

Technology Worth Another Look!

In January 2008 Folded Homes launched our family of yurt shelters with our [TekYurts](#) and [UtiYurts](#). Developed and rigorously tested in the three years following the devastating 2005 earthquake in Pakistan, the yurts are inexpensive, simple to assemble, and highly configurable. A unique characteristic of these shelters are their 3-inch (7.62 cm) thick double walls that can be [insulated](#) with any locally available biomass, making these structures true four-seasons shelters.



(left) TekYurt with open door and galvanized central chimney for heat or ventilation, (right) TekYurt window

Last September we expanded the yurt family by introducing the [LiteYurt](#), a single-walled yurt which like its siblings can be connected to up to five other yurts to create [multi-room structures](#).

Our Yurt shelters are based on 'origami architecture', erected by folding die-cut flat panels into three-dimensional building blocks and then assembling those blocks into the structure. [Icosa Village](#) pioneered this technology with its [IcoPods](#) and [DecaPods](#) which are now exclusively distributed by Folded Homes.

The fundamental technology behind the yurts and the pods is the same, and both families of shelters are designed for years of use.



IcoPods and DecaPods in Barcelona Spain



The two shelter families differ in several important ways:

[IcoPods and DecaPods](#) are gorgeous geodesic domes that make a signature architectural statement. A Pod's building blocks are taped and sometimes glued together. If aesthetics is central to your shelter decision, consider a Pod.

[LiteYurts, UtiYurts, and TekYurts](#) offer a highly utilitarian solution to the problem of providing low-cost housing. Their elegance lies in their cost-benefit efficacy. Yurts simply bolt together, are almost indestructible, and are quite tolerant of assembly errors. If providing cheap effective shelter is your primary concern, consider a Yurt.

Pods and Yurts: two families, five shelter variations, one fundamental technology. It's a technology worth another look!

Five-Year Anniversary Proves Extruded Plastic Longevity

Still "[looking like the day we finished putting it up](#)" the [Mackinaw Mill Creek Campground IcoPod](#) celebrated its fifth anniversary in February 2009, demonstrating that [properly maintained](#), the extruded plastic sheets that all Folded Homes Pods and Yurts



5-year-old IcoPod still going strong!

are manufactured from will provide years of shelter.

LiteYurts – Rigid Walled Shelter for the Price of a Tent

Folded Homes' family of yurt shelters grew to three with the addition of the LiteYurt last fall. The single-walled [LiteYurt](#) joins its' double-walled brethren: UtiYurts and TekYurts. LiteYurts are cost competitive with similarly sized refugee tents yet provide their inhabitants with the security of a completely waterproof, rigid-walled shelter. LiteYurts are an ideal shelter solution where reducing [cost](#) is a paramount concern and where weather conditions don't demand an insulated shelter.



Single-walled LiteYurt on display at the One Earth, One Dream festival in Laguna Beach 10/08

Icosa Village Pods Once Again Available

After a hiatus of almost three years, [IcoPods](#) and [DecaPods](#) are once again available for purchase. Lessons learned from their December 2005 deployment high in the Pakistani Himalayas following the devastating



DecaPod interior with translucent windows above and Plexiglas windows below



DecaPod at Vancouver Convention Center, BC Canada

earthquake there lead to design changes that increased the robustness of the DecaPods. Peruse our [gallery](#) of Pod installations in Pakistan, Spain, Italy, Canada, and the United States. A comprehensive set of [Pod FAQs](#) is available.

Rescued Pig Spends Cold Winter Toasty Warm in Insulated Yurt

Raymond is a pot-bellied pig rescued from dire straits in northeastern Pennsylvania. For the last five months he has thrived in his new home in a double-room Yurt shelter at the [Indraloka Animal Sanctuary](#) in Mehoopany. He declared his unheated new home "[toasty and warm](#)" because his Yurt is insulated with straw.



TekYurt and UtiYurt connected together to form a two room animal shelter.

Distributors Wanted

Folded Homes is actively seeking individuals and organizations to distribute our Pods and Yurts. Become a commissioned broker and earn up to 15% of the value of orders you generate. Contact info@foldedhomes.com for information.

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