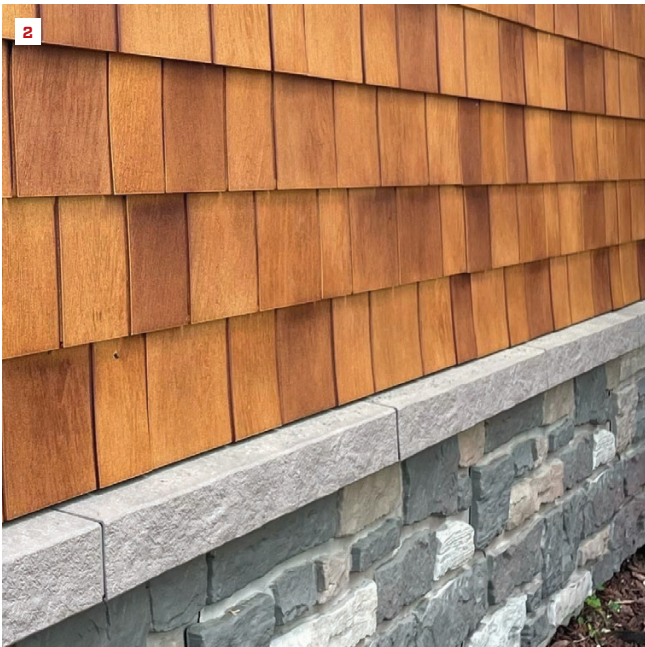


BY VINCENT SALANDRO



### 1. Panelized Mortarless Veneer System

Cornerstone Building Brands' ClipStone ProPanel is a panelized mortarless stone veneer with two large-format panel sizes: 20 inches by 7 1/4 inches and 12 inches by 7 1/4 inches. Requiring no special tools to install, the panels mechanically fasten to walls with mounting clips that create space for drainage, promoting drying in exterior applications. We found a box (a mix of the two panel sizes covering 5 1/4 square feet) of Mystic Northern Ledge for about \$125 online. [cornerstonebuildingbrands.com](http://cornerstonebuildingbrands.com)

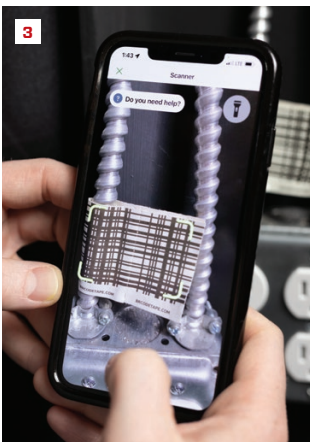


### 2. Low-Maintenance Beach House Shake

Tando's Beach House Shakes are designed as a low-maintenance alternative to natural cedar shakes. According to Tando, the composite shakes come in panels for faster installation, will not discolor, fade, or stain, and do not need to be painted. The resquared and rebuted shakes have a 5-inch exposure and are available in four colors inspired by natural cedar tones. A box of 50 square feet sells for about \$390. [tandobp.com](http://tandobp.com)

### 3. Scannable Jobsite Tape and Labels

Developed in partnership with Nastro Technologies, Duck Pro by Shurtape BR Code Scannable Solutions is a line of adhesive tapes and labels printed with scannable codes that can help builders organize and track jobsite information. The tapes and labels can be used to pinpoint locations of building components and supplies, create installation and repair notes, upload files relating to specific components, or link the code to already existing job data through the BitRip app. [shurtape.com](http://shurtape.com)



### 4. Code-Listed Hurricane Tie

Sized for nominal 2-by lumber and designed to install with fewer, shorter nails, the H1A hurricane tie from Simpson Strong-Tie is rated for high allowable uplift and F2 loads to meet building safety needs in seismic and high-wind regions. The U-shaped tie holds a rafter or truss on both sides, providing lateral load resistance, and embossments add stiffness for improved performance; flanges can be installed facing inward or outward. The H1A is available in standard G90 galvanization or with Zmax coating for corrosion resistance. [strongtie.com](http://strongtie.com)

## Products

### 5. Weatherproof Electrical Covers

Constructed of PVC or polycarbonate and engineered for highly corrosive areas or wet outdoor locations, O-Z/Gedney weatherproof single- and two-gang boxes, covers, and lamp holders help prevent entry of dirt, dust, and moisture into electrical systems. According to the manufacturer, continuous box and cover compression ensures complete sealing at the gasket interface. In addition, the manufacturer says, the products resist impact, mold, and distortion from extreme weather temperatures. All products in the collection are cULus-listed and UL- and CSA-certified. [o-zgedney.com](http://o-zgedney.com)



### 6. Vertical Board and Batten Siding

Westlake Royal Building Products has added an 11-inch board-and-batten profile to its Celect Cellular Composite Siding line. The manufacturer says the low-maintenance vertical profile is easy to install and has an interlocking seam design that keeps moisture out. With the aesthetic of wood and available in 15 fade-resistant colors and in ready-to-paint Celect Canvas, the siding is treated with Kynar Aquatec coating for protection against UV, dirt, insects, and seasonal staining. [westlakeroyalbuildingproducts.com](http://westlakeroyalbuildingproducts.com)



### 7. Composite and Aluminum Railing

MoistureShield's Solid Core Composite Railing and Compass Aluminum Railing offer moisture resistance and performance to withstand harsh elements, the manufacturer claims. The composite railings have various options available for top-rail profiles, including T-rail and bread loaf, as well as for infill and finish. The powder-coated aluminum railing comes in preassembled panels with 3/4-inch balusters, in 36- and 42-inch heights, and in two finishes, matte black and matte bronze (top rails sold separately); for cable rail, beam kits are available (infill sold separately). [moistureshield.com](http://moistureshield.com)



### 8. Luxury Composite Decking

Positioned as the company's top-of-the-line product, Trex Signature wood-plastic-composite decking is crafted with the natural look of interior hardwoods but engineered to withstand harsh exterior conditions. The decking is made from recycled and reclaimed materials and requires only a periodic cleaning with soap and water. It will initially be offered in dark brown and variegated gray hues. [trex.com](http://trex.com)







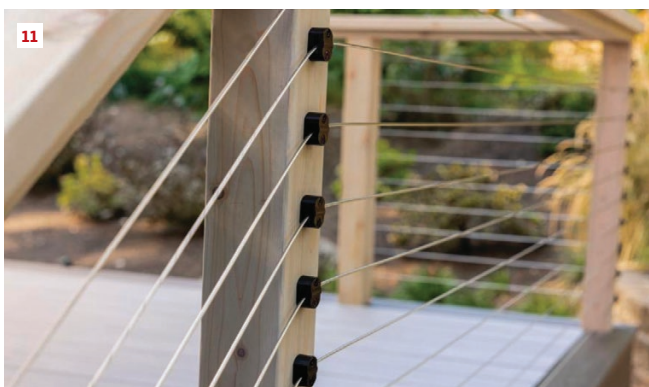
### 9. High-Performance Laminate Shingles

GAF's laminate Timberline UHDZ shingles feature the company's LayerLock asphalt-to-asphalt seal, StrikeZone 1.81-inch-wide nailing area, and Dual Shadow Line, which creates deep, sunset shadows at all hours. GAF says these shingles are thicker and 20% heavier than its Timberline HDZ shingles and have 10% more time-release algae-fighting material than its other shingles. Available in a variety of colors, they're eligible for GAF's Wind-Proven Limited Wind Warranty when installed with qualifying accessories. [gaf.com](http://gaf.com)



### 10. Curb Appeal-Promoting Siding

James Hardie has added the Artisan Profile series to its recently launched Hardie Architectural Collection. The manufacturer says the addition provides tiered offerings within the collection to achieve contemporary exterior looks for a variety of home styles. Artisan Profiles include square-channel siding, shiplap siding, and V-groove siding, all of which come primed for paint. The fiber-cement panels in the Architectural Collection can be oriented vertically or horizontally, James Hardie says. [jameshardie.com](http://jameshardie.com)



### 11. Simplified Cable Railing System

Express Mount Brackets from RailFX eliminate the need to drill holes through each deck post. Instead, users can simply install the bracket on the outside of an end, corner, or intermediate post, feed the cable through the bracket, and tighten the cable to secure it. The brackets are visible only from the outside of the deck, creating an illusion of floating cables and improving sight lines from the deck. [railfx.net](http://railfx.net)



### 12. Weather-Resistant Mortarless Stone Veneer

The Belterra Collection from Silvermine Stone is a mortarless stone-veneer product that offers moisture protection and the aesthetic of real stone. Because the manufacturer's flashing and fastening system creates a shingling effect on the wall to keep water away from the home's substrate, only a single layer of weather resistive barrier and no drainage plane or multilayered systems are required. The 24-inch-by-6-inch flat panels are attached with pan-head screws without the need for lath, scratch-coat, or mortar. The veneer is priced at \$18 to \$20 per square foot. [silverminestone.com](http://silverminestone.com)

## Products

### 13. Lightweight Deck Trusses

FastenMaster's Icon Screw Joists feature double-threaded screws as the web members of a truss with 3 1/2-inch-wide pressure-treated top and bottom chords. According to the manufacturer, these deck trusses are lighter in weight than traditional joists and dead flat, and the top chord comes pre-coated with a waterproof asphalt coating. A builder can send the deck dimensions to FastenMaster, which will provide the engineering and stamped design drawings, along with the components. For the initial rollout, the joists will be available only in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Check with the manufacturer regarding availability in other areas. [fastenmaster.com](http://fastenmaster.com)

### 14. Combo Adjustable Wrench and Pliers

Klein's new 10-inch Plier Wrench brings together the functionality of an adjustable wrench for working flat-side fasteners with a pump plier for pipe and other round objects. The tool has a 2-inch maximum jaw opening and 20 adjustment positions to minimize hand travel and allow adjustment in confined spaces. [kleintools.com](http://kleintools.com)

### 15. Pre-strung Cable Rail

Barrette Outdoor Living has introduced RDI Elevation Rail—pre-strung infill cable-rail panels that can expand up to a maximum of 6 feet between posts. Designed for both decks and stairs, the rails, posts, and caps are made of cast aluminum, while the continuous cable is 316 stainless steel. According to the manufacturer, no specialty tools are needed, except maybe good cable cutters to prevent fraying the cable. [barretteoutdoorliving.com](http://barretteoutdoorliving.com)

### 16. Airtight, Watertight Continuous Insulation

ThermalTight combines a semi-vapor-permeable Neopor GPS rigid insulation panel with a vapor-permeable WRB laminated to the exterior face. The nonwoven, nonperforated polypropylene WRB extends 2 inches beyond the edges of the insulation panel on all four sides, resulting in flaps that are sealed with the manufacturer's double-sided tape. This seal allows the WRB to function as a continuous air barrier as well as a water barrier. The 4-foot-wide ThermalTight panels are available in three thicknesses—1 1/16 inches (R5), 1 1/2 inches (R7), and 2 1/8 inches (R10)—and three lengths—8, 9, and 10 feet. [thermaltight.com](http://thermaltight.com)

