



## Girasol Sun-Tracking Louver Drive

From Colt International in the U.K., the non-electric Girasol drive system for controllable shading louvers is powered only by the heat of the sun to achieve appropriate shading based on current solar conditions. Designed to install on any external controllable fin system, each noiseless, thermo-hydraulic Girasol drive can control over 500 square feet of louvers. The units' slow movement prevents optical irritation from rapidly changing light levels. Using these drives when coupling shading with building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV)—i.e., louvers with PV cells on them—can increase solar power yields significantly. Operating temperatures range from -22 to 140 degrees F. See their website for North American distributors. **Colt International, Ltd.; Hampshire, United Kingdom. Phone +44 (0) 2392 451111; www.coltgroup.com** CIRCLE 82



## ConSery Refrigerator-Freezer

ConSery is a low-energy use, high-design refrigerator of Danish extraction (formerly sold under the name VestFrost) available in the U.S. from Equator Corporation. According to one dealer specializing in off-grid lifestyles, its measured daily energy use in a 77-degree F room was 900 watts—a couple hundred kilowatt-hours less per year than comparable units on the Energy-Star list (though this 'fridge isn't in that program). It uses CFC-free foam and refrigerant, has separate compressors for the refrigerator and freezer, and is built with all recyclable parts. With an adjusted volume of 12.6 cubic feet, it's not cavernous; but at six-foot-seven, it sure is tall. **Equator Corporation; Houston, TX. Phone 713-464-3422, toll-free 800-935-1955; www.equatorappliance.com** CIRCLE 83

## Aquatherm Greenpipe

Most domestic water supply piping in North America is high-lifecycle-cost copper, chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC), or cross-linked polyethylene (PEX, a.k.a. XLPE). Another alternative—used in much of the rest of the world for over three decades and now available throughout the U.S.—is Aquatherm's Greenpipe. This exceptionally strong polypropylene piping avoids solvents, glues, and open flames during installation by using electric heat fusion, resulting in a monolithic, PVC-free water supply system. In addition to Greenpipe, German manufacturer Aquatherm also offers Climatherm for HVAC use, and Lilac for reclaimed water systems. Dimensions range from 3/8- to 10-inch equivalencies, and it has ICC approval. **Aquatherm Inc., Orem, UT; phone 801-805-6657, www.aquathermpipe.com** CIRCLE 84