations		store		sitemap	
ABOUT the bfi	HUMANITY'S option	WHO IS r.b. fuller?	BOOKS AND resources	COMMUNITY links	DESIGN science	DOMES	SYNERGETICS		

Volume 4, Number 12

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.

[Food For Thought](#)
[Trends and Perspectives](#)
[Resources](#)
[Events](#)
[BFI Update](#)

Food For Thought

"I'm not trying to counsel any of you to do anything really special except to dare to think, and to dare to go with the truth, and to dare to really love completely."

- R. Buckminster Fuller

[back to top](#)

Trends and Perspectives

Cheap Plastic Megastorage

By coating thin-film silicon with a conductive polymer, researchers have built an inexpensive device potentially capable of 100 megabits per square centimeter.

http://www.technologyreview.com/articles/rnb_112403.asp

(Source: MIT Technology Review)

Report Describes Steps to Building a Thriving Solar Industry

A new landmark research report outlines what would be required to move solar energy beyond a small, niche market into a thriving industry able to contribute significantly to America's energy and national security needs.

http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=26125

(Source: Greenbiz.com)

Scientist Find Mystery Particle

Scientists have found a sub-atomic particle they cannot explain using current theories of energy and matter. Classified as X(3872), the particle was seen fleetingly in an atom smasher and has been dubbed the "mystery meson". The Japanese team says understanding its existence may require a change to the Standard Model, the accepted theory of the way the Universe is constructed.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/3277579.stm>

(Source: BBC News)

U.N. Summit Calls for Wired World

The first World Summit on the Information Society wraps up with a plan for extending the Internet and other modern wonders to the planet's poorest countries. No word yet on who will pay.

http://go.hotwired.com/news/technology/0,1282,61588,00.html/wn_ascii

(Source: Wired)

Scientific Breakthrough of the Year

Illuminating the Dark Universe

<http://www.sciencemag.org/sciext/btoy2003>

(Source: Science Magazine)

Industry Coalition Launches National Fuel-Cell Bus Initiative

A broad industry coalition of key hydrogen and fuel-cell bus users and suppliers is launching an initiative to develop, deploy, and commercialize clean, fuel cell, and hydrogen-powered drive systems for transit.

http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=26121

(Source: Greenbiz.com)

[back to top](#)

Resources

Gapminder

A breakthrough in the ability to make the behavior of a complex system transparent, Gapminder represents a very important, much-needed step in the direction of our being able to understand what is going on in the world.

Current programs and charts include World Income Distribution, World Education Chart, and Human Development Trends tools.

Visit <http://www.gapminder.com>

Healthy Building Network

Site offers information on green alternatives to some traditional -- and potentially harmful -- building materials.

http://www.greenbiz.com/reference/webguide_record.cfm?LinkAdvID=20367

Tired of Defending the Benefits of Green Buildings?

This study should put the naysayers to rest. The most comprehensive study on the cost-benefit analysis of green buildings demonstrates that financial benefits exceed costs by a factor of 10 to 1. The financial benefits are found in lower energy, waste and water costs, lower environmental and emissions costs, lower operational and maintenance costs, and increased productivity and health.

<http://sustainablebusinessupdate.c.tep1.com/maabJ2taa2K1ua4j959c/>

[back to top](#)

Events

"Buckminster Fuller's Problem Solving Methodology: Designing a World that Works for Everyone"

New Undergraduate Elective Course sponsored by BFI at New College of California, Santa Rosa Campus
8 classes over 16 weeks.

January 13 through April 20, 2004

A three unit introductory course on Bucky's Comprehensive Anticipatory Design Science. The course will lead

students through the steps of Bucky's problem solving methodology with a focus on developing an actionable solution to some existing modern problem.

Cost to the public: \$250

To Register or find out more:

<http://www.bfi.org/methodologyClass.html>

Or call or e-mail Lauren Darges at 707-824-2242 or lauren@bfi.org.

In The Skies

Look west as night falls on Dec. 25th for a lovely pairing of brilliant Venus and the crescent moon.

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2003/09dec_sunset.htm?list796433

[back to top](#)

BFI Update

Bucky-Inspired Gifts

Check our out online store for wonderful gifts including modeling toys for ages ranging from 3 and up! Check it out at:

<http://www.bfi.org/search/html>

Special close out sale on Polydron Universal sets.
Regularly \$45.95, now \$19.95!

Explore properties of space by creating geometric and abstract shapes with this colorful, 3-D construction set.

Are you BFI member?

If you enjoyed this e-bulletin, you can say so with a tax-deductible donation. Any amount is welcome and a donation of \$30 or more you automatically become a BFI member and receive such membership benefits as our quarterly newsletter, Trimtab, and product discounts.

Donating is easy! You can do so right now by visiting

<https://www.websitesecured.com/~bfi.org/member.asp> or call us at 707-824-2242.

Have you come across interesting design news? Feel free to forward them so we can consider them for inclusion: info@bfi.org.

To subscribe to this free e-bulletin, send an email to BFI_News-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Past issues of BFI_News are at <http://www.bfi.org/news/ebulletin/index.html>.

PRIVACY STATEMENT: BFI respects your privacy, so we will never share any personal information without your consent.

[back to top](#)

Find:

[Humanity's Option](#) | [About the BFI](#) | [News](#) | [Community & Links](#) | [Glossary](#)
[Who is Buckminster Fuller?](#) | [Home](#) | [Membership](#) | [Store](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Contact Us](#)