Bullish in a Bear Market
Take a Competitive Lead with an Aggressive, Targeted Sales Strategy
Fantastic Finds

New home upgrades for contemporary lifestyles.
Compiled by Shannon Larsen

Bring the outdoors in

Stone Forest debuts several new products that evoke the tranquility of the outdoors inside the home with its complete line of garden, kitchen and bath amenities. Intended to fuse the outdoors with the interior of homes, Stone Forest incorporates stone products hand-carved from granite, marble onyx and travertine, and has recently begun using other materials such as wood, brass and rod iron. Wood products, such as the Windsor Bench, are designed with the simplicity of Japanese art and constructed from exotic, sustainable wood. The bench is constructed from the tree's natural outer edge to emphasize the wood's unique characteristics. It is available either as a straight slab or in a more curved shape for the feeling of true Japanese architecture. For more information, visit www.stoneforest.com.

Skinny is back

Inspired by the latest trend for the skinniest cell phones, iPods and appliances, Dornbracht has applied strength and grace in a slimmer, livelier fashion for its line of Tara Logic faucet designs. From basin faucets to floor mount tub filler to shower sets, the most striking characteristic is its single-lever control in any configuration. To imagine Tara Logic integrated into a living environment focused heavily on the Asian style of bathing, Dornbracht has created a showcase of six distinctive zones which can be viewed online at www.dornbracht.com.

Now that’s a shower

As a main manufacturer in North America for stainless steel fixtures, MGS has announced its new thermostatic shower valve with hand shower. Offered as an exposed or in-wall thermostatic mixer with built-in diverter, the valve incorporates a volume control that is operated independently of the temperature control. The stainless steel rough-in kit allows for the installer to prepare the shower or tub valve locations and connections in advance, and set the fixtures once the final tile or stone has been laid. Using the most progressive machines available, MGS creates each piece utilizing the discoveries and development of a new Investment Casting Technology application, resulting in a smooth and seamless fixture, without screws. For the Rolls Royce of showers, visit www.mgsdesigns.com.
Stealing European décor

NY LOFT added another exciting Italian furniture line this month to its pre-existing collection of European designed home interiors. The debut of ELITE, a sophisticated style that combines natural and warm materials, permeates the contemporary home with ethnic influence through an exclusive line of chairs, tables, sofas, beds and lamps. The Duse Armchair from NY LOFT's latest collection, made of 100 percent sumptuous leather, is equipped with an un-deformable foam seat and back for true comfort and Italian style. Also designed and manufactured for the Zanette Open System, a European-style home is the walk-in closet featuring acid etched glass finishes. The spacious wardrobe with folding doors, modular drawers, shelves and hanging rails is available for most types of closet configurations. For more information, visit www.nyloft.net.

You’ve got mail

Architectural Mailboxes, an internationally acclaimed California-based company, offers new mailbox designs with large incoming mail slots/doors, spacious storage compartments and secure locking doors for the highest protection of privacy. This wide collection includes new sleek wall mounting models and elegant curbside mailboxes available in antique bronze, copper, nickel and polished brass. The Metropolis design is constructed for unparalleled resistance to harsh weather conditions and is finished in either a satin or progressive swirl pattern. It is assembled with corrosion resistant stainless steel and aluminum hardware. For more designs, visit www.architecturalmailboxes.com.

One-stop shop

H.D. Buttercup, a 100,000-square-foot emporium for the world’s most innovative and trendsetting home furnishings assortment, cuts out the middleman in the greater Los Angeles area. It’s called “manutailing,” where manufactures can sell their products as retailers. The revolutionary new concept, created by CEO Evan Cole, gives customers direct access to an astounding array of world-class furniture at discounted prices that were previously accessible only to interior designers or retail buyers. The carefully curated collection comprised of over 50 manufacturers offers customers over $100 million worth of inventory. For site details and product lists, visit www.hdbuttercup.com.