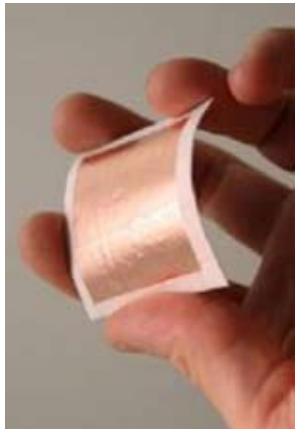


products

SoftBatteries™

Paper-based thin flexible SoftBatteries™ may one day eliminate the need for conventional batteries, which pollute the environment with cadmium, mercury and other harmful substances. Using a method based on traditional paper printing and lamination technology, the SoftBattery™ can be a power source for applications such as smart cards, music playing greeting cards, transdermal drug delivery patches, LEDs on paper, mobile sensors with RFID (radio frequency identification), and even electronic paper. In comparison to conventional button cells, SoftBatteries™ are extremely low in cost, environmentally friendly, landfill safe, as well as flexible in size and shape for easy integration into a variety of devices. Enfucell Ltd., the Finnish company that has developed this new technology, was named Technology Pioneer 2007 by the World Economic Forum.

www.enfucell.com/



Tesco

UK supermarket giant Tesco is running three-quarters of its distribution fleet on 'greener' biodiesel from the beginning of 2007. The retailer has 2,000 lorries responsible for transporting goods to 754 stores and 716 smaller Express outlets. It estimates that by using the B50 blend — 50 per cent ordinary diesel mixed with biofuel — it will cut its greenhouse gas emissions by more than 70,000 tonnes a year. Tesco Chief Executive Sir Terry Leahy described the move as an 'extraordinary change' for the supermarket giant. Tesco also recently opened a new supermarket in Scotland featuring wind turbines to power the checkouts and rainwater to wash the home delivery vans.

Solar charger



The perfect gadget in this mobile age: a solar power mobile phone charger for people who like living their life outdoors but don't want to compromise on communication. It allows you to harness the sun's energy and have the power to communicate, anywhere, anytime, anyplace. It has an on/off switch for saving battery power and when fully charged, the unit will charge an average cell phone in 2 hours, allowing for 20-30 minutes of talk time.

www.carbonneutral.com

2008 Ford Escape



The redesigned 2008 **Ford Escape** and Escape Hybrid feature the first US automotive applications of 100 per cent recycled fabric seating surfaces. The fabric is constructed from a 100 per cent post-industrial waste — defined as anything intended for retail use, but which never makes it to the consumer. This can be anything from plastic intended for pop bottles to undyed polyester fibers that don't make the cut for consumer use. It also features innovative backcoating technology that minimizes the use of commonly used flame retardants in favour of a new, phosphorous-based flame retardant. The fabric is a result of a collaboration between teams at Ford and **InterfaceFABRIC**, a global leader in the manufacturing of environmentally responsible floor coverings and commercial fabrics. An estimated 80,000 vehicles will eventually feature the fabric. The use of post-industrial recycled materials will conserve annually 600,000 gallons of water, 1.8 million pounds of carbon dioxide equivalents, and the equivalent of more than 7 million kilowatt hours of electricity.

www.interfaceinc.com/pdfs/Ford_Motor_Company_Release_Fabrics_051006.pdf

Plasma TV



Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. has become the first company in the world to achieve the elimination of lead in Plasma Display Panels (PDPs) in its **Panasonic** products. With the recent introduction of the world's largest Plasma HDTV, the 103-inch PDP-TV, Panasonic has avoided the use of lead in all of its Plasma TV models for 2006.

<http://panasonic.net>

EPEAT

The Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) is a procurement tool to help large volume purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare, and select desktop computers, notebooks, and monitors based on their environmental attributes. More than 300 computers have been registered in this new 'green' computer standard funded by the Environmental Protection Agency in the United States, and nine manufacturers currently participate in the programme. Compared to traditional computer equipment, all EPEAT-registered computers have reduced levels of cadmium, lead, and mercury to better protect human health and the environment. They are more energy efficient, which reduces emissions of greenhouse gases, and are also easier to upgrade and recycle.

www.epeat.net



Jhai PC



EcoSystems, Nepal, has designed a reliable human-powered pedal generator with storage device. This silent emission-free generator will deliver 50-70 watts anytime, anywhere, inexpensively and can be used to charge LEDs and fluorescent lights, battery chargers, and communication devices. It is low-maintenance and can also be used with products such as the pedal powered Jhai PC. The **Jhai PC** can be powered by any power source, but was designed to be used with pedal-generators. The System is designed to meet the communication and connectivity needs of villagers in remote rural areas of Laos, but is spreading to other markets.

www.jhai.org/jhai_remoteIT.htm http://www.ecosystemsnepal.com/research_development.php

FeliCa



Japanese electronics giant **Sony** is promoting the use of vegetable plastic in its products and packaging. In a world-first development, Sony has succeeded in creating a contactless IC (integrated circuit) card made from vegetable-based plastic, derived from biomass. The new **FeliCa** contactless IC smart card is more than 51 per cent composed of vegetable-based materials and offers numerous advantages such as reduced consumption of exhaustible resources, fewer greenhouse gas emissions and a more stable chemical composition. IC cards contain computers called IC chips which can store large quantities of information. Because of this, IC cards have the advantage of allowing one card to be used to access multiple services.

www.sony.net/SonyInfo/News/Press/200611/06-112E/index.html