The Lead

Photos of the Day: Giant robotic creature is 14-feet tall

July 24, 2014 | by Stratasys Ltd. | Comments

The giant creature was designed by artists at the Stan Winston School. Engineers and technicians at Legacy Effects — the studio that brought to life Iron Man, Avatar, Pacific Rim and RoboCop characters — worked closely with Stratasys to build dozens of 3D-printed parts to create the character....

TOPICS:

- Photos of the Day

Photos of the Day: The Navy's robo-tuna

July 11, 2014 12:57 pm | by ECN Staff | Comments

The Navy's robo-tuna, designed by Boston Engineering, is a 4-foot long unmanned undersea vehicle...

[Photos of the Day: 'Dropship' quadcopter to lower Rover onto Mars]

July 9, 2014 12:50 pm | by ESA | Comments

The 'dropship' quadcopter and mockup rover are used for testing the ESA's latest StarTiger...

[Projecting a 3-dimensional future]

July 9, 2014 12:47 pm | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Since the 1960s, theatergoers have shelled out for crude 3-D glasses, polarized glasses, and...

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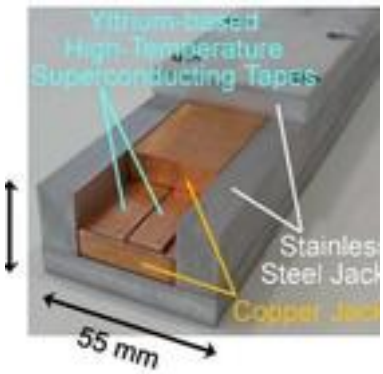


Magnets for fusion energy: A revolutionary manufacturing method developed

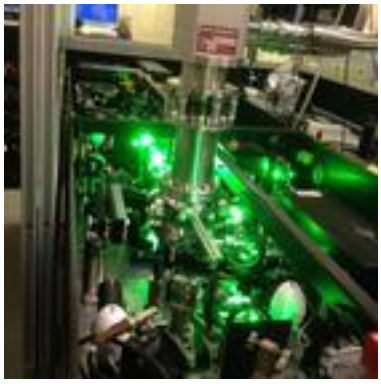
July 25, 2014 3:23 pm | by EurekAlert! | Comments

The National Institute for Fusion Science (NIFS), of the National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS) in Japan, has achieved an electrical current of 100,000 amperes, which is by far the highest in the world, by using the new idea of assembling the state-of-the-art yttrium-based high-temperature superconducting tapes....

Collecting just the right data

July 25, 2014 3:15 pm | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Much artificial-intelligence research addresses the problem of making predictions based on large data sets. An obvious example is the recommendation engines at retail sites like Amazon and Netflix. But some types of data are harder to collect than online click histories....



Breakthrough laser experiment reveals liquid-like motion of atoms in an ultra-cold cluster

July 25, 2014 3:07 pm | by EurekAlert! | Comments

A new study by researchers from the University of Leicester has furthered our understanding of how tiny nanosystems function, unlocking the potential to create new materials using nanosized 'building blocks'. The study, which has been published in the prestigious academic journal Physical Review Letters ...

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Photos of the Day: The PD-100 Black Hornet pocket helicopter

July 25, 2014 12:45 pm | by ECN Staff | Comments

It weighs 16 g, can fly for up to 20 minutes, and fits in the palm of your hand. It's the Prox Dynamics PD-100 Black Hornet, a mini helicopter which uses embedded cameras and a digital data link to provide real-time video for ground troops....

TOPICS:

- Photos of the Day
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
- Military & Aerospace

Cost-effective, solvothermal synthesis of heteroatom (S or N)-doped graphene developed

July 25, 2014 10:39 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

A research team led by group leader Yung-Eun Sung has announced that they have developed cost-effective technology to synthesize sulfur-doped and nitrogen-doped graphenes which can be applied as high performance electrodes for secondary batteries and fuel cells....

Wireless home automation systems reveal more than you would think about user behavior

July 25, 2014 10:36 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Home automation systems that control domestic lighting, heating, window blinds or door locks offer opportunities for third parties to intrude on the privacy of the

inhabitants and gain considerable insight into their behavioral patterns. This is the conclusion reached by IT security expert Christoph Sorge....

NRL Nike laser achieves spot in Guinness World Records

July 25, 2014 9:51 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

A set of experiments conducted on the Nike krypton fluoride (KrF) laser at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) nearly five years ago has, at long last, earned the coveted Guinness World Records title for achieving "Highest Projectile Velocity" of greater than 1,000 kilometers per second (km/s)....

Choice bias: A quirky byproduct of learning from reward

July 25, 2014 9:49 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

The price of learning from rewarding choices may be just a touch of self-delusion, according to a new study in *Neuron*. The research by Brown University brain scientists links a fundamental problem in neuroscience called "credit assignment" – how the brain reinforces learning only in the exact circuits that caused the rewarding choice....

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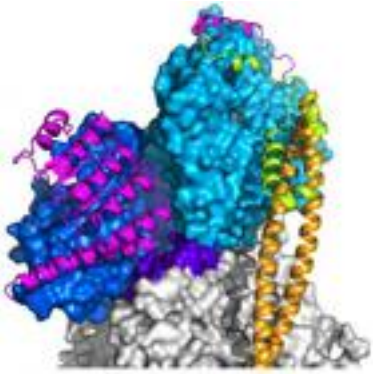

Atomic structure of key muscle component revealed in Penn study

July 25, 2014 9:46 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Actin is the most abundant protein in the body, and when you look more closely at its fundamental role in life, it's easy to see why. It is the basis of most movement in the body, and all cells and components within them have the capacity to move: muscle contracting, heart beating, blood clotting, and nerve cells communicating....

Creating sustainable STEM teacher preparation programs

July 25, 2014 9:43 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

A new study has identified two factors that characterize sustainable university and college programs designed to increase the production of highly qualified physics teachers. Specifically, one or more faculty members who choose to champion physics teacher education....

Stanford study shows how to power California with wind, water and sun

July 25, 2014 9:41 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Imagine a smog-free Los Angeles, where electric cars ply silent freeways, solar panels blanket rooftops and power plants run on heat from beneath the earth, from howling winds and from the blazing desert sun. A new Stanford study finds that it is technically and economically feasible....

TOPICS:

- Automotive

New approach to form non-equilibrium structures

July 25, 2014 9:39 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Although most natural and synthetic processes prefer to settle into equilibrium—a state of unchanging balance without potential or energy—it is within the realm of non-equilibrium conditions where new possibilities lie. Non-equilibrium systems

experience constant changes in energy and phases....

Study shows role of media in sharing life events

July 25, 2014 9:13 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

To share is human. And the means to share personal news — good and bad — have exploded over the last decade, particularly social media and texting. But until now, all research about what is known as "social sharing," or the act of telling others about the important events in our lives....

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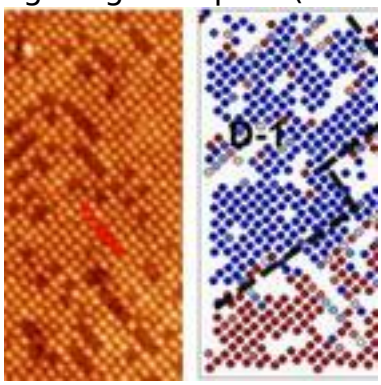

ORNL study reveals new characteristics of complex oxide surfaces

July 25, 2014 9:06 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

A novel combination of microscopy and data processing has given researchers at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory an unprecedented look at the surface of a material known for its unusual physical and electrochemical properties....

Hubble finds 3 surprisingly dry exoplanets

July 25, 2014 9:02 am | by EurekAlert! | Comments

Astronomers using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope have gone looking for water vapor in the atmospheres of three planets orbiting stars similar to the sun -- and have come up nearly dry. The three planets, known as HD 189733b, HD 209458b, and WASP-12b, are between 60 and 900 light-years away from Earth....

TOPICS:

- Military & Aerospace

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