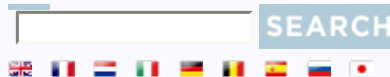




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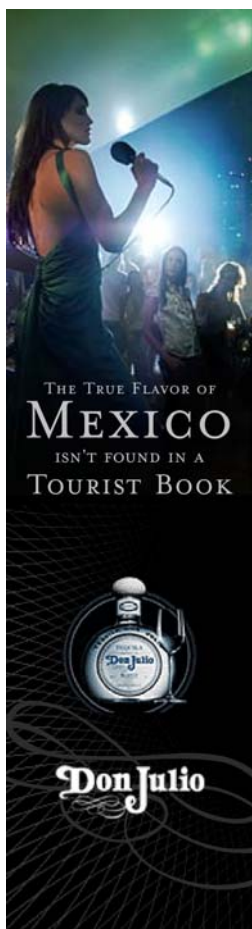
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New Phone Concepts Juice Themselves Up



French designers ModeLabs have come up with three new cell phone concepts that use the inherent motion of their use to charge them up. The first (and most practical/interesting, in my opinion) is the U-Turn, a phone that gets juiced up by flipping the keyboard out. Less practical are the YoYo, getting charged by bouncing around while hanging around your neck, and Runaway, which gets its juice by being attached to your wrist while you run.

That's the U-Turn up above, on the other side check out the YoYo and Runaway. What do you guys think, will this sort of thing catch on? It seems like such limited motion couldn't fully charge a phone, but it would be a nice supplement and could help end the stranded feeling you get when your phone dies when you're out away from a charger.



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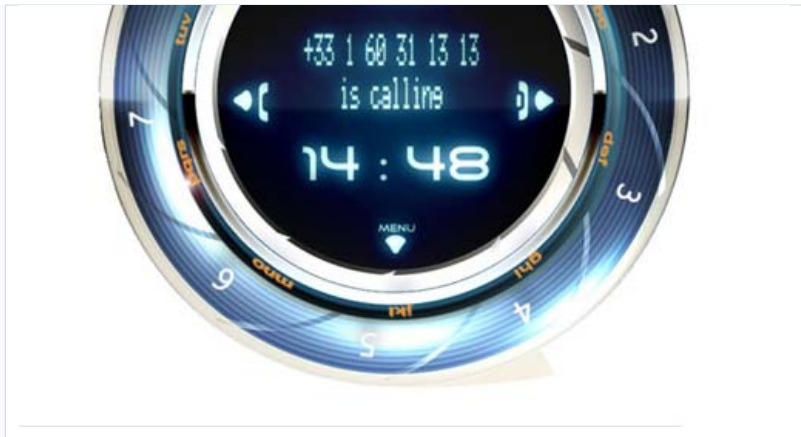
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COMMENTS



[snoldak924](#) says:

Has no one heard of manual crank chargers? Much more efficient, and you

can keep your phone in your pocket like a normal person:

Ben Longo | Email | AIM

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12/26/06 11:34 AM



5ybarite says:

esp with the UTurn design, I would think that the fact that you have to charge as a function of opening the phone would hurt the battery charge life cycle. I don't believe that these have enough main stream appeal to catch on though.

12/26/06 12:03 PM



Daniel Rutter says:

God, I hate concept gadgets. These are a particularly egregious example. They look cool as all get-out, but they're completely physically impossible to make.

Even if a cellular phone's internal circuitry consumes *no power at all*, the phone must consume a large fraction of a watt, or else it won't be able to make itself heard to the base station.

This is at least a couple of orders of magnitude away from what you'd be able to get from any of these mechanisms, and probably more like four or five orders. "Automatic" chargers deliver wristwatch, not cellphone, energy levels.

If you like the idea of jogging all day to build up one minute of talk time then be my guest, but, as mentioned above, a little hand crank is a zillion times as practical.

I talk about this concept as it relates to cordless mice here:
<http://www.dansdata.com/io046.htm>

12/27/06 12:45 AM

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