

Personal Digital Assistance

An implanted identifier, a powerful pad, and handheld data transfer

A CHIP IN YOUR SHOULDER IMPLANTED IDENTIFICATION DEVICE

Sure to get under the skin of privacy advocates, Applied Digital Solutions' VeriChip is a 12mm by 2.1mm radio frequency device implanted under the epidermis that transmits a unique verification number when its activated with a proprietary external scanner. This number is displayed by the scanner and relayed to a secure data storage site. The company recommends the device for high-security areas such as nuclear power plants, but also suggests that financial institutions would benefit from tagging their customers to help prevent identity theft.



Implanted identification chip: The death knell of the "I left my ID in my other pants" excuse.

Your personal electronic devices will get a charge out of this powered pad.



WIRELESS WATTS UNIVERSAL CHARGING PLATFORM

If your desk has more cradles than a maternity ward, relief is at hand. Splashpower Ltd., a company based in Cambridge, England, has designed a system that charges portable electronic devices without plugs or cradles.

The prototype system contains two parts. The SplashPad is a universal charging platform that plugs into an electrical outlet.

The SplashModule is a receiver that's embedded in the host device (a PDA or cell phone). To charge compatible devices, simply lay them on the SplashPad.

HANDS-ON COMMUNICATION SKIN-TO-SKIN DATA TRANSFER

At one time, a simple handshake was enough to seal a deal. If the research of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone and its subsidiary NTT DoCoMo bears fruit, that handshake may not only seal the deal but transfer an electronic contract between the two parties' PDAs. The system, based on the conductivity of human skin (or, alternatively, clothing's conductivity), allows data to be transferred between two hand-grasping individuals at speeds of up to 10 megabits a second. Skin-to-skin data transfer isn't new, but this is the first to offer speeds that rival broadband internet connections.



Transfer an electronic business card with a single human touch.

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Applied Digital Solutions' VeriChip
www.adxs.com/prodsevp/verichip.html

Splashpower Ltd.
www.splashpower.com

Human Handshake

(article from NewScientist.com)
www.newscientist.com/hottopics/tech/article.jsp?id=ns99992891