

DESIGN KEYS

breakthroughs & trends in  
building green

Actual cork is interwoven into the fabric.



**CORK FABRIC POPS**

To produce durable cork fabric, **Beaufurn** uses thin cork shavings from the outer bark of the hand-peeled cork oak tree. The fabric comes with a 100% cotton backing. Applications include upholstery, wallcoverings, tabletops, and decorative accessories. The natural cork fabric uses water-based soil and liquid repellent to prevent the absorption of dust, dirt and grease. Visit [www.beaufurn.com](http://www.beaufurn.com) or **Circle 484**



**CONTROLLED DAYLIGHT**

**Solatube Intl.** has introduced the 750 DS Daylighting System, with a 21-in. diameter intended for commercial applications. The unit's large effective daylight capture surface is paired with an insulating inner dome and catches low-angle sunlight during winter, as well as early-morning and late-afternoon light in spring and fall. The design rejects high-intensity sunlight in summer months, along with corresponding heat gain. Visit [www.redefinedaylighting.com](http://www.redefinedaylighting.com) or **Circle 483**

**ARRAY OF COLORS**

Adding color effects to **Schott's** energy-efficient glass, **NARIIMA** produces variable hues, based upon the amount of sunlight, viewing angle and background. Available in three standard types—blue/gold, blue/green, and green—the coated glass is a great aesthetic tool for the architect's toolbox. Visit [www.us.schott.com](http://www.us.schott.com) or **Circle 482**

NEW GREEN ORGANIZATIONS

**SUSTAINABILITY'S BLEEDING EDGE**

Once upon a time, architects were applauded for designing buildings that simply exceeded California's stringent energy code or met the certification levels of the U.S. Green Building Council and its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. Now, a range of issues—from embodied energy to exterior light pollution—have become a part of the mix for proactive designers seeking to reduce their buildings' environmental impacts. As a result, new organizations have arisen to try to put a handle on these issues. Developers of these bleeding-edge programs, however, don't see themselves as competitors to LEED—in fact, most are USGBC members and have developed cross-organizational relationships with that group. Following is a thumbnail of three leading new organizations:

**CRADLE-TO-CRADLE.** Developed by William McDonough, along with German chemist Michael Braungart, this certification program pushes manufacturers to develop products designed for maximum "material reutilization." One eventual goal of this ambitious effort is to eliminate the concept of waste forever.

**2030 CHALLENGE.** Led by Architecture 2030, a Santa Fe, N.M.-based group founded by architect Edward Mazria, this effort seeks to ensure that all new buildings are carbon-neutral—that is, they use no fossil fuel or greenhouse-gas-emitting energy—by the year 2030. This program is directed to architectural firms and their clients and has gained the backing of several big-city mayors, along with AIA, USGBC, the EPA and the National Wildlife Federation.

**LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE.** Perhaps the most ambitious of current environmental-building targets, this effort, led by the Cascadia Region Green Building Council, seeks to transform current thinking regarding building-performance potentials. The end goal is to create buildings that generate all their own energy with renewable resources, capture and treat all of the water used in their operation and use resources efficiently and for maximum beauty.

WEB RESOURCES:

- Cradle to Cradle: [www.c2ccertified.com](http://www.c2ccertified.com)
- 2030 Challenge: [www.architecture2030.org](http://www.architecture2030.org)
- Living Building Challenge: [www.cascadiagbc.org/lbc](http://www.cascadiagbc.org/lbc)