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MIT has demonstrated power transfer without wires. Many of us may recognize this as something [Nicola Tesla did a century ago](#), but who's counting:

Realizing their recent theoretical prediction, they were able to light a 60W light bulb from a power source seven feet (more than two meters) away; there was no physical connection between the source and the appliance. The MIT team refers to its concept as "WiTricity" (as in wireless electricity). The work will be reported in the June 7 issue of Science Express, the advance online publication of the journal Science.

[Goodbye wires! - MIT News Office](#)

This seems to be a big day for proprietary claims on obvious prior art. J. Craig Venter and his institute are trying to patent life:

A research institute has applied for a patent on what could be the first largely artificial organism. And people should be alarmed, claims an advocacy group that is trying to shoot down the bid. The idea of owning a species breaches "a societal boundary," said Pat Mooney of the Ottawa-based ETC Group, which is asking the patent applicants to drop their claim. Creating and owning an organism, he added, means that "for the first time, God has come to a halt."

[First patent claimed on man-made life form, and challenged](#)

Darn, why didn't we think of that!?