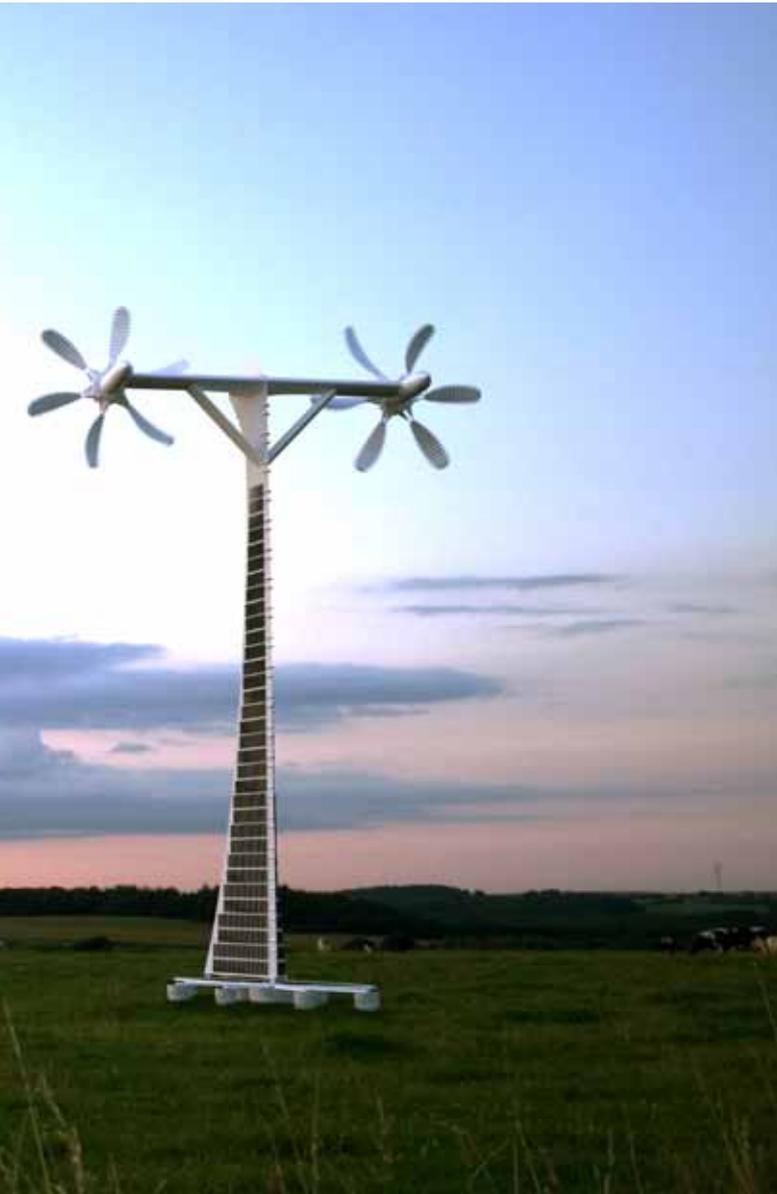


PRIMED FOR GOOD

The Dulux Ecosure range has introduced a Plaster Primer. This product's low VOC of less than 65g/L makes it eco-friendly, according to Dulux Trade. The primer also contributes to Green Star SA rating points and falls within the EU regulations.

The primer can be applied to interior and exterior surfaces, is suitable for all masonry surfaces and is highly resist to alkali. Anna Oliphant of Dulux Trade says the primer is water based and therefore easy to clean with water and within an environmental wash system. The product is available in 5l and 20l containers.

www.dulux.co.za



LOCAL PROTOTYPE TURBINE UNVEILED

The new generation prototype wind turbine PowerWing™ was unveiled recently after an intensive six year research and development period for creator Rolf Seelinger.

The site at Baskloof in Scarborough on the Cape Peninsula was selected because it experiences strong wind conditions throughout the year. On site there are PV panels, battery banks, various controllers and converters, as well as a small hydro turbine, which meet Baskloof's complete power requirements. The farm doubles as an education centre and will soon offer courses.

PowerWing™ was designed with the aim of contributing towards a global paradigm shift in wind power generation. According to Reinhard Marx of 1Energy, "these units are designed for residential and light industrial installation as they are efficient, compact, aesthetically pleasing and noiseless." They can also, form an important part of a larger off-grid installation comprising various power generation and monitoring devices, he adds.

Marx says that there are indications "that the PowerWing™ will be substantially less expensive to what is currently available due to the simplicity of its design." Its capacity is 1.5kW, giving each unit a total capacity of 3kW. "We believe that the time is rapidly approaching where grid feed will be legalised – there are already over a thousand households in the Cape alone that feed back into the grid."

A way to alleviate the energy crisis is to ensure that every home is able to supplement its energy requirements through renewable sources, concludes Marx.

AWARDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Southern African Association for Energy Efficiency (SAEE) is awarding two bursaries worth R 15 000 each. Applications are open for 2nd and 3rd year students in the Engineering, Built Environment and Environmental fields of study, that do not have any existing financial assistance.

The applications for the 2012 academic year are now open and close 30 September 2011.

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