

# surface

LUXURY BY DESIGN



# DESIGN

JUNE 2011  
DISPLAY UNTIL JUNE 20





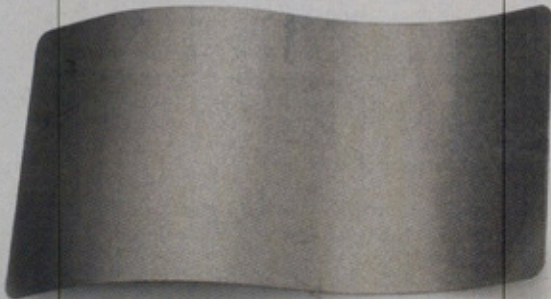
01



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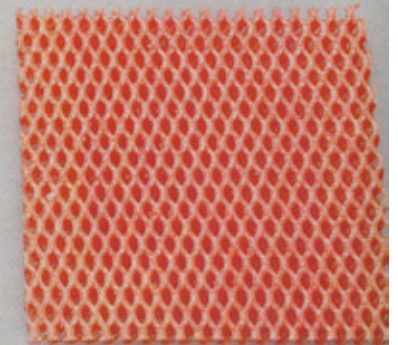
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## Seals of Approval

THESE MATERIALS PUT THEIR STAMPS ON THE WORLD, FROM FIREARMS TO FOOD-STUFFS.

PHOTO TOM HAYES

*In this column, we ask Material Connexion vice president Andrew Dent, Ph.D., to select six innovations set to influence what designers will be using tomorrow.*

**01** With potential for food packaging and containers, Flextrus' PaperLite takes paper, a traditional two-dimensional material, and gives it three-dimensional shape through thermoforming, without folding or glue.

Fully recyclable and FDA-approved for food contact, PaperLite is water-resistant and can be molded in complex ways, such as for dividers in a tray, and printed in any color.

**02** What could be more eco-friendly than a packaging material that isn't manufactured at all, but grown? EcoCradle, by upstate New York-based Ecovative Design, is made when agricultural waste byproducts—seeds, husks, hulls—are used as food for fungus that grow into a mold for a week. The organisms are then baked to stop growth and hardened into a substance similar to Styrofoam. But unlike Styrofoam, this alternative can be composted or safely thrown into a landfill.

**03** Moisture and temperature fluctuations cause cracked sidewalks, which are often concrete, a big producer of CO<sub>2</sub>. WRSG remedies the issue with its RubberWay sidewalk, which recycles bits of rubber tire to create an unbreakable surface—in up to 27 different colors—that allows water to drain into the ground.

**04** Used as a ceramic coating for both protecting and decorating high-impact objects—from camouflage on a gun to fire-red automotive parts—Cerakote from Oregon-based NIC is available in a variety of colors, easily applied, ultra-durable against abrasion, and resistant to heat.

**05** Ecor fiber panel products can be formed into various shapes—curves, say, or honeycombs—but aren't made from wood. Instead, the panels are made from what San Diego-based Ecor calls Bovine Processed Fiber (read: cow poop). Strong, lightweight, and sustainable, they can be used in applications ranging from tabletops to arts and crafts.

**06** Deflexion by Dow Corning is a flexible, silicone-based textile that dissipates impact energy across its surface and away from the point of contact. Ideal for sports equipment and apparel, it can be sewn into garments without affecting breathability.—DAN RUBINSTEIN

CONTRIBUTORS



Mamá  
 ... Y espero que tú nunca  
 seas corresponsal de guerra,  
 sino de paz.



01 Materials expert **DR. ANDREW DENT**, who compiled this issue's Materials column (page 46) with editor-in-chief Dan Rubinstein, has had remarkable research stints with Rolls-Royce, the U.S. Navy, and NASA. Now, as a vice president at Material Connexion, the guru manages a library of more than 5,000 materials. One of his favorites, an aluminum alloy from Exner Trenntechnik, is above. It's innovative, says Dent, because "it has been mechanically recycled rather than melted, reducing the amount of energy required—and thus the carbon footprint."

02 Spain-born, Belgium-based photojournalist **BERNAL REVERT**, who shoots for publications such as *Der Spiegel* and *Paris Match*, grew up wanting to be a war correspondent. For his 19th birthday, his parents gave him a book about war. On its first page, as seen above, his mother wrote: "I hope you will never be a war journalist, but one of peace." Revert, who's been exactly that ever since, shot gallerist Caroline Van Hoek (page 34) for this issue.

03 **ROLAND HALBE**, who's been an architecture photographer for more than two decades, documented three vastly different projects for this issue: Foster + Partners' Faustino Group winery in Spain's Ribera del Duero region (page 50); Jean Nouvel's Sofitel Stephansdom in Austria (page 40); and Zigzag Architecture's social-housing complex in Mieres, Spain (page 21). Halbe's favorite: the Sofitel, he says, "because of its elegance and ambiguity."

LAB PARTNERS

ILLUSTRATIONS BERND SCHIFFERDECKER

04 As the co-founder of the online magazine *Sight Unseen* and a *Details* contributor, **MONICA KHEMSUROV** always has design on her mind. For this issue's Limited column (page 34), she reported on the art-jewelry of Nicolas Cheng and Beatrice Bovia—a natural fit for Khemsurov, who's a jewelry buff herself, with pieces in her collection such as Anntian's handmade ceramic and braided-jersey necklace (above). "Jewelry is really a test lab for larger creative ideas," she says. "It's both accessible and possible to produce in decent quantity by hand."

05 New York-based fashion photographer **DAVID SCHULZE** captured the innovative work of four burgeoning fashion mavens in this issue's Talent: Fashion section (page 52)—and was especially taken with the textured Asher Levine pieces. "As an emerging artist myself," says Schulze, "I can empathize with how hard it really is to start out and chase a dream. It was nice to see peoples' goals being realized."

06 When New York-based writer and curator **MARINA CASHDAN** isn't contributing to publications like *Wallpaper*, *Departures*, and *The Huffington Post*, she's often traveling with her photographer husband Antony Crook, who inspires her with landscapes she calls "honest and vulnerable." (Crook's shot of the Hudson River, above, is one of her favorites.) For this issue's Arts column (page 36), Cashdan profiled the Irish-born, Brooklyn-based artist Corban Walker.

IS IT TIME TO RE-THINK THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF CONSTRUCTION? A NEW CEMENT HELPS PAVE THE WAY TO A CARBON-FREE WORLD.



Winner of Material Connexion's 2010 Medium Award for Material of the Year, the environmentally friendly carbon-negative cement Novacem releases zero emissions during production by replacing calcium carbonates used in cement mixing with magnesium silicates, then blending the concoction in a low-temperature, biomass-fueled process. The eponymous U.K.-based company plans to go global with commercial-scale plants by 2015.—T.J.



## STEVEN HOLL MAKES WAVES IN BIARRITZ.

Museum and surfing cultures, one would think, aren't intended to mesh. The Cité de l'Océan et du Surf, a science and ecology museum set to open in June in the seaside town of Biarritz, France, suggests that they can and do. Designed by New York-based Steven Holl Architects in collaboration with Solange Fabião, the approximately 50,800-square-foot concave, wave-shaped complex includes a half-pipe-like outdoor plaza paved with Portuguese cobblestones—a design, says Holl, that's intended to "become an extension of the landscape." Naturally, structures housing a restaurant and kiosk allude to the hulking profiles of two boulders in the bay.—S.B.



## A REVOLUTIONARY CHAIR IS BORN WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM ITS AUTOMOTIVE FRIENDS.

As designers push the technological limits of furniture companies, several have found a surprising ally: auto manufacturers. Following the lead of Dutch designer Joris Laarman, who designed his 2006 Bone collection with Opel, German designer Stefan Diez offers the new car-component-built Chassis chair for Wilkhahn. When beginning the project, Diez studied the bare-bones construction of Brooks bicycle saddles. "They have a frame from simple metal," he says, "and leather that's attached as a seat." The final design is an upholstered seat on a hollow steel frame that's lighter and stronger than cast-metal options. Some might say it's even worthy of the Autobahn.—Tim McKeough