

INVENTORS

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DIGEST

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TRUST & OPEN INNOVATION

A Case for 'Open Protection'

FORBES RILEY

Diary of a Former Flabby Saleswoman

MASTER DRAFTERS

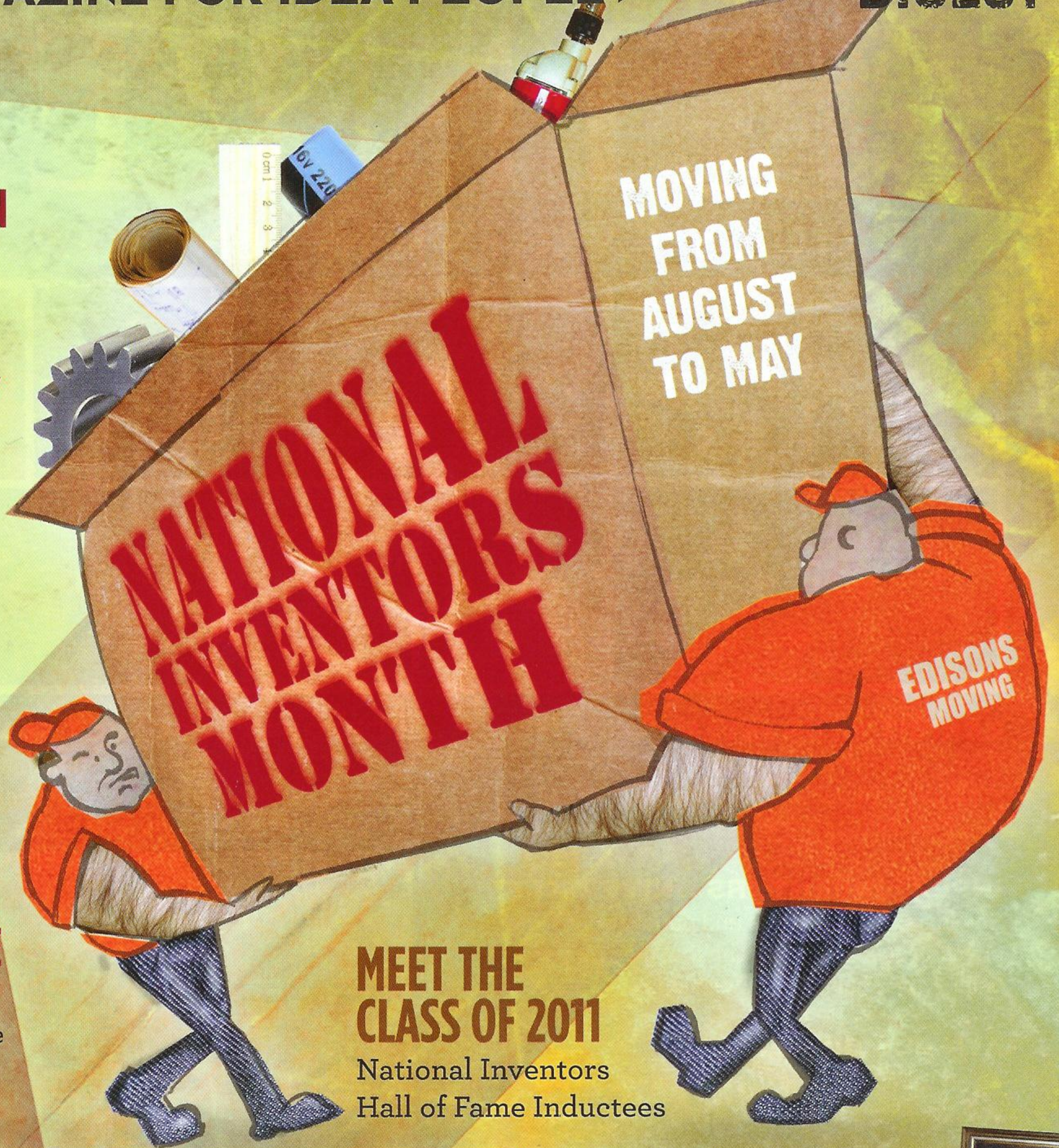
Why You Need a Patent Attorney

FAST TRACKING

How to Get Your Patent Quicker

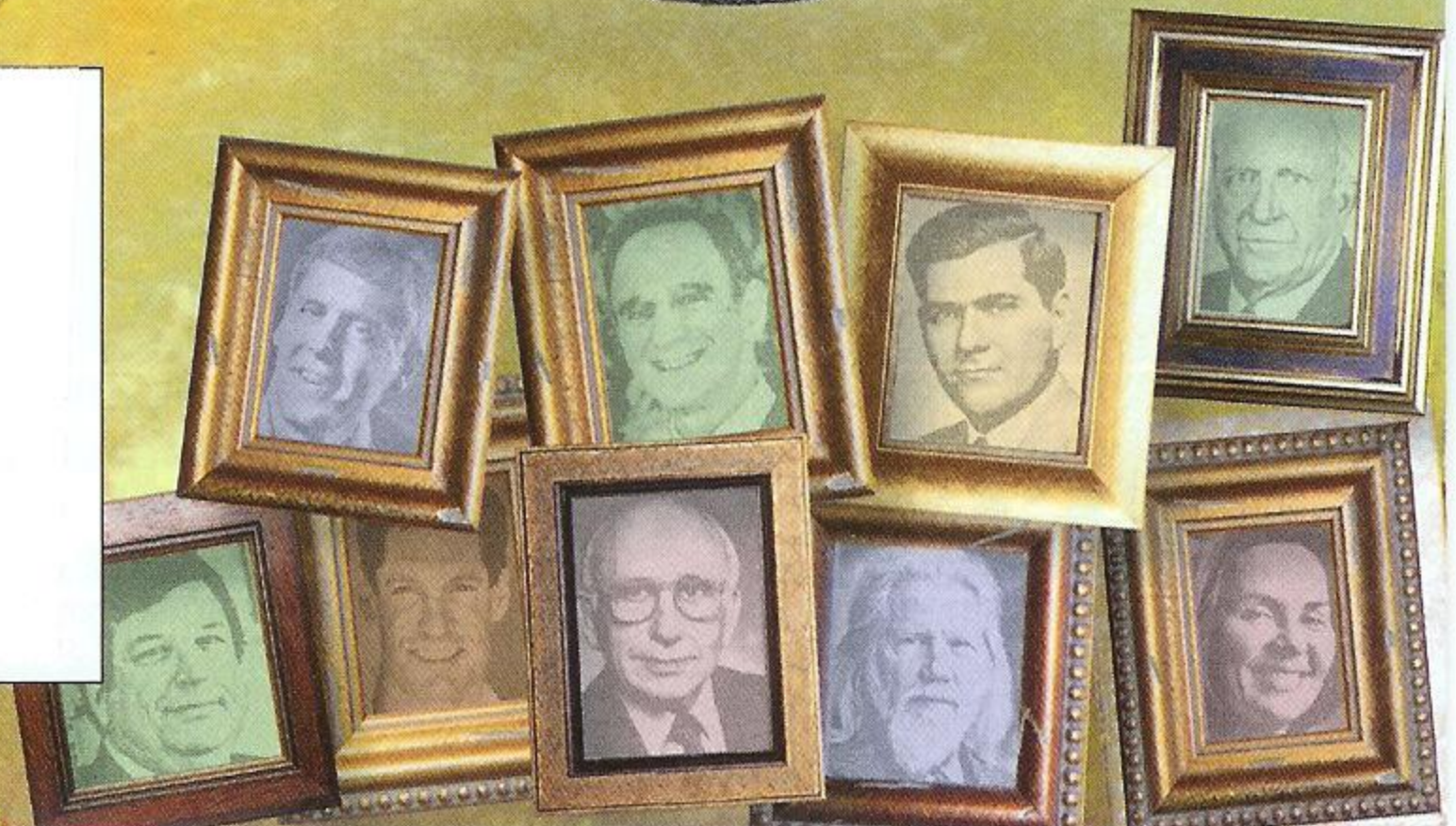
SPRECHEN SIE INVENTING?

New Euro Website Helps Inventors Launch Products



MEET THE CLASS OF 2011

National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees

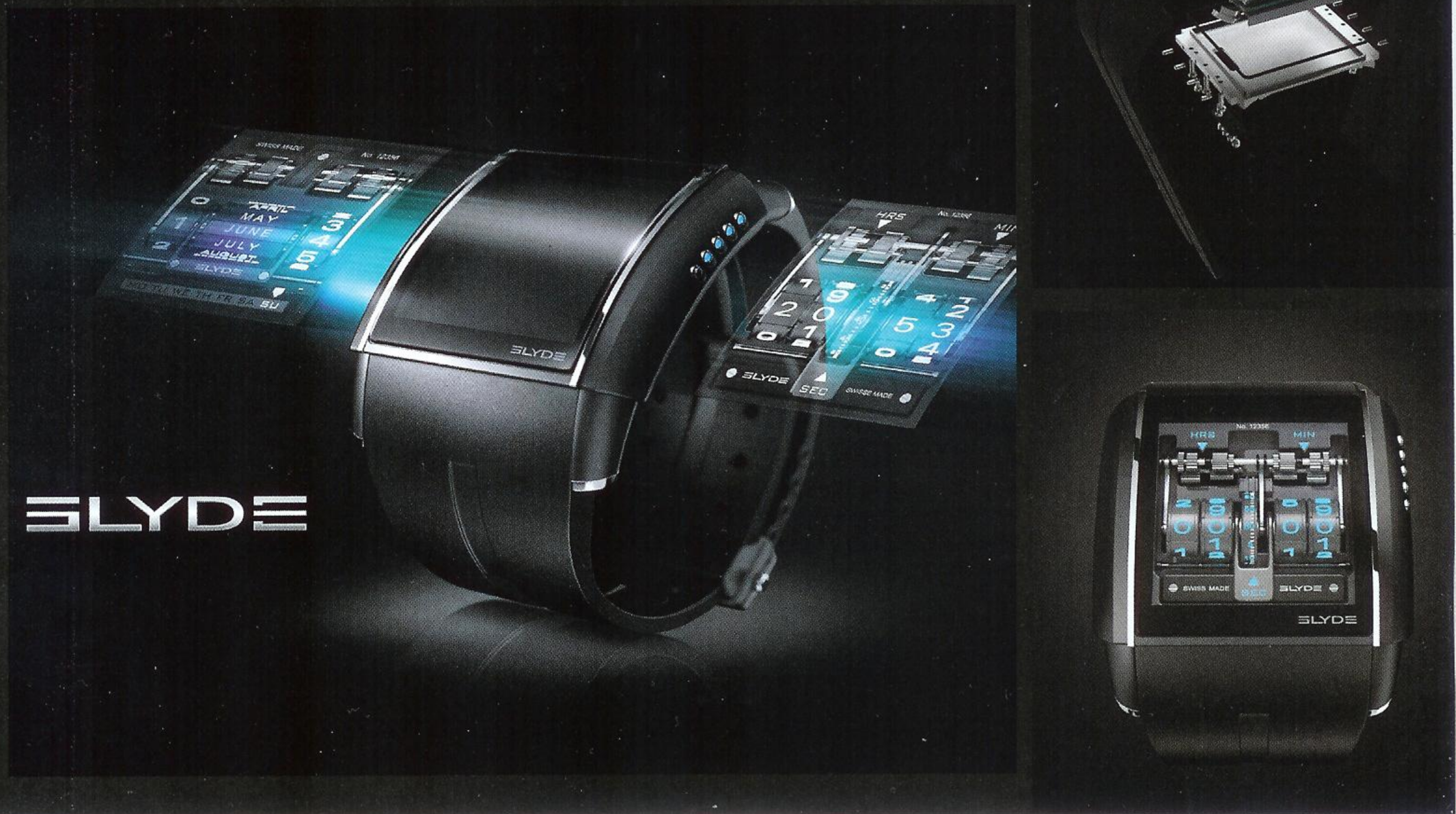


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Fill 'er Up

Soap companies might tell you **bacteria** is bad, but researchers from the University of Minnesota would beg to differ.

They discovered a way to make a fuel alternative using greenhouse gases. The process uses two types of bacteria to create hydrocarbons from sunlight and carbon dioxide. The hydrocarbons then become fuel.

Synechococcus is a photosynthetic bacterium that halts carbon dioxide in sunlight and changes that CO₂ to sugars. Then fatty acids are produced.

University of Minnesota biochemistry graduate student Janice Frias took nature a step further by figuring out how to convert those acids into ketones, an organic compound.

In the spirit of collaboration, colleagues from the university's College of Science and Engineering created catalytic technology that can convert the ketones into diesel fuel.

