

Toolbits | by Tom O'Brien

Safer Fishing. *Volt-Guard* is a $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch-diameter fiberglass fish tape designed to be used around live circuits. It's nonconductive to 1,000 volts and has an elliptical shape that gives it more pushing power than other nonconductive tapes, says the maker. It comes in a 12-inch-diameter plastic case and has a fiberglass eyelet on the end. Two lengths are available: 60 feet (\$110) and 120 feet (\$130).

Ideal Industries, 800/435-0705, idealindustries.com.



Tool Tether. The *Gear Keeper Retractable Lanyard* (model RT4-5601) features a rotating belt clip and a 36-inch tether that's suitable for tools weighing up to a pound. (A beefier model for 2-pound tools is also available.) Prices range from \$27 to \$35. Separate connectors that allow users to swap out individual tools cost \$5.

Hammerhead Industries, 805/658-9922, gearkeeper.com.



Floor Saver. According to the maker, *FlexBoard* does as good a job of protecting finished floors as hardboard does, but it's a lot easier to handle and store. The 45-mil-thick product is water-resistant, nonstaining, and vapor-permeable, and it's made from recycled materials. It can be laid over vinyl, laminate, wood, concrete, stone, marble, and tile; after a job it can be reused or recycled. A 32-inch-by-50-foot roll costs \$30, a 100-foot roll \$50.

Protective Products International, 800/789-6633, protectiveproducts.com.



Versatile Torpedo. With the new *DWHT43003*, DeWalt has given the lowly torpedo level a significant upgrade. The tool has an extruded aluminum body with machined edges, and solid block vials that are guaranteed accurate to within 0.0005 inch/inch. One edge is V-grooved and fitted with magnets for work with metal and pipes. Other improvements include a magnified center vial and a rotating end vial with an angle scale on one side and a roof-pitch scale on the other. The level costs about \$25.

DeWalt Industrial Tool Co., 800/433-9258, dewalt.com.

For more information about these products, go to <http://jlc.hotims.com>.