

# Vacuum cleaner to standard lamp

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/stt/ In future a tiny chip is to ensure that our electric devices - no matter if they are at home or the office - form an intelligent network with one another. The basis for this new building block on the road to the networked house of the future is provided by "digitalSTROM" - a new method for transmitting digital information via existing power lines. It is integrated into the "SerCHo" research project the scientific leader of which is Professor Sahin Albayrak from Berlin TU. The objective of this cooperation is to integrate the digitalSTROM technology into the networked house. It makes it possible to make the services developed by SerCHo available to each and every appliance via power lines without having to establish an additional network

## **A tiny chip enables intelligent networking**

As part of the SerCHo project a new approach to home networking is under development with the aid of software-based "personal assistants". These assistants, for example the energy-saving, communication or cooking assistant, support the occupant in all living areas, depending on their preferences. In addition to this, they ensure that devices from the fields of information technology, telecommunications, consumer electronics, building services technology and domestic appliance technology, that have been isolated to date, become individually linked. The project is supported by funds from the Federal German Ministry for Economics and Technology within the "next generation media" programme.

"digitalSTROM" provides the basis for the SerCHo services to be integrated affordably in the entire house without any new cables. In future a 6 x 4 mm integrated high volt chip is to be installed in every electric device. Above all, by using the "SerCHo" services via "digitalSTROM" the communication gap that has existed to date between entertainment electronics and telecommunications on the one hand and building services technology and household appliances on the other, is closed in a very simple and cheap manner. The first devices equipped with "digitalSTROM" are to be available from 2009. On April 1, 2008 the "SerCHo" project was awarded a distinction as a "Selected place in the land of ideas in 2008).