

## COMPANIES IN THE NEWS

Klaus Parking Systems, in conjunction with **Arbor Building Group, Inc.**, has completed installation of the first triple stack parking system of its type in North America. Residents of the Jade condominiums, a high density infill project in Oakland, will simply activate a remote control and drive into a dedicated, secure parking slot, much like any suburban homeowner whose garage isn't filled to the brim with bikes and lawnmowers.

Both Arbor Building Group and Klaus Parking Systems are based in Lafayette and are involved with Meritage Homes, a publicly traded home building company ranked in the top 15 nationwide. This is Meritage's first urban infill project in the Bay Area.

Parking lift systems are not new to the Bay area or to high density infill projects. They gained acceptance in rental projects when architect Randy Harris of HDO Architects in Walnut Creek was working with Berkeley based developer Patrick Kennedy to increase unit density in municipalities with residential parking requirements. One early example using numerous vertical lifts allowed 29 parking spaces to be developed on a lot measuring less than 10,000 square feet.

In the case of the Jade project, HDO and Klaus were able to fit parking for 78 cars into a 12,000 square foot space. **Arbor Project Manager Tobin Basta** recalls the challenges of comparing the costs of the Klaus system and conventional surface parking. "The project was not financially feasible without achieving parking for 78 cars," says Basta. "Structured parking for that many spaces would have meant extensive excavation and 2 additional months of construction. Auto lifts solved the problem. It's an awesome solution." Klaus representative Norm Brudigam says that this particular lift option package was also attractive for other reasons. "The use of electric doors and dedicated remote controls for each owner's parking slot helped diminish concerns expressed by Meritage with market reception to the product."

Meritage Homes is planning a second Bay Area infill project which is currently under review with the City of Oakland and will also feature a Klaus parking system.

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**Clark Pest Control** is a family owned and operated company that has been servicing customers in Northern California since 1950. Clark Pest Control has always been the leader in providing the most effective and state of the art pest control services to our customers. We have just added using Reduce Risk or Green Materials to our services that we provide to our customers. These materials use natural plant extracts such as mint oil, cinnamon and garlic to control a full line of pest such as ants, spiders, roaches and wasp. We currently have an exclusive reduce risk granular formulation that we use as part of our regular preventative maintenance service for our residential customers. These products are now being offered as part of our Intergrated Pest Management program that we offer to our commercial and industrial customers. If your business is looking for a truly green pest control program please call **John Kelly** at 510-715-8349 to set up a free consultation and inspection of your business.

**Tucknott Electric Company** is proud to announce that we have won the coveted National Platinum Step Award for Safety and Evaluation from the Associated Builders and Contractors Inc. This is the 7th year in a row that Tucknott Electric has won this award. Simultaneous to receiving that award and part of the accreditation process, Tucknott has won for the 13th straight year the Accredited Quality Contractor Designation from the National ABC office. Tucknott is only one of three Electrical Contractors in the entire Bay Area that has achieved both of these awards.

Tucknott was also featured in the San Francisco Business Times as one of the "Top Electrical Contractors" in March of 2006. Tucknott is a full service electrical construction and maintenance contractor, serving the entire Northern California area. Tucknott is also an associate member of BOMA Oakland East Bay.

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**San Francisco Community Power.** Demand-Response is an important addition to a green portfolio and to a business' bottom line at a time of rising energy costs. Demand-Response programs reduce the

need for new power plants, diminish the need to pay out of state generators for peak power and help keep jobs in California by paying local businesses to participate.

For a limited time **SF Power** is offering a state-sponsored Demand-Response program that pays energy users to voluntarily reduce their electricity use for short periods of time during the summer and fall. SF Power is the only "aggregator" in the state authorized to enroll small and medium-sized (less than 200 kW) energy users into this program.

Here's how the program works:  
SIGN UP STEPS:

1. Identify building loads ( AC, elevators, lights etc) that can be curtailed from a central location. Secondly, identify a percentage of tenants you think will respond to a demand-response call. We will then estimate a Kw amount we think your site can curtail. For suggested loads, please click here our "Tip Sheet".

2. Complete the paperwork. It takes 5 minute and involves a one page Program Agreement; and a two page Authorization form; and a copy of your PG&E bill.

3. Get paid. We pay you a \$8.00/kw monthly June-Sept for having the load on standby regardless if you get called on to reduce. You will get called for no more than 24 hours in a month. If you cannot reduce, there is no penalty - we simply adjust your payments or drop you from the program.

4. Get bonuses. As part of signing up you will get a free electric meter upgrade (normally \$1,500). You also get 2 free pickup of batteries and fluorescent bulbs and free motion sensors.

For more information and to download the enrollment forms, please visit our website at [www.sfpower.org](http://www.sfpower.org)

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