

Engineering Newswire 26: Super Sober Pills

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Today on Engineering Newswire, brought to you by [Interpower](#) [1], the premier supplier of power system components for worldwide markets, we're curing alcoholism with nanocapsules, building squishy robots that jump, and building brain machines for rat cyborgs. This episode also features:

- Researchers have developed a new nanocapsule that wraps alcohol-digesting enzymes in a nanoscale polymer to quickly reduce blood alcohol content.
- The Chevrolet Corvette line of vehicles is infamous for introducing new materials to improve weight and performance. Now, General Motors has developed lightweight shape memory alloy actuation technology (feigned excitement).
- Researchers at Harvard University are using small explosions produced by a mix of methane and oxygen to make a soft robot leap as much as a foot in the air.
- The University of Surrey is set to launch the world's first smartphone-based satellite, which is built around a Google Nexus One smartphone.
- Scientists at Duke University have used a brain-machine interface to augment rats with a sort of "sixth sense" -- the ability to detect invisible infrared light by sense of touch.

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