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PERSONAL TECH



Gadgetwise

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Mountain Hardwear's jacket has heating elements to keep you warm, left, and a power adapter in the pocket, right, to charge your devices.

A Cocoon of Warmth for You, Power for Your Toys

Mountain Hardwear has developed a winter jacket with a heating element that will keep you toasty while it charges your gadgets.

Reach into the front left pocket and you'll find a power adapter that enables you to charge your iPod, digital camera, GPS device or cellphone.

The \$240 jackets, branded Refugeum for men and Radiance for women, are sold separately from the rechargeable lithium-ion battery and heating system developed by Ardica Technology. Ardica's Moshi heating system costs another \$145; the tech connector kit will set you back \$50.

The three heating elements — one in the midback and two in the front midsection — together weigh less than a pound. Users can adjust the temperature up to 100 degrees with a toggle switch on the left front of the jacket. The heating elements can be fully charged in less than three hours, and a charge should last up to eight hours on the lowest heat setting, according to a Mountain Hardware spokeswoman, Paige Boucher.

The jacket, designed as a midlayer coat to be worn under a ski jacket or alone in warmer climes, will be available Oct. 15.

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