

BY VINCENT SALANDRO

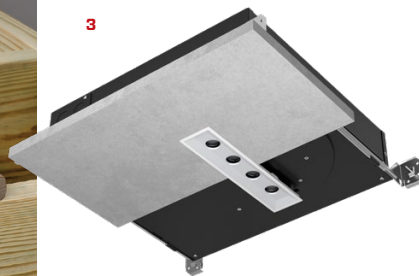
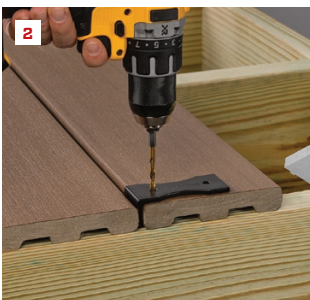


### 1. Composite Board and Batten

Fabricated with a glass-reinforced polymer and graphite-infused polystyrene, Ascend 12-inch board-and-batten composite cladding from Alside features a 10-inch-wide board and integral 2-inch batten, a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch panel projection, and either a wood-grain or matte texture. According to the manufacturer, the lightweight cladding requires no special tools or skills for installation, doesn't need to be painted and resists high winds, moisture, and impact damage. The profile is available in 20 colors. [alside.com](https://alside.com)

### 2. Hand-Guided Fastener

FastenMaster's Cortex collated hidden fasteners are now available with a hand guide for scalloped TimberTech boards. The guide helps installers align the fasteners through the thickest portions of the scalloped boards for maximum engagement and strength. Plugs are made from the same composite material as the boards, in matching colors and textures. Collated strips of plugs for 100 linear feet of decking cost \$110. [fastenmaster.com](https://fastenmaster.com)



### 3. Precise Overhead Lighting System

Whisper Multiples overhead lighting from Creative Systems Lighting features unobtrusive, small apertures that the manufacturer says provide soft and glare-free illumination for either general or accent lighting. Each  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch round head delivers up to 816 lumens; housing options include two, three, or four independently adjustable light modules, with or without round trim. A serviceable integral driver and easily removable light modules simplify installation. [csslighting.com](https://csslighting.com)



### 4. Wood-Look Exterior Metal Profiles

Drexel Metals has introduced a new Timber Series of five soffit and wall panel finishes that sport a wood-grain pattern. Shades in the timber aesthetic range from browns to gray and soft white in a four-coat, polymer-resin-based (PVDF) finish. The Timber Series is offered in a variety of substrates and coil widths up to 48 inches, in 24-gauge steel and 0.032-inch aluminum. Additional gauges are available with extended lead times and minimum quantities. [drexmet.com](https://drexmet.com)



## 5. Waterproof Wall Panel Molding

EnduraFlood has enhanced its waterproof drywall systems with additional design options, including a prefabricated Picture Frame Molding kit that can be applied to the company's EnduBoard to create the look of panel molding. All EnduraFlood components are made from waterproof and mold-resistant materials, including PVC, galvanized steel, and proprietary plastic materials. A small kit, with pieces and glue to make two 15-by-18-inch picture-frame moldings, costs \$29.50; a large kit that makes one 18-by-36-inch picture frame costs \$25.75. [endurflood.com](http://endurflood.com)



## 6. Comprehensive Fall Protection

Each Eveook Nonpenetrating Fall Protection System from Ballantyne Gear is engineered to protect up to eight users on sloped roofs. The system can be installed in less than 15 minutes and the anchorage connectors set in place without putting holes in the roof. Users can install fall protection before getting on the roof, and a horizontal anchor line with adjustable lifelines can be used to avoid swing falls and keep workers in travel restraint. The full system, which includes two body harnesses, two nonpenetrating connectors, and more than 25 other components, costs \$5,860. [ballantynegear.com](http://ballantynegear.com)

## 7. CLT Barrier Coat

KP-14 Vapor Permeable Barriercoat from the Sansin Corp. is designed to be used in conjunction with KP-12W Undercoat to protect horizontal surfaces of engineered wood like cross-laminated timber (CLT) from moisture absorption during construction. Waterborne, low in VOCs, and UV-resistant, KP-14 can be applied by spray, roller, or brush to clean, even surfaces after they've been coated with KP-12W. KP-14 is not intended to be a decorative finish. [sansin.com](http://sansin.com)



## 8. Weatherproofing Flashing Tape

FrogTape Pro Grade Flashing Tape can help create weatherproof seals around windows, doors, and other building openings in both residential and commercial applications. The tape combines the manufacturer's acrylic adhesive with a conformable film backing that bends around edges, corners, and other building transitions. Engineered using Shurtape's UV curing technology, the tape does not contain VOCs and won't react with caulks and sealants. A 3 3/4-inch-by-75-foot roll is available for \$35. [frogtape.com](http://frogtape.com)



### 9. Innovative HVAC Solution

Navien's NPF Hydro-furnaces employ the same technology that's behind the manufacturer's tankless water heaters, combi-boilers, and boilers in an HVAC setting. Unlike traditional forced-air systems, the NPF Hydro-furnace heats water by burning the gas in a sealed stainless steel combustion heat exchanger isolated from the airstream. Heated water is then pumped through a hydronic heat exchanger that transfers the heat into the air. A variable-capacity blower and modulating combustion system allows the NPF to operate from 15% to 100% capacity for both natural gas and propane applications. [navieninc.com](http://navieninc.com)

9



10



### 10. High-Capacity Hold-Down

The HD22 Hold-Down from QuickTie resists uplift forces due to wind and overturning of shear walls. With a 22-kip load capacity and a screw application that eliminates through-bolts, the HD22 is well-suited for doorway and corner applications, QuickTie says. Additionally, the pointed base ensures proper offset from the bottom of the adjacent stud. Other applications include purlin-to-purlin and concrete or masonry walls to decking or flooring attachments. [quicktieproducts.com](http://quicktieproducts.com)

### 11. Solutions for Expansive Soil

VoidForm works with builders to select the right void forms for soil conditions and potential vertical rise. System components include void forms, cover boards, vapor barriers, and backfill retainers. In areas with expansive soils, void forms made from paper-based cartons in the SureVoid line provide temporary support during concrete placement. These void forms degrade over time, leaving space between soil and concrete, according to the manufacturer. [voidform.com](http://voidform.com)

11



### 12. Outdoor TV-Lift Cabinets

Cabinet Tronix says its outdoor TV-lift cabinets are weathertight and resistant to temperature extremes, moisture, mildew, rot, and insects. Units are mounted on heavy-duty, stainless steel swivel casters and come preinstalled with a telescoping TV-lift system activated by a single click. A variety of styles, sizes, colors, and materials—including stucco, porcelain tiles, concrete, and ipe—are available. Premium options include integrated bars, refrigerators, lights, and serving spaces. [cabinet-tronix.com](http://cabinet-tronix.com)

12

