

## Why did the laser cross the road?



Designer Hanyoung Lee has conceived a virtual pedestrian-crossing system made of plasma light beams. This glorified 'Walk-Don't Walk' installation is intended for the streets, and takes any guess-work away from the well-established semaphore systems we use today. The jaywalking-genius swears that his giant virtual characters crossing in front of traffic, increase driver and pedestrian awareness to the dangers on our highways. You're not kidding! Who in their right mind would drive a brand-new paint job through that scary looking disarray?



## Suits you sir!

How often do you wash your two-piece? Not enough we guarantee it; these abused, garments get covered in Champagne, prawn cocktail and cake, and then hardly ever get the clean treatment. Enter the Wash-in the-Shower suit; straight after a sweaty day in these debonair rags, just kick off your loafers and wander into the shower. The suit is soaked in seconds, washed, along with the wearer and ready for hanging out to dry. Not a bad process for the hangover either! The magic is in the drying, by the next morning everything is dry, pressed and creased to perfection. What was wrong with a bit of the old elbow-grease and some Febreze?

## A Bug's Life

This bug-like fire-fighting robot is the very latest in forest fire safety. The autonomous fire fighting bot gets its self-preservation instinct from very distant insect cousins, using heat and infrared sensors stored in its on-board antennae. The developers intend to deploy the bugs in forests and on large campus-style institutions.

Here, the sensors could pick up any heat disturbances that would send these pyro-critters into an automated, 'Red Adair' fire-fighting frenzy! By employing on-board extinguishers, and six-legged evasion techniques, the bugs should be able to reach, and extinguish fires before they sweep out of control. The technology will hopefully save valuable human life, all too often lost in blazing forest infernos.





# Fanshii that.

For the first time ever, two glass artists have jointly won the prestigious Bombay Sapphire prize. The prize was awarded to Japanese and UK artists Yuichi Higashionna and Annie Cattrell for excellence and innovation in the art of glass making. Judge and founder member of the Sapphire prize, Ron Arad, described 'Chandelier' as "a great example of Japanese contemporary art. It's rich, amazing and as a chandelier, in a class of its own". The work pays homage to the Japanese art of Fanshii (making everything small, round and cute) and in the creator's own words, "Is a little fluorescent monster"; one that bagged



him a share of 25 grand! The Lung-like 'Capacity' exhibit by Annie Cattrell represents an inextricable study of how the piece was created and what it represents. The act of breathing (glass blowing) has created the organ of breath. It's an evolutionary cycle that the judges couldn't resist.

[www.bombaysapphireprize.com](http://www.bombaysapphireprize.com)

# Social Climber

Considering he suffers from vertigo, Frenchman Alain Robert certainly knows how to rise above the rest of us. He generally views the high-rise city skyline as a range of man-made mountains, and he's climbed them all. With no equipment save a pair of climbing shoes and some chalk, he has conquered eighty of these steel and glass peaks, and at a pace that would make the most intrepid window cleaners drop their squeegees! His obsession began back in the eighties when he lost his keys, rather than waiting for his dad to get home he scaled eight floors and broke in the window, the rest as they say is history. He now grabs widespread attention for his sponsors by illegally climbing the world's biggest towers, followed by immediate on-the-spot arrest and a good authoritative wrist slapping. Alain is currently banned from entering China, the government there sensibly concerned about scraping him up from a Hong Kong sidewalk.



[www.alainrobert.com](http://www.alainrobert.com)

