

Lightweight Respirators

by Clayton DeKorne



In my quest for a lightweight, comfortable dust mask (see "Choosing a Dust Mask," 2/91), I overlooked the MSA *Dustfoe*. These lightweight, quarter-face masks have replaceable filters that will meet the ever increasing OSHA standards for protection against most job-related dust and mists. At the same time, their compact design allows them to be worn with safety glasses without feeling like Darth Vader. Three models are available — the Dustfoe 66, 77, and 88. The Dustfoe 66 features an aluminum facepiece that can be shaped to fit individual faces, and a soft rubber seal. The Dustfoe 77 has a formed filter with an ABS plastic cover and facepiece. The Dustfoe 88 has an all rubber face piece. All three models can be easily disassembled to replace the filters, and have double headbands for a secure fit. For more information, contact Mine Safety Appliances, P.O. Box 426, Pittsburgh, PA 15230; 800/672-2222.

Super Suction



To control radon, sub-slab depressurization is the most widely recommended practice. Ordinarily this calls for an "air blanket" — a 4-inch layer of gravel beneath the basement slab.

This technique works well for

new construction, but in an existing home where the slab has been poured over dirt or sand, you need a super strong suction to depressurize the slab. The Pelican *S-3 Blower* is designed to produce a high vacuum that can suck air through most fine sands and dirt, but not through clay. The Pelican "high-pressure, low-flow" system uses 1½-inch flexible tubing that can be snaked through existing walls. The blower is self-cooling for installations in hot attics, and a condensate bypass is available for cold climates. The kit — including blower, condensate bypass, hanging hardware, muffler, and installation guidelines — costs about \$700. For more information, contact Pelican Environmental Corp., 8 Grant St., Framingham, MA 01701; 617/235-5997.

Anti-Scald Valve



An amazing metal alloy that expands instantly in hot water is at the heart of the MemrySafe *Anti-Scald Valve*. The valve is built into three fixtures: the *Flow-Gard* (a faucet aerator), the *Show-erGard* (a safety valve that installs above any showerhead), and the *ShowerSafe* (a high-end, adjustable-spray showerhead). According to the manufacturer, these products will reduce water-flow to a trickle within five seconds after the water temperature reaches 110°F (the upper end temperature of a "good, hot shower"). At a system pressure of 80 psi, this will shut the water down before it reaches 120°F. We looked at a sample of the strange metal used in the valve: A coiled piece was held under a faucet, and it expanded to twice its length just as fast as we could turn the tap from cold to hot. For more information, contact Memry Plumbing Products Corp., 83 Keeler Ave., Norwalk, CT 06854; 203/740-7311.

The Best of Both Anchors



ITW *Buildex* recently issued a new hollow wall fastener that combines the holding capacity of a molly bolt with the speed of an E-Z Anchor (see "Hollow-Wall Fasteners," 4/91). The new *E-Z Toggle* can be screwed into drywall with a Phillips bit without predrilling. A 2-inch bolt (included) follows to open up a single-wing toggle that clamps down on the inside face of the wall. For more information, contact ITW Buildex, 1349 West Bryn Mawr Ave., Itasca, IL 60143; 800/323-0720.

Solar Roof Vent



The *Taurus Solar Roof Vent* works when you need it. A built-in solar panel on the top of the vent powers a fan to pull up attic heat and moisture. The vent is designed to replace standing roof vents on pitched shingled roofs. A single 100-cfm vent is needed for every 500 cubic feet of attic space. For more information, contact Taurus Safety Products Inc., 1 E. Parkside, Lombard, IL 60148; 708/790-4311. ■