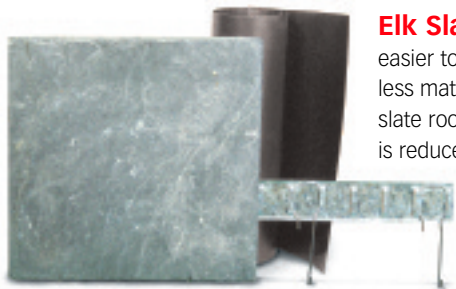


2007 Editors' Choice



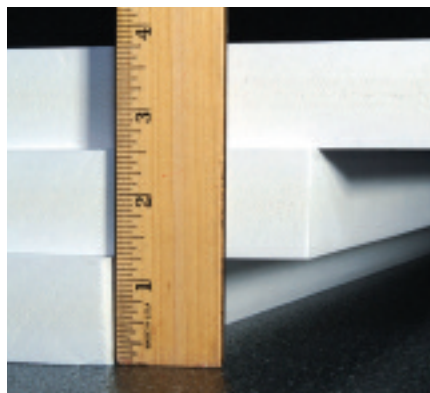
Elk Slate Products With TruSlate 2.0, Elk has taken a premium roofing product and made it easier to install as well as less expensive. The TruSlate 2.0 roofing system installs without nails, has less material waste, eliminates the need for extra structural support, and brings down the cost of a slate roof to be comparably priced with synthetic slate products. The weight of each slate shingle is reduced because the traditional headlap—most of which would be covered by the slate course above—has been eliminated. Each slate's overall length is reduced, and instead of nail-down installation, slates rest in stainless steel hangers attached to battens. The system's HDPE interlayer is installed under each course to seal the roof. Powder coating matches the batten system to each slate color. 888.355.5882. www.elkcorp.com. Circle 104.



Universal Forest Products

ProWood Micro pressure-treated wood utilizes a waterborne preservative system that contains micronized copper particles, which are small enough to remain suspended in solution without the need for a solvent, thus reducing the corrosive properties of the lumber, the company says. The preservative, which also includes the same quaternary compound found in ACQ preservatives, forms an insoluble complex with the cellular structure of the wood that won't break down over time. ProWood Micro can be used in direct contact with aluminum and with the same hot-dipped galvanized fasteners traditionally used with CCA-treated woods in a variety of above-ground and ground-contact outdoor applications. A dimensionally stable kiln-dried version and a color-infused version are also available. 800.598.9663. www.prowoodmicro.com. Circle 105.

AZEK Building Products The AZEK to Mill program provides millwork shops and contractors with 1 1/4-inch-thick cellular PVC trimboards and sheets, making the task of laminating several thinner boards together to achieve the correct thickness a thing of the past. Skipping the board-laminating step is a major time and labor savings, so shops can produce more milled profiles, especially thicker items. AZEK to Mill provides the look and feel of wood trim without the maintenance issues, the manufacturer says, and is available in boards 9 1/4 inches wide by 18 feet long and in sheets 48 inches wide by 96 inches long. 877.275.2935. www.azek.com. Circle 106.



Beam Central Vacuums

OK, we know central vacs aren't within most LBM dealers' usual purview. But products that improve indoor air quality, such as central vacs, are becoming more and more in-demand by homeowners, and are giving dealers an opportunity to differentiate their offerings and expand installed sales programs. The Serenity QS Power Unit is particularly cool. The unit's collection receptacle is lined with an agent that prevents the formation and growth of mold. Its motor produces up to 640 air watts of cleaning power, but the system operates 4 decibels quieter than competing systems, the company says. A self-cleaning filtration system traps dust on its filter's surface membrane and then sheds it into the collection receptacle when the unit is turned off. 515.832.4620. www.beam.com. Circle 107.