

Re: New invention from MIT

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- *From:* "James Arthur" <dagmargoodboat@xxxxxxxx>
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On Feb 2, 8:50 am, John Larkin
<jjlar...@xx> wrote:

On Fri, 02 Feb 2007 03:19:55 -0800, The Phantom <phan...@xxxxxxx>
wrote:

Or, The State of Technical Literacy in the US

Did anybody see this small announcement in EE Times, and now in
Scientific
American?

"To recharge portable electronics, scientists hope to perfect a method for transmitting electrical energy wirelessly. The effect, which has not yet been demonstrated, would take advantage of induction, in which a varying magnetic field can induce electrical flow in a nearby conductor. To boost the range and power, Massachusetts Institute of Technology researchers propose introducing a short gap in a metal loop and attaching two small disks at each end. When electrified, such an object has a natural frequency that results from current flowing back and forth along the loop from one disk to the other. If a second loop has the same frequency, it should be able to receive energy from the other through the magnetic field. From a few meters away, the rate of energy transferred might reach tens of watts, or enough to power a laptop, according to simulations presented November 14 at a meeting of the American Institute of Physics."

As Winfield would say, "Sheesh!"

Re: New invention from MIT

They're going to take advantage of induction, eh? What a great idea!

They've only simulated the concept so far; no hardware yet, apparently.

I hope they try standing near their laptop as it receives tens of watts through a distance of a few meters.

EE Times has a page where they announce one or two such stunning breakthroughs every week. I can't recall one of them ever becoming a real product.

You're forgetting neural networks. Oh, wait, we've all forgotten those. How 'bout fuzzy logic?(*)

(*) True story: In line, boarding a plane in the midst of the craze, two fuzzy evangelicals were arguing a finer point of fuzzy logic. "Fuzzy logic?" says I, busting in. "Yes!" they replied, welcoming the fresh meat with carnivorous anticipation. "Ehh ... better than no logic at all, I s'pose," says myself in turn (nearly bustin' up, I had to turn to hide an ear-to-ear Cheshire grin). Stoney silence ensued, a great improvement!

Cheers,
James

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