

#### How technology of nature is changing the nature of technology

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Image sources: Various

NCL, 19 Dec, 2010

#### What is it....

"application of biological methods and systems found in nature to the study and design of engineering systems and modern technology"

What is it called....

Also known as: biomimicry, biomimetics, bio-inspiration, biognosis

Different from using biological products, like antibiotics, wood, grains etc.



#### Silence of the train...



#### Shinkansen 500

## Chief engineer Eiji Nakatsu



#### Serrated edges on the feathers of owls



#### Pantograph of Shinkansen-500

Boom, boom...

# Tunnel booms Uneasiness for passengers







## This talk focuses on:

#### Bionics in the field of adhesion

•Only those technologies which have been successfully marketed or are on the verge of being so...





#### George de Mestral



#### Budrock (Arctium lappa)

## Walk the dog...





#### **Details of a budrock seed**

## Velcro







#### The name is bond...





Kaichang Li College of Forestry Oregon State University, USA

## PureBond<sup>™</sup>…





Byssus threads (keratin+ quinon-based proteins, etc)

Process for modification of Soy-protein

Hercules Incorporated and Columbia Forest Products
 PureBond<sup>TM</sup>

•50-90% reduction in emission of toxic products like HCHO
•Greener Synthetic Pathways Award for Li in 2007

## Quiet flows the blood, until...





#### **Clot formation**

## Platelet<sup>™</sup>..



•Brinker technologies (Aberdeen, UK)

Sealing of leaks in small bore pipelines, including deep sea ones.
 Also possible to deduce where the leak has occurred (radioactive tracers or pressure transients)
 Ryan et al. OTC 18882



## Foul play...





#### Biofouling

#### Antony Brennan University **of** Florida, USA

#### Sharklet<sup>™</sup>...





**Details of shark-skin** 

#### Sharks never face bio-fouling









### Diamonds are forever...



Sharklet surface does not allow bacteria to settle down
Hospital products like catheters, needles etc.

## Tears of a lotus...





#### **SEM structure of lotus leaf**



Formation of spherical droplets on the surface of lotus leaf

**Microstructures** Layer of air b/w surface and water **↓** surface for adsorption ↓ energy ↓ spreading of water **Formation of** spherical droplets

Barthlott and Neinhuis, Planta 1997



## Contaminant on a sculptured surface



Particles clinging to liquid droplets Water rolls on the particles

 $\uparrow$  adsorption  $\Rightarrow \uparrow$  energy

Contaminants cling to water surface

> Contaminants rest on tips

↓ contact with surface

↓ adhesion with surface

Particles roll away with the water droplets

#### Lotus-effect



# Particles cling to liquids on rough surfaces but not on smooth surfaces

Barthlott and Neinhuis, Planta 1997

## Lotusan®...



<u>Movie</u>

#### Self-cleaning paint

Developed by Prof. Wilhelm Barthlott, University of Bonn, Germany
 Manufactured by Sto Corporation, Germany
 Claimed to prevent algae and microbes

#### Dirt collector...







Bacteria in Dental Plaque (Magnified 30000 times)



Professor Staffan Kjelleberg University of Göteborg (Sweden)

**Professor Peter Steinberg University of New South Wales (Australia)** 



## Red alga Delisea pulchra

## Biosignal<sup>™</sup>





Sargassum sp.

Delisea pulchra

Dr Naresh Kumar University of New South Wales (Australia)





guftand jahaan-e-maa, aayaa ba too mee saazad guftam ke namee saazad, guftand ke barham zan

> "God asked me if I did find his universe to my liking and taste When I said no, then he replied, create your own and lay this waste"