



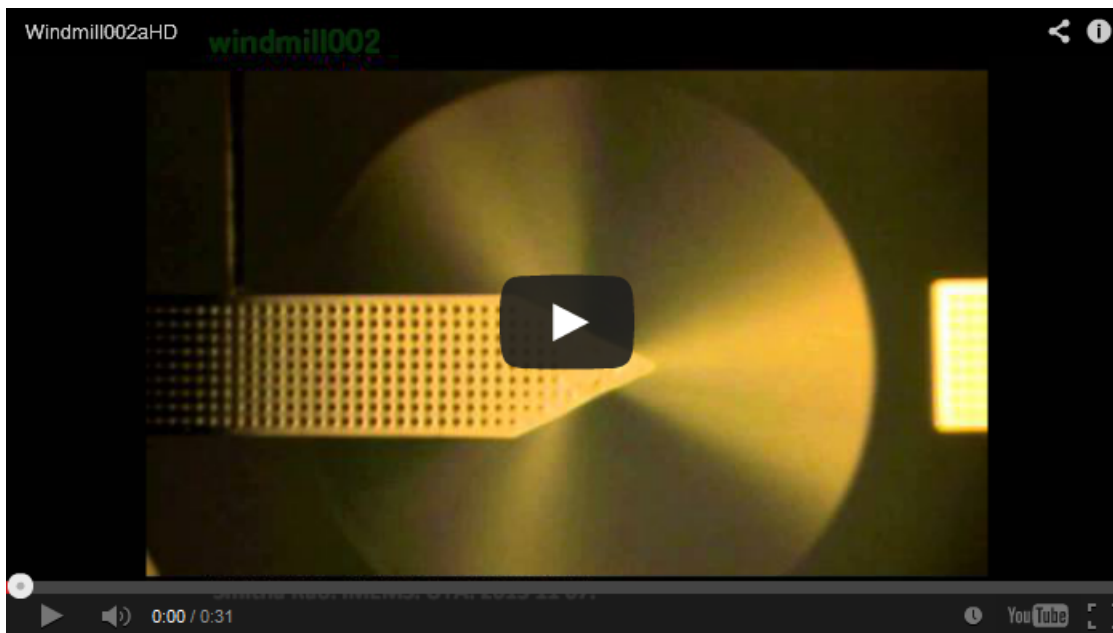
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## Scientists create ‘micro-windmills’ that could power your cellphone

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cIf you were to glue a hundred of them onto a cell phone case and hold it out the window, researcher J.C. Chiao says, you could potentially revive your dead phone in just a few minutes. The 1.8mm-wide windmills look pretty fragile, but UTA says that their flexible nickel alloy components can stand up to strong winds without fracturing.



Taiwanese fabrication foundry WinMEMS has arranged exclusive rights to commercializing the concept, and has already begun work on potential applications. “These inventions are essential to build micro-robots that can be used as surgical tools, sensing machines to explore disaster zones or manufacturing tools to assemble micro-machines,” UTA says. “Flat panels with thousand of windmills could be made and mounted on the walls of houses or building to harvest energy for lighting, security or environmental sensing and wireless communication.”

Tiny windmills might not be the energy crisis panacea you had in mind, but thinking outside the box will very likely get us there.

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### [Researchers create thinnest possible LED that could power watch](#) [Baptist On Google's Android Wear](#)

Microsoft is looking for a way to power its new Android Wear smartwatch, and the University of Washington is helping. The team has created a tiny, cross-shaped LED that is only three atoms thick. It is the thinnest LED ever made, and it could be used to power a wide range of devices, from smartwatches to tiny sensors. The team is now working on making the device more efficient and durable.