



NEW STERLING SUPERMAX CLASS C

Gulf Stream recently unveiled the Sterling SuperMax C, which will be available for 2009 and features a new 19,500-pound GVWR Sterling cutaway truck chassis from Daimler Trucks North America LLC. The SuperMax C is equipped with a Cummins ISL diesel engine that is purported to get 14 MPG, is available in three double-slideout floorplans in 31- to 34-foot lengths and is designed with Gulf Stream's new oversize cabover loft. The cabover loft is "a true loft rather than just an overhead bunk," says Dean Crane, Gulf Stream's director of public relations. Gulf Stream intends to make the new loft a standard feature on all of its Class C's.

Also standard in the SuperMax C are maple cabinet doors, electric awnings, a booth dinette and 7,500-pound hitch receiver. The SuperMax C carries a base MSRP of \$95,000.

**Gulf Stream Coach Inc., (800) 289-8787,
www.gulfstreamcoach.com. — Bob Ashley**

THE TOUGH GET TOUGHER

There are at least 101 reasons to carry a roll of duct tape in your motorhome's repair kit. From sealing leaky hoses to patching ripped screens, duct tape does it all. While duct tape has been around for more than 60 years, the latest offering from the makers of Gorilla Glue claims to be the toughest tape on the market.

Gorilla Tape was developed to stay stuck on virtually any surface: porous, wood, stucco and other surfaces regular duct tape can't handle. The tape's features include double-thick adhesive, strong reinforced backing and an all-weather shell. According to the company, it works in nearly every weather condition and is two to three times thicker — and stickier — than average duct tape, so it will work indoors and out.

Carried at most home improvement retailers, prices range from \$5 for a 12-yard roll to \$10 for a 35-yard roll. **Gorilla,** (800) 966-3458, www.gorillatape.com.



UNFOLDING FUN

Tooting around the campground or exploring new destinations on a bike is worth every spin of the wheel, but packing the bike doesn't have to mean wrestling it through the motorhome door or attaching a rack on the RV only to worry about the bike getting weathered. Instead, Downtube has a bike that folds up so small you can fit it in a suitcase.

Downtube bikes come in eight- or nine-speed designs and are easy to fold and unfold. The 8H is its most popular eight-speed, with 20-inch-wheels, a front suspension and an internal hub, which means no external shifter and no gears — so there's no way to improperly shift. And with the shifting mechanism completely sealed, it stays clean and is maintenance-free. The FS (full-suspension) is said to be the lowest priced nine-speed folder out there. It's a 20-inch-wheel bike with a preload-adjustable transarch suspension fork, alloy and stainless frame and stem quickreleases.

But before taking off on your RV trip, be sure to check out the bike-fitting instructions on the company's Web site, to make the proper adjustments to optimize your bike-riding comfort. Prices range from \$299 to \$585. **Downtube,** (215) 245-4032, www.downtube.com. — *Marleen Canniff*