

Recycled Products

Company:
Adrian Johnson
(New Bedford, Massachusetts)
www.fridgecouch.com

Product:
Fridgecouch

Recycled content:
90-percent post-consumer materials (car seats and refrigerators)

Target market:
General consumer

When Adrian Johnson, a Canadian artist and designer, was planning his wedding, he wanted the event to include outdoor seating that would encourage guests to relax and intermingle, rather than stay in isolated clusters. So, he set off to the junk yard to look for materials to fulfill his vision.

While there, he came across a tattered BMW that unexpectedly contained a pristine cherry red leather back seat. After extracting the seat, he turned his attention to finding some sort of frame to place in. After mulling it over, he went back to the junk yard where he found an olive green fridge that matched the dimensions of the seat. Johnson gut out the cooling system, placed the seat in the fridge added a sleek wooden trim. Thus, the Fridgecouch was created.

The Fridgecouch comes in three different designs. The original 325s Frost Clear has a retractable side table made from the fridge's freezer door. The other designs include the 735i Dual-Temp, which is made from an orange fridge with black seats. The 535i No-Frost is made from a lighter yellow fridge and also features a black seat.



Company:
Brahe Design
(Hellerup, Denmark)
www.brahe-design.dk

Product:
DanCof sustainable coffin

Recycled content:
100-percent long-fiber recycled paper pulp

Brahe Design, a Danish design company, has produced what it's calling a "green way to heaven," with its DanCof coffins and urns made from long-fiber recycled paper pulp. More conventional coffins are often heavy – over 75 pounds – and are made from more expensive materials, like chipboard or medium-density fiberboard. Brahe boasts a much lighter coffin, at about 13 pounds. It also does not contain formaldehyde or other pollutants found in typical coffins, and is biodegradable. The



material used to produce the coffins and urns has been treated so as not to dissolve in water.

In designing the coffin, Brahe looked into how funerals are conducted around the world to make sure it could be used local customs. For instance, its interior bottom has a fold in the middle so that deceased Muslims can be placed on their sides, in accordance with tradition. The color scheme of the coffin can be customized, including the lid and bottom. Ornaments, like a cross for a Christian, or an anchor, for a sailor, can also be added.

Brahe has plans to mass produce the coffins for export, and hopes they will become as well known as another Danish product: Legos.



Company:
Fire & Light
(Arcata, California)
www.fireandlight.com

Product:
Glow Bug tea light

Recycled content:
Up to 91-percent post-consumer glass

Target market:
General consumer

Arcata, California-based Fire & Light produces a number of hand-crafted household products from recycled glass, including a line of candleholders. The candleholders include the three inch Glow Bug tea light. With its round shape, it's meant to produce a soft light while the candle slowly melts into its bowl. The colors available are aqua, cobalt, twilight, lavender and plum.

The company was founded in 1995 as a partnership between the Arcata Community Recycling Center and local investors who wanted to make use of the crushed, recovered glass produced at the facility. All products are hand-poured and seek to draw in users with a play of light that filters through its rich spectrum of colors and textures.