The Allery HET

The Allery is a single flush 4.8L / 1.28G HET Toilet. This toilet's big selling point is a concealed trapway that provides for easy cleaning. Foremost has just finished its first project featuring Allery on the West Coast, where it was chosen for its high efficiency, price, and over-all modern style. Specs include: vitreous china; high efficiency toilet; 4.8Lpf / 1.28Gpf; and 3" Flush valve. FOREMOST GROUPS, INC.

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High efficiency toilet

New American-made Alto toilet delivers a powerful flush using only 1.28 gallons of water. Thanks to its 3" hybrid flush valve, the U.S.-made Alto 1.28 flushes 600 grams. The new toilet also comes in three configurations — ADA, elongated and round front. It features jet and hydraulic enhancements that virtually eliminate clogs and is WaterSenseTM compliant. Meets Buy America and ARRA requirements. MANSFIELD PLUMBING.

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The COSBY HET

The COSBY is a single flush 4.8L/1.28G HET. It's a 1Pc HET that has a MaP score of 800. It is a low profile 1Pc so it fits into many applications. This HET is ideal for small spaces such as condo's and apartments. CONTRAC® is the first brand in North America to offer a full line of vitreous china plumbing products exclusively designed for and marketed to the wholesale plumbing channel. CONTRAC®.

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ALTERNATIVE FUELS

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provide a degree of self-fulfillment

GEO is making a big splash these days. With a properly designed GEO, you could heat, cool and provide DHW. You will still need a source of electricity to drive the cycle. In many areas, electricity is still generated by coal, so you might end up with a coal-fired GEO system. Consider that, with a properly designed GEO system, you can get three or four units of energy for every unit of input.

Wind energy is yet another RE (renewable) alternative. This is a very site-specific technology and may require more maintenance than a simple solar collector. Wind may partner nicely with a PV array, offering energy input when the sun goes down, for example.

So study up on the various technologies and attend workshops to learn the finer points of installation and combining multiple sources. Consider experimenting on your own home or shop so you can walk the walk and talk the talk.

So, at the end of the day there is no free energy. However, the higher the fuel prices, the greater the creativity. Let's embrace it!

Bob "Hot Rod" Rohr has been a plumbing, radiant heat and solar contractor and installer for 30 years. Rohr is a longtime RPA member and Plumbing Engineer and Phc News columnist. Bob joined Caleffi North America as manager of training and education.