

new products

Portable dentist "office"

Beldent, Inc., is marketing a dentist's "office in an attaché case" which it says makes it possible for dentists to make house calls—or to do dental work in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, industrial plants and other locations not equipped for conventional dentistry.

The 28-pound system is self-contained in a standard size attaché case. A dentist equipped with it can perform all types of operative and restorative dentistry, the company claims.

The system includes an electro-surgical device, an extra-oral light, a high-intensity diagnostic lamp, a pulp tester, hand-piece assembly with a high-torque motor, a foot control and an amalgamator.

*Beldent, Inc.
Clifton, N.J.*

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Nitrogen oxides sensor

The Air Pollution Control Office, recently published criteria on nitrogen oxides, a prime component of urban smog, and APCO will be issuing standards for urban NO_x levels soon.

Pollution Monitors, Inc., is marketing a new device that the company says will measure levels of nitrogen oxide and nitrogen dioxide simultaneously. The instrument weighs 16 pounds and is less than one and a half cubic feet in size. It measures the nitrogen oxides with a colorimeter which reads color formation of pollutants in a liquid reagent.

*Pollution Monitors, Inc.
Chicago, Ill.*

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New detergent builder

Guardian Chemical Corp. is marketing relatively small amounts of a substance called Deselex, which it says becomes a nonpolluting detergent builder when combined with sodium metasilicate, an ingredient in detergents for some years.

A major advantage of Deselex—the sodium salt of a glucono-citrate complex of a polyamino versenic acid—is that it is effective in very small quantities. For instance, one part Deselex

has the same laundering power as eight parts nitrilotriacetate. (NTA has been discredited because it apparently enhances the toxicity of heavy metals.)

The company says Deselex would not contribute to eutrophication and that it is biodegradable. Degradation occurs, however, over a relatively long period. But this is a small liability in view of the much smaller amounts used, says the company.

The company has a plant with an annual capacity of a million tons a year, a minute fraction of the total detergent builders used today. Company officials emphasize that they want detergent companies to give the product a thorough testing before large-scale use.

*Guardian Chemical Corp.
Happauge, N.Y.*

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Quiet air compressor

Noise pollution is an increasingly serious problem in urban areas, with air compressors on construction projects one of the major offenders.

Gardner-Denver Co. is now manufacturing air compressors that the company says reduce noise levels 70 percent below those of conventional compressors. This is accomplished by encasing the entire unit in a specially designed acoustical enclosure.

*Gardner-Denver Co.
Quincy, Ill.*

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Home water purifier

A recent Federal report says that a number of municipal water supply systems in the United States produce water that is contaminated with chemicals or bacteria (SN: 6/27/70, p. 614).

Westinghouse has demonstrated a home water purifier with 200 to 400 gallons daily capacity that uses tubular membranes to remove impurities by reverse osmosis.

Water is fed under pressure through a semipermeable membrane. Most of the water passes through the membrane to the low pressure side, and particles and dissolved salts are prevented from passing through, says the company.

*Westinghouse Electric Corp.
Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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SNO 3-27-71

Sulfur dioxide scrubber

The search is on for an economic and feasible process to clean stack gases of power plants and other industrial installations of sulfur dioxide, a major air pollutant.

North American Rockwell's Atomics International Division has come up with a process that it says could repay two-thirds of the cost of installation and operation through the sale of by-product sulfur or sulfuric acid.

Called the molten carbonate process, it uses a mixture of molten alkali metal salts heated to about 800 degrees F. After the liquid absorbs SO_2 , it is recirculated and regenerated for repeated use.

*North American Rockwell
Pittsburgh, Pa.*

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