Bionic Engineer

Hugh Herr’s PowerFoot could make life better for countless amputees. Herr should know; he wears two of them, p38

Plus

NEW ASSEMBLY TECHNOLOGIES SLASH COSTS, p42
After hearing a college lesson on Pierre Schaeffer and his potentiometer d’espace, Raven Sanders, a student at the Lyle School of Engineering at SMU, decided that Schaeffer had the right idea when it came to audio mixing — a 3-D approach. She created a flat touch screen that works through frustrated total internal reflection. Sanders says the ease of use of this device over a mixing board allows for intuitively determining the audio source location and makes mixing surround sound fun again.