

products



Garbage-powered garbage truck

An electric refuse collection van powered by the rubbish it collects has been put into action by Kirklees Council in Yorkshire, in what council leaders believe to be a world first. The battery-powered electric van, supplied by Smith Electric Vehicles, will be used to empty 25 newly-installed split litter and recycling bins around Huddersfield town centre. The

waste that cannot be recycled will then be taken to a local Energy from Waste (EfW) plant, which combusts it to generate electricity that will in part be used to recharge the van's battery.

www2.kirklees.gov.uk/.../fullstory.aspx?id=577



Vintage Furniture with a Modern Twist

Livin Pop's philosophy is to make old new, and their aesthetics are inspired by the 1950s and 1960s. The brand is run by Lucila Nissen and Sofia Moreno, two Brazilian designers who sell their furniture through their website. For those outside Buenos Aires, their pieces offer great ideas to rejuvenate old bits and pieces you may have found at the flea market.

www.livinpop.com.ar/



Solar Drier

As a land-locked country with poor transport infrastructure, no glass manufacture or canning facilities, Ugandan farmers were frequently left with fresh agricultural produce going to waste for lack of markets. Adam Brett and Angello Ndyaguma have turned this excess fruit into a profitable export business by designing affordable, easy-to-

build solar driers made from frames, locally available mosquito meshing and long lasting plastic (the only imported material). Now their Ugandan company, Fruits of the Nile produces and exports about 120 tonnes per year of high-quality dried banana and pineapple from its factory in Njeru. The fresh fruit is prepared and dried in simple solar driers that serve 120 producer groups in rural areas.

www.fmfoods.co.uk/partners/fon.htm



Swept away

Quiet, effective and eco-friendly – the Ultra Silencer Green Vacuum cleaner delivers on all three counts. This new gadget from Electrolux is made up of 55 per cent recycled plastic, a process that saves two litres of crude oil and 80 litres of water per vacuum cleaner. Better yet, this energy efficient vacuum cleaner uses 33 per cent less energy during use than other equivalent cleaners. And the cherry on the cake : the vacuum cleaner is also the quietest model on the market.

www.appliancist.com/green_appliances/electrolux-ultrasilencer-green-vacuum-cleaner.html



Recyclable cars

Safety has always been the first thing that springs to mind when the automotive conversation turns to Volvo. However the announcement that all new Volvos are 85 per cent recyclable and 95 per cent recoverable is set to make the Swedish automakers synonymous with eco-friendliness. Volvo is designing its cars with an eye to using recycled non-petroleum derived parts, and making them easier to recycle

when their useful life is over. Volvo cars now come equipped with dashboards and ceilings made of flax and cellulose rather than petroleum-based polymers, as well as car seats manufactured from natural fiber and soya-based foam fillings.

www.volvocanada.com/Experience/CleanAllItsLife.aspx?lng=2



A greener apple

Dubbed the world's most energy-efficient desktop computer, Apple's Mac mini has been designed to make the tiniest environmental impact possible. Specifically, energy-efficient hardware components in the computer dynamically adjust power consumption to reduce the energy used overall. Apple has also worked hard to eliminate many of the toxins that are a common part of computer manufacturing. For instance, the new machine is BFR-free and its internal cables are PVC-free. Finally, the volume of the Mac mini shipping box is 60 per cent smaller than previous models, allowing more boxes to be shipped at one time, which means fewer boats and planes are used, resulting in less CO2 emissions.

www.apple.com/macmini/environment.html