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[Microsoft Hohm and Blue Line Innovation launch energy-monitoring partnership](#)



Via: Datensklaven.de

Microsoft and Blue Line Innovations have joined forces to give consumers real-time information about their energy use, with simple graphs that show how to save energy and money.

The companies have combined Blue Line's popular energy tracking device with Microsoft Hohm to give consumers information about their household energy use and the cost involved. Real-time power data monitor uses cloud to provide online, personalized energy- and money-saving recommendations via a Hohm profile.

“With a utility bill you may only see your energy usage once every month or even every two months,” said Troy Batterberry, product unit manager for Microsoft Hohm. “The Blue Line PowerCost Monitor and WiFi Gateway provide updates every 30 seconds, so you're getting real-time data so you can take real-time action. It's kind of like online banking for your energy bill, offering 24x7 access to your usage.”

The Blue Line PowerCost Monitor attaches to a household power utility meter. No wiring is required, therefore no electrician services are required. The WiFi Gateway device wirelessly transmits energy use data to the consumer's Microsoft Hohm account and can provide personalized energy recommendations. Besides, Hohm also offers social networking communities on Facebook and Twitter so users can compare notes and get tips for ways to improve their energy efficiency.

Microsoft says the collaboration with Blue Line is the just the beginning of what looks set to be a long-term project. The software giant's goal is to connect to smart plugs, thermostats, HVAC systems, electric vehicles and other devices so that consumers have

as much information as possible to help them understand and reduce their energy consumption.

The complete package of PowerCost Monitor and WiFi Gateway is available for \$249 (estimated retail price). Those who already have the PowerCost Monitor can purchase the WiFi Gateway separately for \$159 (estimated retail price).