

Super-thin Material Cools Buildings

A team of engineers from the University of Colorado Boulder has created a super-thin material that could help keep buildings cool. Engineers from the university developed the revolutionary new material, that is very thin and can cool objects even under direct sunlight. The material does not need energy to work nor does it need water to help keep things cool. The engineers say the new material could provide an answer to air conditioners, which are expensive to run and need a lot of water. The material is unlike anything found in nature. It is a glass-polymer hybrid that is just 50 micrometers thick. That's slightly thicker than the aluminium foil we use for cooking.

The engineers explained how their new material works. They said when it is put on top of something, two things happen. The first thing is that it cools the object underneath by reflecting the sun's rays back into space. At the same time, the second thing happens - the material removes the object's own heat and sends that into the air. An engineer said: "The key advantage of this technology is that it works 24/7 with no electricity or water usage....We're excited about the opportunity to explore potential uses in the power industry, aerospace, agriculture and more."

Source: www.breakingnewsenglish.com

Vocabulary

revolutionary - completely new and having a great effect

hybrid - something that is a mixture of two very different things

potential - possible when the necessary conditions exist

aerospace - the industry of building aircraft, vehicles and equipment to be sent into space

Comprehension Questions

1. Who created the super-thin material?
2. How thick is the new material?
3. What is the new material slightly thicker than?

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

テキスト全文はレッスン受講時に担当講師よりお受け取りください。