

# ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

## BAY WATCH

New Projects  
for San Francisco,  
Oakland, and Berkeley

**SPECIAL FEATURE**

Housing Around the Bay

# Products Briefs

▼ **Secret skyline** In order to camouflage the mechanical equipment and exhaust vents of a residential rooftop in Chicago, Scrafano Architects, with the help of McNichols Designer Metals, created a series of sculptural, framed-stainless-steel wire-mesh panels in varying heights, widths, and textures scaled to replicate the skyline in the distance. The mesh material provides sufficient openings to circulate exhaust, yet is solid enough to obscure the equipment. McNichols, Tampa. [www.mcnichols.com](http://www.mcnichols.com)

CIRCLE 225



▲ **Spatial butterfly** To create a vivid butterfly mosaic design for the pool at Gallery Plaza – a mixed-use development in San Juan, Puerto Rico, designed by LRA Architects – Trend USA used proprietary CAD-software programs to carefully cover about 5,600 square feet of the pool (including the wall, floor, and stairs) with 1/4"-square mosaics. The software assigns each square with a color code at an exact position, which is then produced into a real mosaic composition. Trend USA, Miami. [www.trendgroup-usa.com](http://www.trendgroup-usa.com)

CIRCLE 231



▲ **Easier BIPV system** EnergyPeak's integrated-systems approach standardizes the use of building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV) for standing-seam applications, making the specification of a solar roofing system easier and more affordable. Formed by Centria in partnership with Uni-Solar, EnergyPeak offers BIPV laminates that can be applied at the roofing manufacturer's plant, reducing installation cost and time. A ROI calculator determines expected power production and 25-year cash flow information. EnergyPeak, Moon Township, Pa. [www.energypeak.com](http://www.energypeak.com)

CIRCLE 228



◀ **Ceiling first** Armstrong offers a broad portfolio of wood ceilings that are FSC-certified, contain no added urea formaldehyde, and have a Class A fire rating, according to the manufacturer. The WoodWorks panels also have a 92 percent preconsumer recycled content and are California Air Resources Board Phase 1 compliant. WoodWorks ceilings are offered in a variety of veneers, including Maple, Light Cherry, Dark Cherry, and rapidly renewable Bamboo. Armstrong World Industries, Lancaster, Pa. [www.armstrong.com/woodworks](http://www.armstrong.com/woodworks)



▲ **A huge fan** The new 12' diameter Element industrial-grade ceiling fan is designed specifically for air-conditioned spaces. By using Element as the first method of cooling, the startup of the HVAC system can be delayed several weeks in mild climates, reducing operational costs. The patented airfoil and winglets help move air silently and efficiently over large spaces, which can reduce the amount of ductwork required and lower overall energy consumption. Big Ass Fans, Lexington, Ky. [www.bigassfans.com](http://www.bigassfans.com)

CIRCLE 230

► **Well-dressed wall** Menswear design brand Joseph Abboud collaborated with Versa Wallcovering to create Abboud's first line of commercial wall coverings. The 14-pattern collection is inspired by Joseph Abboud's roots in menswear, incorporating textures resembling nubby linens, brushed silks, and burned suedes, and designs influenced by paisleys, damasks, and weathered materials. Made of Type II, 20-ounce vinyl, the collection features deeply embossed 3D textures and 20 percent recycled content reclaimed and recycled through Versa's Second-Look program. Versa, Louisville. [www.versawallcovering.com](http://www.versawallcovering.com)



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