CAT Media Department

Press Release

CAT's 'Evil Genius' sees 4th Book Published

A Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) student is currently completing a degree in technology, working towards a Masters in sustainable architecture and awaiting the publication of his fourth book!

Contact: Amanda Roll Pickering (Email: media@cat.org.uk)

Date: 15/02/2006



Gavin Harper is one of a growing number of students on CAT's Masters in Architecture: Advanced Environmental and Energy Studies, a programme run in conjunction with the University of East London (UEL) in Wales. The programme's flexible nature allows him to study whilst completing the final year of an undergraduate degree and working on a range of technology-based books for McGraw-Hill Publishing, including the forthcoming 'Solar Energy Projects for the Evil Genius', which has been largely inspired by Gavin's studies.

Gavin, who lives in Essex but spends a week every month studying intensively in Wales, explained: "I left school at 16 because I didn't really feel challenged and I'd been invited to take up a position at a leading engineering company. When things didn't work out, I contacted the Open University and was accepted onto a BSc (Hons) degree in Technology.

"I began the course the same year that I decided to have a go at writing. I'd been doing up an old Mini and had built up a wealth of knowledge that I felt could really benefit people working on advanced motor projects. Editors at McGraw-Hill saw the potential and offered me a contract for a book called '50 Awesome Auto Projects for the Evil Genius'.

"It felt wonderful to have my own book published, and I've since repeated the trick with two others, 'Build your own Car PC' and '50 Model Rocket Projects for the Evil Genius'. I've also been very lucky to be accepted onto CAT's Masters in Architecture: Advanced Environmental and Energy Studies, which is an absolutely fantastic programme. The staff are terrific, the lectures are fascinating, there's a really diverse student body, and everyone has something different to add to the melting pot of fantastic ideas.

"The technology I've learnt through my books has really helped me, everything I've learnt through the course has contributed to

my new book, 'Solar Energy Projects for the Evil Genius'. The students and staff at CAT have been excellent in providing me with info."

News Index (Editor's Notes are also available)

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Editor's Notes on

CAT's 'Evil Genius' sees 4th Book Published

Gavin's books are available through Amazon.com and all good retailers.
'Solar Energy Projects for the Evil Genius' will be published in April 2006.
ISBN numbers for Gavin's books:
50 Awesome Auto Projects for the Evil Genius - 0-07-145823-9
Build your own Car PC 0-07-146826-9
50 Model Rocket Projects for the Evil Genius 0-07-146984-2
Solar Energy Projects for the Evil Genius 0-07-145822-0

The Centre for Alternative Technology is a pioneering research and demonstration centre that inspires, informs and enables people to explore new ways of living. Opening to the public back in 1975, it has established a worldwide reputation as one of the leading organisations demonstrating ecological technologies and lifestyles. CAT presents practical solutions to environmental problems in a fun and informative way.

CAT and UEL's MSc Architecture: Advanced Environmental and Energy studies is a unique programme which examines the relationship between human beings and the built environment. The programme is divided into two parts: Environment and Energy Fundamentals, and The Building in an Environmental Context. For further details, call 01654 705981 or visit www.cat.org.uk/courses

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