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SUPERNOVAE

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MACHINE BRAIN

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Trillions of beneficial microbes thrive on the surface of our bodies and deep within our tissues. By identifying the specific effects that some of these tiny denizens have on our health, researchers are gaining a new view of how our bodies function and how certain modern diseases, such as obesity and autoimmune disorders, can arise. Image by Bryan Christie.

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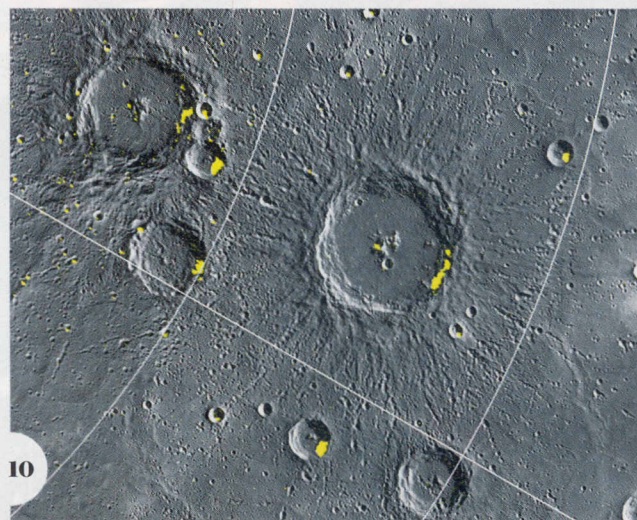
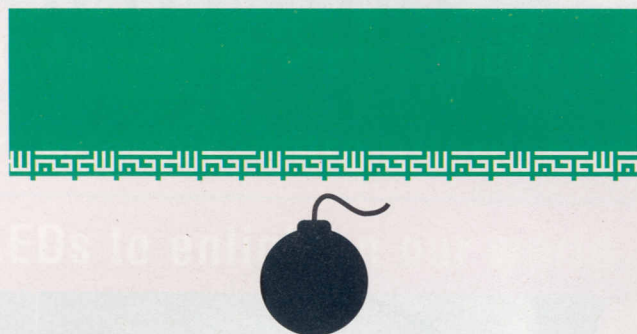
Where water goes. *By Mark Fischetti*

ON THE WEB

The Future of Energy

The race is on to reinvent the energy landscape. From mini nuclear reactors to better geothermal and from cleaner internal combustion to biofuels, the field has its established favorites—and plenty of long shots.

Go to www.ScientificAmerican.com/jun2012/energy



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