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By:

[The VoIP Bicycle](#)

A possible solutions for remote areas

Although we're living in the XXI'st century, and the development of technology seems to know no boundaries, there are about 1 billion persons out there who don't even benefit from one the most basic utilizes: electrical power. Practically, without power, there can be no telecommunications. Or are we wrong? It looks like we might be, because Inveneo, a nonprofit group of inveterate high-tech adventurers, has just found a solution to this problem, according to Ephraim Schwartz for InfoWorld. Thus, the group has developed a Linux-based VoIP system, which has a very special feature. It's powered by the electric current obtained from pedaling on a bicycle, connected to a dynamo and a power adapter. Inveneo puts everything together with off-the-shelf hardware that is low-cost, easily replaced, and - it is hoped - easy to troubleshoot and fix. The bicycle-powered system brings not just VoIP but also e-mail and Web browsing to remote areas, using a combination of Linux and the Asterisk open source PBX., and uses Wi-Fi networking to route traffic to a central hub with existing phone infrastructure, with a range as far as 100 miles. The bicycle, mostly used as a backup to solar power, gives the rider one hour on the phone for every 15 minutes of work. Isn't it tempting? Physical exercise and communications, all in one package.