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Volume 4, Number 7

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

"Upon the premise that the sum-total of human desire to survive is dominant over the sum-total of the impulse to destroy, this book is designed."

- R. Buckminster Fuller
 Introduction to "Nine Chains to the Moon"

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Trends and Perspectives

Material Eases Hydrogen Storage

The discovery of a new class of materials, dubbed metal-organic frameworks, that are simple, inexpensive to manufacture and have the potential to successfully store and contain hydrogen, could remove the principal stumbling block to hydrogen-powered cars. The materials also take up and give up hydrogen more easily than current hydrogen storage systems, which chemically bind powdered metal hydrides to hydrogen at high temperatures.

http://www.technologyreview.com/articles/rnb_052003_2.asp

(Source: Technology Review)

Britain Plans Major Expansion of Wind Power

Britain announced a major new commitment to wind power this month, opening the way for enormous offshore turbine fields that the government said could eventually power up to one in six house-holds. The announcement was a major step forward toward Britain's goal of getting 10 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2010, part of Prime Minister Tony Blair's plan to confront the threat of global warming.

http://www.enn.com/news/2003-07-15/s_6554.asp

(Source: Environmental News Network)

The Air Car

Guy Negre has developed an engine capable of propelling a car up to 110 Kilometer/hour that can cover a distance of 300 kilometers with one tank refill and a cost of less than a cent per kilometer. The compressed-air engine will provide "zero pollution".

<http://www.theaircar.com/>

(Source: Motor Development International Report)

U.N. Global Compact Reaches Milestone

More than 1,000 companies from around the world are now participating in this ambitious initiative, working

with international labor, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to advance nine principles in the areas of human rights, labor, and the environment.

http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=25196

(Source: Greenbiz.com)

Microbe Eats Industrial Chemical That Can Linger In Soil For Centuries

Scientists have identified a microbe that gobbles up toxic waste deep underground, offering a potential way to clean up a particularly nasty chemical— vinyl chloride—that has contaminated the water underneath hundreds of the nation's industrial and military sites.

http://www.enn.com/news/2003-07-03/s_6156.asp

(Source: Environmental News Network)

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Resources

Air Travel Calculator

Calculate the CO2 emissions from your next business trip. Results are given in tons, along with an estimation of the total cost (in British pounds).

http://www.greenbiz.com/reference/webguide_record.cfm?LinkAdvID=42633

Green Power Analysis Tool

The World Resources Institute (WRI) has developed a free tool to help corporate energy, environment and facility managers make decisions about green power. The Green Power Analysis Tool is an Excel-based set of spreadsheets, that enables managers to calculate reduced emissions of carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide associated with different green power projects and the cost of achieving them.

<http://sustainablebusinessupdate.c.tcl.net/maabbD9aaYIXIa4j959c/>

Redesigning Society

By Russell L. Ackoff and Sheldon Rovin

Health care, education, welfare, law - the perceived success or failure of these social institutions is constantly being debated in the public arena. In this book, Ackoff and Rovin join the discussion, using systems theory to develop new approaches to governance, the structure and function of our cities, and civic leadership in general.

Stanford University Press (July 2003), 192 pages ISBN: 0804747946 \$24.95

http://www.sup.org/cqi-bin/search/book_desc.cgi?book_id=4794

climateprediction.net

The climateprediction.net experiment has been developed to allow a state-of-the-art climate prediction model to be run on home/ school/ work computers. By getting data from thousands of climate models, we will generate the world's largest climate prediction experiment.

<http://www.climateprediction.net/index.php>

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Events

Join us for our Buckminster Fuller Institute Monthly Event:

Video screening: "Ecological Design: Inventing the Future"

Monday, August 11, 2003, 7-9 PM

Sebastopol Open Space Project

400 Morris Avenue, Suite E, Sebastopol, CA

\$5 -20 sliding scale

About the film:

"Ecological Design: Inventing the Future" by Chris Zelov illuminates the emergence of ecological design in the 20th century. Beginning with the work of Buckminster Fuller from the 1920's through the 1960's, continuing through the counter-culture and ending on the doorstep of the 21st century, this video follows the evolution of ecological design from the early visions of a few independent thinkers to the powerful movement it has become today.

Visit <http://www.bfi.org> for location details and a map or call 707-824 2242.

One-Man Show About Fuller Closing In San Francisco

R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE, based on the life and writings of the visionary thinker-inventor-philosopher Buckminster Fuller, announced today that the show will end its highly successful run at Project Artaud Theater on August 24. Currently the longest running play of the season, the show has been seen by more than 100,000 people between its initial incarnation in San Diego, and the Foghouse.com productions in Chicago, Seattle and San Francisco.

Tickets are still available for Thurs-Sun performances until the end of the run. Visit the Foghouse web site at <http://www.foghouse.com> for ticket and location details.

SolFest 2003

August 23-24, 2003

Hopland, CA

SolFest 2003 is slated for August 23rd and 24th at the 12-acre Real Goods Solar Living Center in Hopland. Experience first hand the latest renewable energy technologies and healthy lifestyle practices. SolFest is a family affair with more programs and workshops for children added each year.

<http://www.solarliving.org/solfest2003.cfm>

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BFI Update

You Can Still Take Advantage of Our \$20,000 Board Challenge Grant!

You can donate now to this fund or renew your membership and have your dollars matched by our Board Challenge Grant.

This is a great way to double the impact of your support to the Institute, be it \$15, \$50 or \$500! Thanks so much to all of you who have already participated.

<https://www.websitesecured.com/%7Ebfi.org/responseDonate.asp>

Remember, when you give \$100 or more, you will receive one of our organic cotton Spaceship Earth Crewmember T-shirts.

BFI August Event

Join us for our August 11th video screening of "Ecological Design" in Sebastopol. See details above under Events listings.

New Products in the BFI Store

We have added two new products to our selection of educational materials in our online store:

***Integrity Day CD – \$25 (members: \$22.50)**

In 1983 Buckminster Fuller gave a series of four all-day lectures entitled Integrity Day. In this program Fuller reviews: his assessment of the most pressing problems facing humanity, global strategies for successfully meeting these challenges, and the conclusions reached from his 56-year experiment to see what the little individual can do to participate in steering the course of Spaceship Earth. This 5-hour audio program on 5 CDs is a record of these events. Item #260

***Guinea Pig "B", by R. Buckminster Fuller - \$10 (member: \$9)**

This 50-page book is about Fuller's 56-year experiment about what one individual can accomplish for the benefit of all of humanity. It is a stand-alone reprint of an essay by Fuller, which previously appeared as the introduction to the book "Inventions, The Patented Works of R. Buckminster Fuller" and in "Buckminster Fuller,

Anthology for the New Millennium."
Item #157

You can order these products through our online store at <http://www.bfi.org>.

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>.

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