

BY CHARLES WARDELL



Single-Layer Barrier

AP Foil-Faced Polyiso Sheathing board recently earned ICC approval as an air- and water-resistant barrier. A 1-inch layer, the board has a reflective foil face on one side and a non-reflective face on the other. It offers an R-value of 6.5 per inch and is Energy Star certified. Cost: \$12 to \$15 for a 4x8 board. Johns Manville, 800.654.3103, specjm.com



Tool-Free Adjustment

Adjusting the weight on a kitchen pull-out faucet can be tricky. To simplify the task, Danze is outfitting all of its pull-outs with a new “Neo Retraction” weight system that can be adjusted without tools and will be available this year. The company’s Parma Trim Line faucets start at \$377 in chrome. Danze, 888.328.2383, danze.com



Quiet Treads

Weyerhaeuser’s 1-inch thick, bullnose SturdiStep OSB stair treads are manufactured flat, straight, and knot-free, with a low moisture content. The material is field-trimmable and comes in 12- and 16-foot lengths and 11½- or 10¼-inch widths. Prices range from \$1.80 to \$2.20 per linear foot. Weyerhaeuser, 888.453.8358, woodbywy.com



Four-Door Fridge

Dacor’s Distinctive model 36-inch refrigerator features French doors on the freezer compartment with internal drawers. Special lighting reportedly helps keep food fresh. The refrigerator offers rapid cooling and quick-freeze capabilities, humidity-controlled shelves, and 22 cubic feet of storage. Priced at \$2,999. Dacor, 800.793.0093, dacor.com

Products



Storm-Proof Entry

The Coastal Solutions Entry Door has impact glass and multi-point locking hardware. A stepped wood sill sheds water, with the base of the storm door at the bottom step and that of the main door at the top step. There's also a weatherstripped drip cap at the base of the main door, and separate jamb weatherstripping for the main and storm doors. Prices start at around \$3,500. Upstate Door, 585.786.0341, upstatedoor.com



Marine-Grade Protection

Cover Guard floor protection has long been used in the marine industry to safeguard vessel decks during repair work. It's flame retardant and impermeable to water, and its diamond-plate-pattern surface is slip-resistant. It comes in 3-foot- and 6-foot-wide rolls, in thicknesses ranging from 10 mil to 40 mil. Cost is \$85 for a 100-square-foot roll, 10 mil thick. Rolls are reusable. Bainbridge International, 800.442.5684, coverguard.com



More Contemporary Doors

Door manufacturers say that modern-style doors are among their hottest sellers. In response, Marvin has expanded its contemporary window and door offerings. These include doors with a minimalist look that feature narrower stiles and rails, as well as more glass. One example is the Ultimate Swinging Door shown in the photo. Expect to pay \$1,750 to \$1,900. Marvin Windows and Doors, 888.537.7828, marvin.com



Clean Tech

The Saros single-lever kitchen faucet's self-cleaning technology keeps the spout free of mineral deposits. The outlets in the face plate are made from a soft, resilient material that expands to keep deposits from accumulating. The face plate can also be unscrewed, cleaned, and reinserted without the need for tools. Cost: \$675 for chrome; \$877 for stainless steel. KWC America, 678.334.2121, kwc.us.com

Products



Trimnable Shear Panel

Strong-Wall SB is a wood shear panel for large openings made from Timberstrand LSL. It can be trimmed on site by the installer. Panels are available in 12-inch, 18-inch, and 24-inch widths and in heights from 7 feet to 13 feet; there's also a 20-footer. Official pricing was not available at press time, but a 12-inch-wide panel should sell for around \$300. Simpson Strong-Tie, 800.999.5099, strongtie.com



Decorative Vinyl

Painted fish-scale shakes add a nice touch to an exterior, but scraping and repainting them can be a nightmare. Enter the Foundry Specialty Siding Shapes Collection of vinyl siding. Available in 10 standard colors, the faces are molded with a cedar texture, grain pattern, and saw-mark details. Additional colors are available as a special order. Cost is around \$275 per square. Tapco, 800.771.4486, thetapcogroup.com



Paperless Tape

FibaFuse Paperless Drywall Tape absorbs and fuses with the joint compound. It's applied like paper tape but won't stretch when wet, resists mold, and isn't prone to bubbling. A center fold makes it easy to apply to inside corners, but use a corner knife to smooth the corner, as a standard knife can gouge the tape at the fold. Cost: \$5 for a 250-foot roll. Saint Gobain Adfors America, 800.762.6694, sg-adfors.com



Shingle by Numbers

The Ecoshel smart shingle system consists of 45-inch-long panels of No. 1 vertical grain western red cedar shingles joined together with PVC clips. A numbering system on the panels provides a guide for vertical joints on adjacent courses to be automatically offset. A 1/10-inch-thick polyethylene bead on the back qualifies as a LEED-spec rainscreen. MSRP is \$300 to \$550 per square. Ecoshel, 207.274.3508, ecoshel.com