



FROM SPACE DOWN TO EARTH

NASA Technology Makes Our Lives Better

Radiation Hazard Detectors

A small, portable device developed by NASA indicates the presence of harmful microwave radiation by sounding an alarm.

Radiation Insulation

Aluminized polymer films have protected spacecraft from radiation since NASA began missions to the Moon. These radiant barriers now save homeowners money by minimizing summer heat and winter cold.

Industrial-Strength Tape

A tape made from glass cloth coated with aluminum was developed by NASA to protect electric instrument coils and fluid lines during rocket launches. This super-duty tape benefits industries from builders to car manufacturers.

Welding Curtains

Transparent, heavy-duty vinyl curtains were first developed by NASA to block ultraviolet radiation. Versions today protect welders from irradiance and harmful blue light.

Advanced Plastics

Both spacecraft and electronic equipment need lightweight, low-cost materials for things like printed circuits in computers. These liquid crystal polymers are also used for food and beverage containers.

Portable Welder

A self-contained welding gun was originally designed by NASA. It is now used in the construction, automotive and appliance industries.

Cordless Drill

Cordless, lightweight, battery-powered tools came from portable drills that astronauts used to take samples of the moon's crust.

Structural Diagnosis

A non invasive technique based on space technology uses a neutron source and gamma ray detector to find environmental contamination harmful to historic structures.

Structural Fabrics

Lightweight, durable fabrics made of Teflon-coated fiberglass came from materials formulated by NASA in 1967 to make space suits. The fabrics are now used for roofing in structures like shopping malls, stadiums and airports.

Lightweight Boots

Super insulating materials developed for the space shuttle program and cushioning designed for space suits are now used to make boots more comfortable.

