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Be sure to check out the May/June issue of our newsletter for highlights from the 2006 KBIS show in Chicago. Burgin Construction will be attending the event and will provide you with all the hottest new products, industry news and standards and more!

## The At-Home Spa

The past few years have revealed the desires of homeowners to have the latest and greatest in kitchen technology. From refrigerators that create your shopping list to microwaves that automatically know how long certain foods need to be cooked, the trend in home remodeling is definitely high-tech and luxurious. These days however, we are seeing more and more how this trend is affecting bathroom remodels.

Gone are the days of the bathroom being nothing more than a necessary room with only the absolute basics. The bathroom of tomorrow is at hand and a new influx of high-tech bathroom products is offering up more choices than ever to turn this often overlooked room into an oasis of relaxation and luxury. Heated floors, mirrors with embedded television screens, programmable showers, multiple shower heads, towel warmers, whirlpool tubs with built-in wide screen televisions, and top of the line sound systems are becoming all the rage in today's bathrooms.



For the more budget conscious homeowner there are many choices they can make without going overboard. High-tech doesn't always have to mean exorbitant. Several simple items can make your

bathroom a more comfortable place without turning it into the Jetson's bathroom. One such high-tech luxury that has made its way into the everyday market is heated flooring. No one likes to wake up in the morning and immediately step onto ice-cold tile. This new technology allows the homeowner to set the temperature of the floor to their comfort level providing a warm, comfortable surface when stepping out of the shower.



Considering the fact that most people begin and end their day in the bathroom, is it really so far-fetched that they want the absolute best and most luxurious products at their disposal? Many homeowners admit that the bathroom is their place of escape, the one room where (if they are lucky) no one will disturb them and they can seek refuge, even if only for a few minutes. The technology boom it seems has hit every aspect of home life and has finally reached the one place that it may be needed most. Now, after that long day at the office, the hectic drive home, dinner and all the other chores associated with daily life you can simply open a door to your own quiet world, fill the tub to your preset specifications with the touch of a button, soak in a spa tub of calming blue water, enjoy your favorite prime time television show emerging from your mirror, and step out onto warm, soothing tile as you forget about the hectic world outside those doors.

## Remodeling In The News

On October 1, 2005 new energy efficiency standards went into effect for residential and nonresidential buildings. In response to California's energy crisis and in an attempt to increase energy delivery while reducing energy bills, this legislation was adopted and is in effect for all home remodeling projects that apply for a permit after the effective date.

The new title 24 standards require high efficacy (e.g., fluorescent) lighting or motion sensors in most rooms of the home including kitchens and bathrooms. In response to this new law the lighting industry has released new options in fluorescent and other energy efficient lighting solutions to provide homeowners with the look they want while complying with title 24.

Like many laws and code regulations, the terms of title 24 can be overwhelming and a bit confusing for consumers. To maintain our focus on customer service and quality work, Burgin Construction staff recently completed a training course on title 24 compliance. Through this training and our research into new products now on the market we are better able to assist our clients in choosing materials that comply with the law without sacrificing the look they want to achieve.

Wake up to Elegance

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## New and Notable Products:

### Hydro Systems Thermal Air –

With this new innovative technology Hydro Systems has introduced the latest in therapeutic bathing solutions. The Thermal Air System features numerous outlets in the bottom of the tub which release heated air for a soothing or invigorating bathing experience based upon your control of the true variable speed system. This “champagne bubble” effect massages your body with thousands of tiny bubbles aiding in relaxation, circulation, muscle and joint therapy and softer, cleaner skin.



The Thermal Air System is available for all Hydro Systems tubs. Call us today for more information on this exciting new therapy for your body and mind!

## Hue Are You?

The latest trend in bathroom elegance is Chromatherapy. This holistic healing idea has emerged as a new way to utilize color for overall health. It is based on the premise that certain colors are infused with healing energies and uses the colors of the rainbow to promote balance and healing in both the mind and the body.

Based on Chromatherapy research, each color has a special meaning:

Blue – relaxing and peaceful  
Purple – immunizing and tranquilizing  
Green – harmonious and stabilizing  
Yellow – hopeful and digestive  
Orange – creativity and ambition  
Red – stimulating and energizing

The consumer can choose one of the cooler colors to promote a relaxing feeling at the end of a long and stressful day, an invigorating warm color to prepare them for the day ahead, or a sequence with one color fading to the next to provide a spectrum of light.



Chromatherapy colors are most often found in air-jetted tubs. These ultra-deep baths offer several color choices to enhance the mood and promote a general feeling of wellbeing as well as gentle champagne like bubbles to help soothe and relax the muscles without the force of water jets. However, it isn't limited to just the tub. Chromatherapy is also available in sink basins and faucets, shower systems, and even overhead, wall, and in-floor lighting designs for an all over affect in the bathroom.

## Spring Has Sprung!

It's time for spring cleaning and that doesn't just apply to cleaning out closets, scrubbing baseboards and getting rid of old and unused items. It is also a time to spruce up the outside of your home and take care of a few things that need yearly touch ups. Taking the time to do some basic home maintenance each spring can save homeowners a ton of money and time in the long run. Following are some tips to help you get a headstart this spring.

- Smoke Alarms – First and foremost check your smoke alarm and batteries. Make sure that the alarm is in good working order and change out the batteries to ensure that there isn't a risk that they will run down and not work in an emergency.
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors – As with the smoke alarms, make sure that everything is working correctly and change out the batteries each spring.
- Gutters – Clean out gutters and downspouts to remove any debris that may be blocking them.
- Air Conditioner – Clean out around the air conditioner compressor to remove any debris that could get stuck or damage the compressor.
- Decks – Clean out beneath decks and porches, check waterproofing and treat mildew and fungus. Apply a fresh coat of waterproof stain if needed.
- Trees and Shrubs – Trim back any trees or shrubs that are touching the house.
- Roof – Check gutters, downspouts and the roof for any small leaks. Repair these before they become an expensive problem.
- Screens – Inspect and repair any torn or damaged screens.
- Weather-stripping – With spring comes the rain. Inspect all weather-stripping and replace if needed to save on energy costs and prevent water damage.
- Caulking – Check window caulking all around the home and re-caulk where needed.



With today's busy schedules it's always hard to find time for these types of chores but just one day each spring can save you time, not to mention money, in the long run.

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