

GENERATION GREEN

GREENBUILD CAME TO TORONTO AND SHOWED OFF THE LATEST IN SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES. HERE WE PRESENT THE TOP 14

BY NINA BOCCIA



"WE'RE NOT HAVING A GREEN REVOLUTION. We're having a green party," Thomas Friedman announced. The *New York Times* columnist, who has chronicled the parallels between the climate and economic crises, was addressing a packed audience at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto, during the opening ceremonies for the 10th edition of Greenbuild this past October. "In revolutions, people get hurt; companies are forced to change, or they die. Our revolution will be here when the word 'green' disappears," he said. To deafening applause, he added, "You're all too dumb to quit."

Until then, architects, engineers and designers will flock to Greenbuild to view the latest eco-innovations. At the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, two gigantic halls were filled with sustainable interior furnishings, photovoltaic systems and LEED assessment software. Many exhibitors launched products that aimed to provide better information about the impact of finishes and appliances on indoor environments. Perkins+Will's new eco-label details the recyclable content and certifications of Construction Specialties' inventory; and ThinkEco's Modlet, an electrical outlet plug-in, monitors the energy consumed by all the equipment in a facility. These and other new items, such as Sempergreen's vegetation mats and Duo-Gard's PV canopies, confirm that there's still good reason to rally around the green design ethic. **AZ**

1 WATT'S THE DAMAGE?

ThinkEco's Modlet plugs into electrical outlets; monitors the power drain of office equipment, and displays the information on web-based software while suggesting ways to save energy. It can be configured for multi-user, multi-floor and even multi-location operations. thinkecoinc.com

2 WARM UNDERFOOT

Providing radiant heat, **Warmboard** is a system of plywood panels with a path cut into the top surface, where PEX aluminum tubing snaps into place. An aluminum sheet bonded to the panels boosts the heat. The system can be topped with hardwood, tile or wool carpet. warmboard.com

3 PINWHEEL POWER

The LED-powered Sanya street lamp and turbine, by **Urban Green Energy**, can be connected to the grid or a backup battery system that feeds energy back into the grid. urbangreenenergy.com

4 COOL SHADES

Inspired by photographs William McDonough took during his trips to Iceland, the **Mechosystems** McDonough Iceland Collection is made from thermoplastic olefin, in 16 colours and four standard patterns. The jacquard weave window shades are recyclable and certified Cradle to Cradle Silver. mechoshade.com

5 RAISE THE BAR

Haworth showed off its eco-friendly Very Seating line of task and side chairs and stackable stools. Made from recycled materials, it's 98 per cent recyclable. haworth.com

