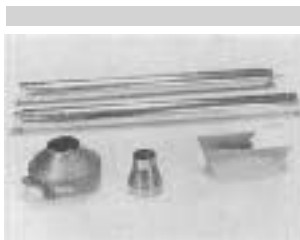


*NEB's pick
of curious,
interesting
and useful
products.*

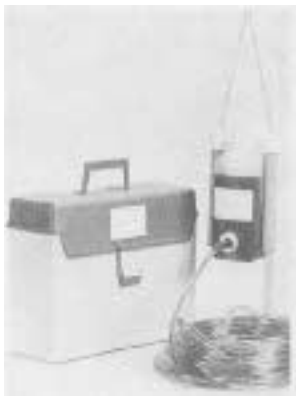
Radon Relief

by Kate O'Brien



Improves air quality while it mitigates radon. Current Indoor Air System Model #300 is the product of over 15 years of research by industrial engineer Hoyt Mitchell. The system uses concentric piping, outdoor wind, and a low-power fan to produce a positive pressure barrier in the basement or ground floor of a radon-impacted home. Pictured above are the components: one rotating wind scoop; two 5-foot sections of air-to-air heat exchanger, one variable-speed fan (Kanalflakt, 270 cfm); and one 6-inch pipe reducer. According to the manufacturer, the system has been successfully field-tested in several houses where other radon-mitigation techniques had failed. For more information contact Current Indoor Air Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 18075, Boulder, CO 80308; 303/440-8555.

On the Level



Affordable and true, Versa-Level is a water level that promises the accuracy of that device, without the fuss. It comes in a hard-shell carrying case. And it can be left full, so you don't have to refill it every time you use it. The level includes 50 feet of clear plastic hose and a quart-size reservoir bottle. After filling the bottle with water and adding a few drops of food coloring to make the water easier to see, you place the bottle where it won't be disturbed. It can be hung from a nail or a doorknob, or the sleeves on either side of the bottle can be slipped over the end of a stake. Then you take the end of the tubing to the desired location, snap open the end cap and wait for the water to settle in the tube. Can cover distances up to 100 feet. Contact: Price Brothers Tool Co., 1053 6th St., Novato, CA 94947; 415/897-3153.

Mini-Mixer



Made for small jobs, this mixer comes with belt and motor pulley packed in a reusable 5-gallon metal pail that serves as the mixing drum. The 1/3-hp motor turns the pail at speeds of 60 rpm. Maximum mixing capacity is 70 pounds or 5 gallons. The mixer can be used to mix epoxies, paints, chemicals, adhesives, or concretes, and according to the manufacturer is not difficult to clean. For information contact Garon Products Inc., 1924 Highway 35, Wall, NJ 07719; 201/449-1776.

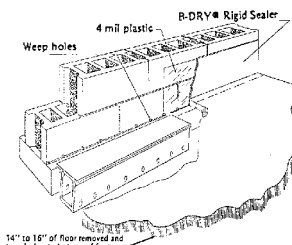
New Kid on the Block



New, patented patching cement promises to outdo ordinary mixes. Because it sets chemically, Genesis works well at temperatures ordinary repair cement cannot. The concrete patch and repair system contains no Portland cement, and is easy to use. The powder is mixed with activator liquid for one minute, then poured and leveled. It hardens in 3 to 10 minutes, and can be driven on in 30 minutes. The manufacturer claims the product has twice the strength of traditional cements, and costs one-third as much as two-part epoxy systems (with comparable bonding rates). Bonds to steel or wood, as well

as concrete or masonry. For information, contact Genesis Cement Corporation, 2346 West 1500 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84104; 801/975-7020.

Changing Course



If you can't stop it from coming in, divert it — water, that is. B-Dry Thermo-Flo system is fully warranted for the life of the structure. The core of the system is a rectangular PVC pipe that is installed along the inside perimeter of the footer. The pipe captures any subsurface water that rises from under the foundation or comes through the basement walls. In addition, the walls are sealed with B-Dry Rigid Sealer—a high-density polymer. The sealer has passed BOCA standards for fire retardation and smoke suppression. For more information, contact B-Dry System, Inc., 1341 Copley Rd., Akron, OH 44320; 216/867-2576; 800/321-0985 (outside Ohio).

Flatwork's A Snap



Reduce time and labor when installing wood forms for flatwork with high-density polyethylene connectors. The connectors are nailed to the ends of wood studs, which can then be snapped together for forming and unsnapped when stripping. The connectors also attach to the manufacturer's plastic forms, allowing plastic and wood forms to be snapped together. Color coded for size, connectors are available for 2x4s, 2x6s, 2x8s, and 2x10s. Contact Green Plastics, 939 Steele Drive., Brea, CA 92621; 714/529-5520.

Sealing Joints



Tape that refuses to quit, Will-Seal 250 is reported to outperform wet sealants and other products where ponding water is a problem at construction joints. The precompressed, chemically resistant foam-sealant tape comes in either self-

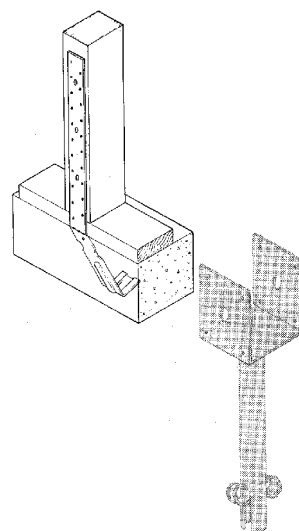
adhesive rolls or sticks. In addition, it's manufacturer claims it won't dry out, is unaffected by repeated expansion and contraction, and is vandal-proof. For more information, contact Will-Seal Construction Foams at 447 Elmwood, Troy, MI 48084; 800/231-2875.

Cutting Corners



Assemble brick and block corners faster with this self-supporting 10-foot-high corner system. The entire assembly can be moved as a unit to any height required. According to the manufacturer no nails or braces are needed, only a level to plumb the 10-foot poles. The product promises to provide up to 40 percent savings in labor costs. For info, contact Goldblatt Tool Co., P.O. Box 2334, Kansas City, KS 66110; 913/621-3010.

Anchor Away!



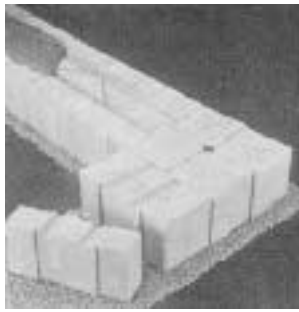
Anchors can help when you're working with concrete. Tie anchors (top) can be used to tie in walls, and protect against seismic damage. Elevated Post Anchors (bottom) are designed to elevate posts from concrete. They are used in high moisture areas or where standing surface water is a problem. The post anchors have a locking anti-rotation base and will elevate the post from 1 to 3 inches above the concrete. For more information about these and other structural connectors, contact The Panel Clip Company, 4203 Shoreline Drive, Earth City, MO 63045; 314/298-8088.

Superflat Floors



Designed to become integral with the floor, Permaban concrete screed rails are left in-place when pouring the floor. The concrete used in constructing the rails is stronger than the surrounding slab and provides a 40-percent greater load transfer and reduced joint spalling. The rails can be used in any slabs on grade, on metal decks, and in slab construction where tilt-up walls are installed. For information, contact Permaban North America, P.O. Box 1411, Matthews, NC 28106; 704/821-7000.

A Better Footing



An economical footing system of interlocking concrete masonry units has been developed by the IDR Division of the National Concrete Masonry Association. Footer Block can save you time and money because work can start immediately over the Footer Block as it is being laid. The dry-laid block eliminates formwork and stripping, and doesn't require highly-skilled labor. NCMA reports that labor savings can be as much as 50 percent. For more information, contact NCMA, P.O. Box 781, Herndon, VA 22070; 703/435-4900.

Update: *The Masterguide: The Official Buying and Specifying Directory of the American Institute of Architects* listed in this column in January, 1988 is now owned by the North American Publishing Company (401 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19108) which informs us that there are no

more copies of the 1987 version, and that the next edition will not be released until late 1988. Also, it will be published as one national edition, rather than five regional editions, as reported. Whether free copies will be available, and to whom, has not been decided.