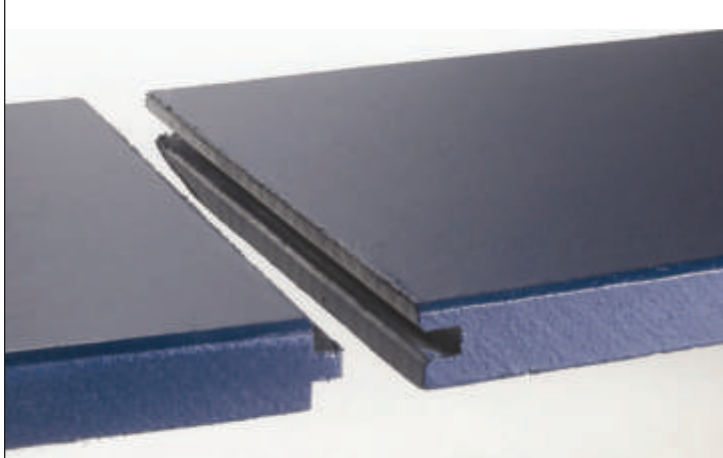


PRODUCTS

PRODUCTS AND TOOLS EVERY BUILDER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ■ EDITED BY NIGEL F. MAYNARD



LAP OF LUXURY: Artisan Lap fiber-cement siding has deep shadow lines for the look of cedar and is manufactured with what its maker calls DuraTech technology for structural integrity. Designed for the luxury market, the product measures $\frac{5}{8}$ inches thick and has tongue-and-groove end joints for a tight fit. Boards measure 12 feet long and come in three widths. ■ James Hardie Building Products. 888-800-7864. www.artisanluxury.com. Circle no. 108. Booth no. W1370.

JET SET: JetStream is a virtually invisible wireless lighting-control system that is fully expandable and can be integrated with other automation products such as entertainment and security equipment. The “out-of-the-box” system allows keypads to broadcast directly to each other without a master controller. JetStream dimmers and keypads replace existing light switches. ■ Centralite Systems. 877-466-5483. www.centralite.com. Circle no. 109. Booth no. W3853.



Show Motion

The housing market may be rough, but manufacturer innovation burns bright.

THINGS MAY NOT BE AS ROSY FOR THE home building industry as they were, say, two years ago, but the show must go on. Of course, by “show” we mean the International Builders’ Show, which is taking place this year for the last time (for a while) in the land that Mickey Mouse built—Orlando, Fla. From there, it moves to Las Vegas for two years. The show, as always, will have much to offer, which proves that manufacturers are busy even if home buyers aren’t.

Mission Viejo, Calif.-based James Hardie, for example, has produced a fiber-cement siding for the luxury market that is thicker than Hardie’s regular product and has a tongue-and-groove edge.

Mobile, Ala.-based Centralite Systems is offering an affordable alternative to whole-house lighting control with its JetStream

wireless system. All a builder needs to do is replace existing rockers with the company’s dimmers and keypads and the system does all the work.

In another effort to save builders money, Atlanta-based Georgia-Pacific and Quiet Solutions in Sunnyvale, Calif., have teamed up to produce wallboard that is paperless and soundproof. The companies claim that a single layer of the panel on a single wood stud wall reduces noise by 75 percent and is cheaper than alternative soundproofing methods.

These products show that manufacturers are working hard to solve problems and save you money. And the show is a good time to familiarize yourself with the fruits of those efforts. Read on for more new products being introduced at the show. **B** *(see page 108)*

BARN STORM: When a sliding pocket door is not suitable, 2610F wall-mount sliding door hardware offers another option. The hardware is surface-mounted outside the wall and is ideal for those applications when a swinging door or a pocket door isn’t feasible. No close fitting is required, and the hardware can be readily adapted for particular installations. ■ L. E. Johnson Products. 800-837-5664. www.johnsonhardware.com. Circle no. 110. Booth no. W5295.



UPlink

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