

The Transferatron



For more than 40 years, the only way for two individuals to exchange particularly intimate thoughts was via a telepathic link called the Vulcan mind meld. Accidentally discovered during the filming of a 1968 science fiction television program, the “Vumm” worked this way: The initiator placed his fingertips at key locations on the head of the other participant – the sagittal and squamous sutures, the mandibular fossa, and the latissimus dorsi – because pressure on strategic cranial blood vessels facilitated the connection. Then the link simply *happened*; the two participants became in essence one mind. But there were problems. The melding process sometimes got so intense that the initiator’s fingers fused to the other person’s scalp. And more than one initiator unwittingly linked to a person with multiple personality disorder, resulting in a dose of bewildering schizophrenia. Enter the Acme Brain Wave Transferatron. Invented in 2009 by a hair dresser, of all people, the ABWT (pronounced abwit) used electromagnetically-charged hot air to facilitate the transfer of *vagues ondes* from one sentient being to another. It totally removed physical contact from the process – no more accidental transmission of vile bodily fluids to worry about! The sole drawback was that it was an electricity hog. Each transmission measured in the megawatts. This was no problem for research institutions with roof-mounted nuclear reactors, but for homes and restaurants, where it would do the most good, the ABWT was sadly unaffordable. Hope is on the way, however, with the über-efficient ABWT Mark II, which we look forward to test-driving one day soon.