

## BUCKMINSTER FULLER INSTITUTE

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**Volume 4, Number 3**

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**

"Either you're going to go along with your mind and the truth, or you're going to yield to fear and custom and conditioned reflexes.

"With our minds alone we can discover those principles we need to employ to convert all humanity to success in a new, harmonious relationship with the universe.

We have the option to make it."

-R. Buckminster Fuller

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**Trends and Perspectives****"Reverse Production" Could Solve E-Waste Problems**

Engineers in Georgia are developing a "reverse production" process that creates the infrastructure to recover and reuse all electronic waste materials.

[http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news\\_third.cfm?NewsID=24107](http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=24107)

(Source: Greenbiz.com)

**How Hydrogen Can Save America**

Oil has held the United States hostage for a century, but the nation can be energy-independent in 10 years. Here's a five-point plan to reshape the economy.

<http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/11.04/hydrogen.html>

(Source: Wired magazine)

**Spatial Relations**

The science of morphing has created a resurgence of geometry-led architecture, writes Peter Forbes [...] The pioneer of this approach was Buckminster Fuller, an evangelist for applying geometry to space-filling structures. He believed the standard approach to space structures - right-angled cubes and rectangular boxes - was wrong. He sought the most efficient use of materials, which meant members in tension rather than great chunks of masonry or metal in compression.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/online/science/story/0,12450,922353,00.html>

(Source: The Guardian)

**Alcohol-Powered Laptops Ahead**

Toshiba has unveiled a prototype fuel cell it hopes will become the power source for laptops in the future. The fuel cell breaks down methanol to generate power and, Toshiba claims, will provide enough juice to run a laptop for about five hours. To get the cell working, the alcohol fuel is provided in small 50cc cartridges. Toshiba hopes to put the fuel cell on sale in early 2004.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/2847679.stm>

(Source: BBC)

**Largest Biodiesel Plant in the U.S. Now Being Assembled in Bakersfield, California**

Green Star Products, Inc. announced that the largest biodiesel plant in the US is now being assembled in Bakersfield, California. The production capacity of this plant is expected to be 35 million gallons per year at full production. This is significant when considering that the entire U.S. production of biodiesel in 2002 was only 15 million gallons.

<http://www.ewire-news.com/wires/4675EE51-7F0D-4CBC-8E15CEDA6BB59EDE.htm>

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**Resources****Buckminster Fuller Archive Online at Stanford**

Two more sections of the Buckminster Fuller Archives have been put online.

Series 14: Non-LECO Photographs consisting of six sub-series: Travel, Fuller Family and Friends, Artifacts, Chronological, Extra Licensing Photographs, and Unidentified Photographs.

Series 19: Artifacts consists of three sub-series: Geometric Models (126 mostly with pictures), Architectural Models, and Miscellaneous Models.

<http://dynaweb.oac.cdlib.org/dynaweb/ead/stanford/mss/m1090/>  
(via the Geodesic Listserve)

### The Cosmos is the Classroom

How do you teach young kids the wonders of physics? That old story about an apple hitting some guy on the head 300 years ago doesn't work anymore. Teachers need something more attention-getting ... like black holes and supernova explosions. At an upcoming NASA-sponsored workshop, science teachers will learn to use real data from the Chandra X-ray Observatory to inspire students in their own classrooms. If you're a teacher and you wish to participate, it's not too late to apply.

[http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2003/04mar\\_xrayteachers.htm?list796433](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2003/04mar_xrayteachers.htm?list796433)

### Environmental Investors Network

Environmental Investors Network is the Internet's first (and possibly only) socially responsible investment search engine. Its portal profiles private and public companies, which have environmental or other socially responsible technologies, products or services and mutual funds with SRI holdings, which benefit the planet and Mankind and disseminates late-breaking socially responsible news releases.

<http://www.environmentalinvestors.com/about.htm>

### Fueleconomy.gov

All the fuel-efficiency information you were looking for but didn't know where to find.

[http://www.greenbiz.com/reference/webguide\\_record.cfm?LinkAdvID=25123](http://www.greenbiz.com/reference/webguide_record.cfm?LinkAdvID=25123)

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## Events

### Explorations in the Geometry of Thinking

Friday, April 25, 8pm-Midnight

Paula Cooper Gallery, New York

4 hours of continuous performance by S.E.M. Ensemble

Music: Petr Kotik

Text: R. Buckminster Fuller

"Explorations in the Geometry of Thinking", a composition of texts by R. Buckminster Fuller for voices, will be performed simultaneously with Chamber Music for winds and strings.

Reservations & Information: (718) 488-7659; [pksem@aol.com](mailto:pksem@aol.com)

The History and Mystery Still Showing in San Francisco

The Buckminster Fuller one-man show "The History (and Mystery) of the Universe" is still playing in San Francisco to enthusiastic audiences!

Check our special play pages for more information:

[http://www.bfi.org/history\\_mystery.htm](http://www.bfi.org/history_mystery.htm)

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## BFI Update

SPECIAL ITEMS FROM OUR WEB STORE:

### NEW! Spaceship Earth "Crewmember" T-shirts

BFI's online store now offers t-shirts! The back of the organic cotton shirts features the Fuller Projection Satellite map in full color; the front shows a "Crewmember" insignia on the upper left. Printed using environmentally-friendly ink.

[http://www.bfi.org/cgi-bin/shop/search.cgi?f=result\\_category.html&category=CATShirts&perpage=10&sortby=none](http://www.bfi.org/cgi-bin/shop/search.cgi?f=result_category.html&category=CATShirts&perpage=10&sortby=none)

### Polydron Universal Sets—Special Sale

20% off Polydron Universal sets!

Build tetrahedrons, octahedrons, icosahedrons, dodecahedrons and more with this 3-D construction set! (Ages 3-100).

Buy them for \$36.75 (regular \$45.95)—members still received an additional 10% off.

[http://www.bfi.org/cgi-bin/shop/search.cgi?f=result\\_category.html&category=CATModels\\_And\\_Toys&perpage=10&sortby=none](http://www.bfi.org/cgi-bin/shop/search.cgi?f=result_category.html&category=CATModels_And_Toys&perpage=10&sortby=none)

If you would like to receive an email when the map is ready, please email [lauren@bfi.org](mailto: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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