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Volume 5, Number 1

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

"If a DNA-RNA genetic code programs the design of roses, elephants and bees, we will have to ask ourselves what intellect designed the DNA-RNA code as well as the atoms and molecules which implement the coded programs."

- R. Buckminster Fuller

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Trends and Perspectives

2004: Year of the Green Machine

Sales of hybrid vehicles are expected to take off in the coming year, with Toyota and Honda leading the way -- and U.S. carmakers are finally getting into the act.

http://go.hotwired.com/news/autotech/0,2554,61645,00.html/wn_ascii

(Source: Wired News)

Shell To Build Largest Solar Power Station

Shell Solar and Gesellschaft für Solarenergie (GEOSOL) have announced that they are to build the largest solar power station in the world, south of Leipzig in Germany. The free-standing array will comprise 33,500 solar modules with a total output of 5 megawatts. The solar power station is due on stream in July 2004.

<http://www.e4engineering.com/item.asp?nid=t2fzl&id=50998>

(Source: e4engineering.com)

Chemists Grow Nano Menagerie

Researchers from Sandia National Laboratories have found a simple way to make tiny, complicated shapes from zinc oxide, including arrays of vertically aligned rods, flat disks, and columns that resemble stacks of coins. The nanostructures could be used in many ways, including microelectronics, chemical and biological sensing, energy conversion and storage, light-emitting displays, and drug delivery.

http://www.technologyreview.com/articles/rnb_122403.asp
<http://www.uptilt.com/c.html?rtr=on&s=5fo,4nk6,4rw,a4ur,8b1x,lus5,g12h>

(Source: MIT Technology Review)

There's Electricity In The Air

The world's first hydrogen powered aircraft hopes to start taxi testing in January. The Electric Airplane, or

Eplane, is being developed around an all-carbon French-built DynAero Lafayette III, which will be powered by an advanced electric motor. There will be three flight development stages. In its final form, it will fly solely on the power of a fuel cell and have a 500-mile range, with emergency assist from reserve batteries.

<http://www.aviationtomorrow.com/nuke/index.php>

(Source: Aviation Tomorrow/Arlington Institute)

Free Software to Aid Poor Doctors

Free software developed to care for US Vietnam War vets could help provide better healthcare in poor countries. A group of open source evangelists are looking to take the program called Vista beyond the borders of the US. They say hospitals could save money by using the free software, as well as potentially saving patients' lives.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/3331739.stm>

(Source: BBC)

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Resources

Global Inc.: An Atlas of the Multinational Corporation

by Medard Gabel and Henry Bruner

New York: The New Press, 2003, 176 pages.

The product of several years of collaborative research by leading historians and geographers, Global, Inc. is the first book to examine multinational corporations from a truly global perspective and in atlas format. Impartial, accessible, and endlessly engrossing, Global, Inc. offers a penetrating look at one of the most powerful phenomena on the planet in the twenty-first century.

Book review at: <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=2797>

Communication Networks Expand

This report by the Worldwatch Institute highlights a number of interesting findings related to bridging the digital divide, including the very important role played by mobile phones.

http://www.worldwatch.org/brain/media/pdf/pubs/vs/2003_networks.pdf

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

Handbook of Sustainability Research

This authoritative publication will offer a one-stop information source on leading sustainability research projects and initiatives and it is hoped to both support on-going research efforts and stimulate new ones. It will address a long-perceived need for a source of reference for top quality research on sustainability. Part of the publication will be devoted to research on education for sustainable development, thus providing a contribution to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Deadline for submissions of expressions of interest with abstracts:

February 28th.

<http://www.projekte.org/handbook/>

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Events

Nanotechnology Exhibit

December 14, 2003 - September 6, 2004

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

A new Nano exhibit recently opened at Los Angeles County Museum of Art's Boone Children's Gallery. The

entire exhibit exudes geodesic structure, and there are wonderful evolutions of Bucky's ideas evident everywhere, including several quotations on the walls.

BFI Board member, Neal Katz, commented: "It is truly remarkable. I walked around with my mouth open, I learned, I had fun, and I watched people of all ages doing the same."

<http://nano.arts.ucla.edu/index2.php>

Ethics In Place:

Architecture, Memory and Environmental Poetics

February 5th-6th, 2004

Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ

An interdisciplinary symposium on architecture as a vehicle for public memory, environmental stewardship, communal poetics and ethical reflection.

<http://www.ethicsinplace.org>

Registration Free.

Greening the Heartland 2004: Beyond Sustainability

March 10th -12th, 2004

Columbia, Missouri

Greening the Heartland 2004 is setting the stage as the region's leading green building and sustainability conference. It will include keynote sessions delivered from the nation's foremost sustainability thought leaders and a broad spectrum of concurrent sessions addressing key sustainability components that must be advanced as we continue our journey to a sustainable future.

<http://www.mogreen.org/>

Cosmic Fishing: Exploring Buckminster Fuller's Synergetics

March 20th -21th, 2004

George Washington University

Confirmed Speakers:

Ed Applewhite

Joe Clinton

Marvin Solit

<http://snec.cjfeanley.com/>

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BFI Update

BFI'S Board Challenge Grant a Resounding Success!

We exceeded our goal by \$25,974 and raised \$45,974. Combined with the Board's initial Challenge of \$20,000 our campaign totaled: \$65,974.

Thank you to all who responded to the call to meet the Board's Challenge. You did it!

We are extremely inspired by the outpouring of support—it clearly demonstrates to us the dramatic potential at hand for catalyzing the Design Science Revolution. Your generous enthusiasm for our New Initiatives allows us to accelerate our plans to provide the BFI member Network with a suite of new on-line tools enabling you to connect, conduct research, and publish your work and ideas. Our plans for a complete overhaul of BFI.org are underway! Look for invitations to participate in the coming months!

Together we can make a real difference and catalyze awareness and action toward humanity's option for success! Thank you for your support!

[BFI New Initiatives](#)

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.websiteseured.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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