

Products

by Dave Holbrook

Extra-Wide Entry

Piano movers will be moved to worship if they encounter the operable *Peachtree P+L entry door system*. Both the door panel (P) and



one sidelight (L) open, increasing the standard entry width by up to 14 inches. The 3-foot by 6-foot-8-inch entry door is available in three combinations: inswing or outswing with one 14-inch-wide sidelight, inswing only with two 12-inch sidelights, and inswing with two 14-inch sidelights. The prehung entry system can be ordered in steel or fiberglass, prices vary.

Contact: Peachtree Doors and Windows, 4150 Blue Ridge Industrial Pkwy., Norcross, GA 30071; 800/732-2499; www.peach99.com.

Self-Stick Roofing

Even though roll roofing is simple and cheap to install, that black blind nailing cement has a mysterious tendency to get on every tool, surface, and installer in sight. Peel-and-stick *QuickRoll Low Slope Roofing* can be installed over unprimed roof deck slopes between 1/2:12 and 3:12 without all the mess of conventional cap sheet. Available in white or black granulated surfaces, a roll of the asphalt-saturated fiberglass mat covers 47 square feet and costs about \$50.

Contact: Owens Corning, One Owens Corning Pkwy., Toledo, OH 43659; 800/438-7465; www.owenscorning.com.



Circuit Sniffer

Instead of bellowing from the basement to a helper on the second floor, identify electrical circuits single-handedly using a *Model CBI-1* circuit breaker identifier. Plug the sender module into the outlet in question, then find its corresponding breaker by passing the receiver over the circuit panel. An audible signal emits when you scan the right breaker. The \$49 tool helps eliminate breaker misidentification. Don't worry, you can still shock the help: Give them a raise.

Contact: AEMC Instruments, 99 Chauncy St., Boston, MA 02111; 800/343-1391; www.aemc.com.



Secure Stud Socket

Build an OSHA-compliant guardrail quickly, using the high-impact polymer *Safety Boot*. The reusable heavy-duty base can be anchored to wood or concrete, and secures a pair of 2x4 wood uprights. Four-way toeboard slots provide drop-in security at the base. Fasten the railings and go to it in a safer environment. The boots cost \$21.95 apiece.

Contact: Safety Maker, P.O. Box 842014, Houston, TX 77284; 800/804-4741; www.safetyboot.com.





Fine Fenestration

A lot of contemporary window frames offer not much more than a 1-inch-wide profile, adding little or nothing in the way of architectural style. Side casings and a window crosshead from the *Style-Mark Window Trim* line of products can convert a hole in the wall into a stylistic statement. One-piece units up to 144 inches long can be combined for even greater spans, using a decorative keystone in the center to mask the seam. The crosshead components are made of lightweight, high-density urethane that can be cut, fastened, and painted as easily as wood, but with superior resistance to splintering, water absorption, decay, and insect infestation. Prices vary.

Contact: Style-Mark, 960 W. Barre Rd., Archbold, OH 43502; 800/446-3040; www.style-mark.com.

Residential Fire Suppression

In spite of statistics showing a radical reduction in fire-related deaths when a sprinkler system teams up with a smoke detector, residential installations are unusual because of the high cost. The newly patented *Wirsbo Combination Sprinkler System* aims to change that with a four-port stainless steel fitting that links 1/2-inch Aquapex tubing to a manifold in the cold water fixture supply. The interconnected grid prevents sprinkler port failure from water stagnation, and becomes an affordable extension of a standard plumbing rough-in. Currently on trial in selected areas, product introduction will be expanded in 2001. The system is projected to add between 70¢ and \$1 to the square foot cost of a home. *Contact:* Wirsbo, 5925 148th St. West, Apple Valley, MN 55124; 800/321-4739; www.wirsbo.com.



Bed Roll

Access the contents of your truck bed without climbing in or reaching from the sides. The *Extendo Bed* roller-ized cargo platform extends like a big file-cabinet drawer, 100% clear of the bed. Capable of supporting loads up to 1,200 pounds, the all-steel frame assembly has stop-positions at 12-inch intervals, and can be securely locked in place when not in use. Especially handy for trucks with rail-mounted boxes or utility caps, the roll-out platform is available in lengths from 3- to 8 1/2-feet in 6-inch increments to fit all kinds of trucks and vans. Prices start at \$798, according to size and options.

Contact: Extendo Bed Company, 11252 Executive Dr., Suite F, Boise, ID 83713; 800/752-0706; www.extendobed.com.



Prêt-à-Portico

Think hard before you build those square wood columns: They've got to be kept dry and ventilated to prevent seam movement, peeling paint, and rot. Extruded smooth, panel, or fluted *Superior Aluminum Square Columns* come in four standard colors plus a primed finish, run from 8 to 30 feet

long, and can support a 15,000-pound load. Optional caps and bases provide the finishing touch. Light enough to be handled by one person, the columns are available in sizes 4 to 16 inches square. An 8-inch-square, 12-foot-high column lists for \$210, including cap and base.

Contact: Superior Aluminum Products, 555 E. Main St., Russia, OH 45363; 937/526-4065; www.superioraluminum.com.



Rung Redeemer

I think Archimedes said, "Give me a ladder and a place to stand, and I'll move the world." Okay, maybe I got it a little wrong, but if you stand on the rungs of a ladder for any length of time, you may notice a high degree of foot and leg discomfort. The *Comfort Step* ladder platform, made of heavy-duty aluminum, simply hangs on two rungs and provides full-foot support for greater freedom of upper-body motion. The fatigue-reducing platform costs \$70.

Contact: Current Products, 502 W. Main St., Albion, NE 68620; 800/367-0486.

