

# name that widget!

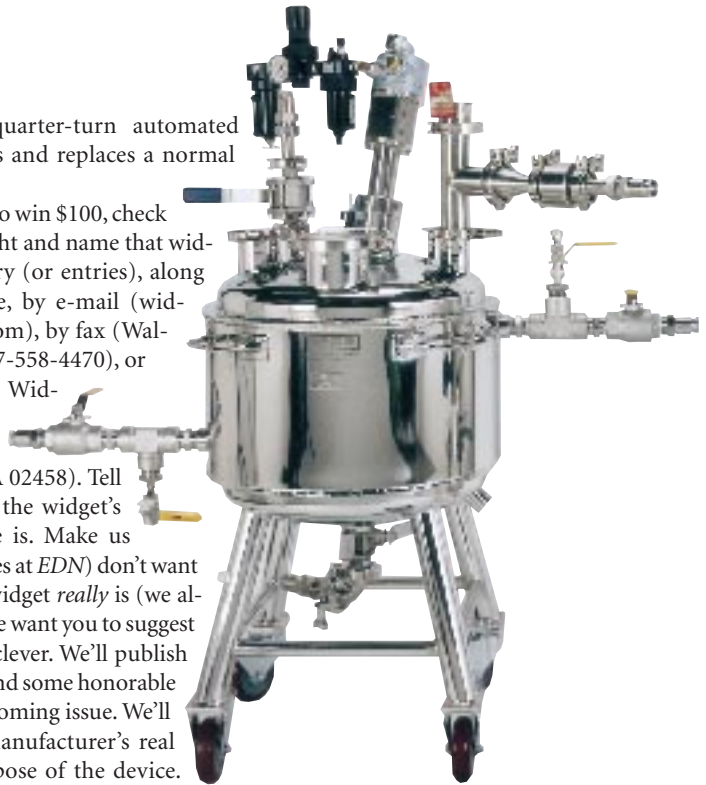
Enter our  
contest and  
win  
BIG!!

**D**on Callentine of Grayhill Inc wins \$100 for suggesting that our Oct 22, 1998, widget (see photo below) is a gerbil-powered engine and drive train for the new VW bug. The gerbil, Don says, resides in the main engine block (the red subassembly) and receives fuel (gerbil chow) and air via the fuel-injection module above it. An ignition module (small, yellow battery) shocks the gerbil into motion, transferring its movements to the car's front wheels via a treadmill and two wheel-drive mechanisms (the two black, lateral subassemblies). When the driver shifts into overdrive, the gerbil receives harder and faster shocks, causing it to run faster. With a shift into reverse, the ignition module shocks the gerbil only on its left side, causing it to turn around and run the other way. Optional, higher powered engines have larger engine blocks to accommodate rats and other large rodents.

We congratulate Don for his funny suggestion, and we apologize to Volkswagen, animal lovers, and the widget's manufacturer for Don's warped sense of humor. Actually, the red, black, and yellow widget is the Model IND sensor from ifm efector inc, which monitors

the position of quarter-turn automated switches and valves and replaces a normal switch box.

For your chance to win \$100, check out the photo at right and name that widget! Send your entry (or entries), along with the issue date, by e-mail ([widget@edn.cahners.com](mailto:widget@edn.cahners.com)), by fax (Wallace P Widget, 1-617-558-4470), or by mail (Wallace P Widget, *EDN Magazine*, 275 Washington St, Newton, MA 02458). Tell us what you think the widget's name and purpose is. Make us laugh! We (the judges at *EDN*) don't want to know what the widget *really* is (we already know that); we want you to suggest something silly or clever. We'll publish the winning entry and some honorable mentions in an upcoming issue. We'll also tell you the manufacturer's real name and the purpose of the device. Please supply an e-mail or mailing address, so we can notify you if you win. Thanks for playing!



**Name This widget and win \$100.**

## winners!

From our Oct 22, 1998 contest

### FIRST PRIZE: \$100

**Don Callentine of Grayhill Inc:** A gerbil-powered engine and drive train for the new VW bug is not exactly what ifm efector inc had in mind for its Model IND sensor, which actually replaces a normal switch box and monitors the position of quarter-turn automated switches and valves.



### RUNNERS UP

**The prism (personnel reality/invisible simulation module), a holographic personnel projector with remote cloaking device. You mount Prism in your office cubicle to project your virtual image hard at work at your**

**workstation. You are then free to roam the office fully cloaked with the small remote unit.**

—Caprioli family

**A Roborouter, an artery anti-clogging device. The Roborouter's wireless brush system provides remote feedback and control. At either end of the device, brushes work in counter-rotation for maximum effectiveness after entry into the body.**

—Jerry Rosen,  
Rosen Associates Inc

**A BNC-to-fire-hydrant adapter**

—Alan Sykoff,  
Peerless Instrument Co Inc

**A dual toilet-paper dispenser with battery backup**

—Mick Heikkola,  
Micron Technologies Inc

**An electronic cigar humidor**

—Larry Tichauer