



Android
Apple
Microsoft
Science
Gaming

News Apps Culture Mobile Tablets Deals Geek Answers Follow Us

SIGMA

FILL YOUR BAG & SAVE UP TO \$300
Check out our new lineup of savings

SHOP NOW



Google+ has been installed more than 500 million times on Android

5 things the Xbox One needs right now

Micro-windmills may one day charge your phone battery



Free Basic Account

Cisco webex

Follow @geekdotcom

Geek.com

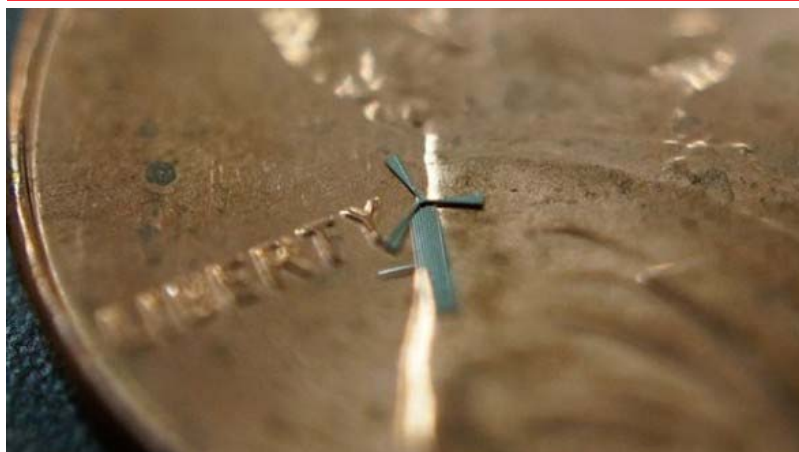
Follow

+1

+ 65,127

Mobile By **Matthew Humphries** Jan. 13, 2014 11:26 am

46
Like
36



Energy generated from wind turbines or windmills is seen as a very green source of power. It produces no emissions and doesn't rely on any raw materials that will run out. You simply need a big wind turbine positioned in a relatively windy area.

Such wind turbines can be a bit of an eye sore, though, and there are limited locations where they can be erected, but nobody said wind turbines had to be big. Research being carried out at the University of Texas Arlington is looking at ways to use windmills so tiny, you could fit ten of them on a grain of rice. And yet, they could one day be used to recharge the batteries in your mobile devices.

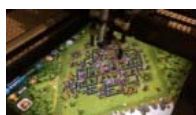


NEWSLETTER

Email Address...

Submit

More Geek



Lego robot programmed to play Clash of Clans, finds it as addicting as you do



You can't handle the smiley: Emoji could be used against you in court



HTC M8 twin-sensor rear camera could impress us all over again

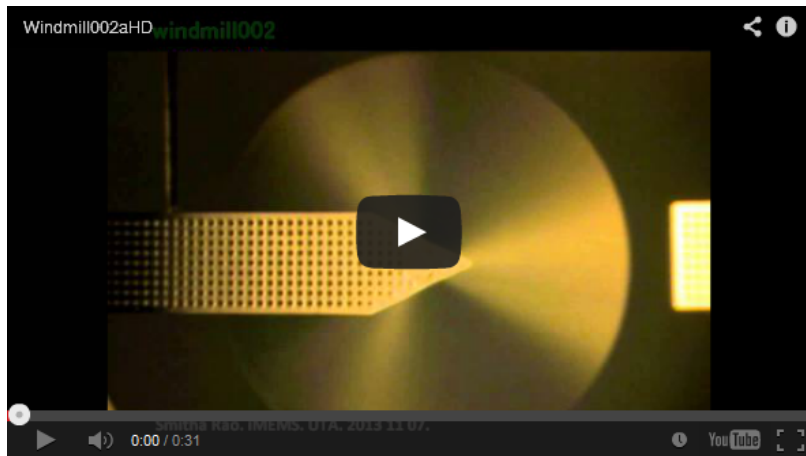


Geekout 41: Chrome sees major updates, Android goes crazy, and Rube Works

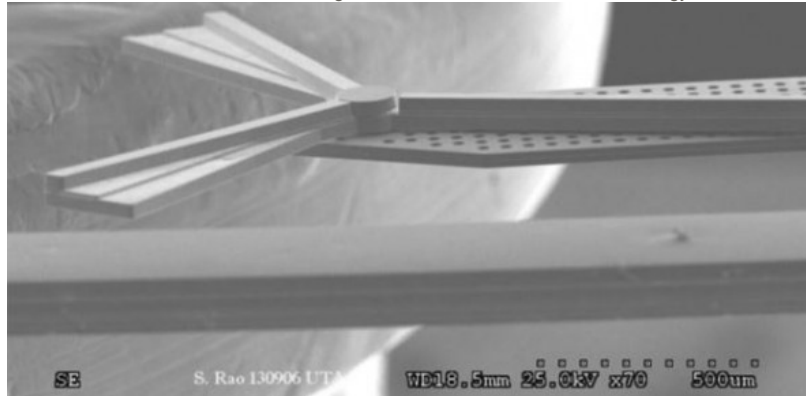


iPhone 6 could have NFC (No really, it might happen this time)

Deal of the Day



These so-called micro-windmills have been designed by researchers Smitha Rao and J.C. Chiao. They are created using an advanced semiconductor manufacturing process offered by WinMEMS Technologies Co. with each micro-windmill no larger than 1.8mm at its widest point. Each one still relies on a source of wind with which to generate energy from, but as they are so small artificial wind, like that generated by a person moving their hand through the air, suffices. Each micro-windmill is manufactured from nickel alloy to stop them being brittle, but do rely on an advanced fabrication system. With that in mind, UT Arlington is holding on to the IP rights while WinMEMS handles manufacturing and commercialization of the technology.



For consumers, it means the potential for a revolution in the way we recharge our devices. A case for your smartphone, tablet, or laptop could be coated in these micro-windmills which then spin even at the slightest movement of air around them. With the complementary electronics embedded into the casing, we get a passive recharge system that keeps your battery topped up throughout the day. And if you need a bigger charge, then just start moving your device more vigorously through the air.

Tags: energy J.C. Chiao laptops micro-windmill Smartphones Smitha Rao tablets turbine University of Texas Arlington wind WinMEMS

You Might Also Like



Toshiba Satellite P70-ABT3G22 17.3" Core i5 "Haswell" Laptop w/2GB NVIDIA, 1080p, 8GB RAM, 1TB HDD
List Price: \$1154.99
Price: \$849.99+ Free Shipping
You Save: \$305.00 (26%)
[See It](#)



Must-Have Products Being Sold For Next To Nothing
[LifeFactopia](#)



World's first 3D printed metal gun blows through 50...
[PC World](#)



Spotify is now free on Android tablets and iPad, but...
[Digital Trends](#)



The End of Windows XP: What You Need to Know
Work Intelligently



13 Things a Movie Theater Employee Won't Tell You
Reader's Digest



90% of Gmail users don't know about this tool
The Next Web

We Recommend

5 things the Xbox One needs right now

Google+ invite earns man a night in jail, \$500 fine

Tricopter drone carries a camera, follows you by tracking your smartphone

Capcom says PS4 and Xbox One development is 10x more work

Galaxy S5 specs leak, including a 2560x1440 display [UPDATED]

\$1000 iPhone apps are part of a clever scheme to game the App Store

From Around The Web

One gamer pleads, 'Please, Rockstar, don't make me rich!' Daily Dot

Pebble Review: The Underdog That Proves Smartwatches Are Worthwhile Forbes.com

Is the "Deep Web" Hiding the World's Best Stories? Fast Company

28 Instantly Regrettable Tattoos Style Slides

10 Stars Who Came Out in 2013 Hollyscoop

Teen Playing 'Knockout Game' Gets Shot by Victim The Root

Recommended by

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| Google+ has been installed mor... | TOP | 5 things the Xbox One needs rig... |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|

Reader Comments

0 comments



Start the discussion...

SIGN IN WITH

d
F
T
G

Sign up for Disqus
OR PICK A NAME

?

Disqus is a conversation network

Disqus never moderates or censors. The rules on this community are its own. Your email is safe with us. It's only used for moderation and optional notifications. Don't be a jerk or do anything illegal. Everything is

Ads by Google

Wind Turbines

Find Lowest Prices of August 2014. Home Wind Generators Up to 55% Off
comparestores.net

Solar Panels (Special)

Exclusive Online Solar Special For Smaller Solar Systems. Call Now!
heritagesolar.com/Solar-Special

How to Fix High CPU Usage

Easily Fix High CPU Usage! Very Simple Instructions (Recommended)
high-cpu-usage.windowsanswers.net

Top 5 Solar Panels

Compare Electric Solar Panels Unbelievable 2014 Discounts
discountprices.us/Deals

Siemens Wind Energy

Siemens clean energy technology. Made in America for Americans.
www.siemens.com/wind-power

[Tweet](#)

6

+1

0

[Share](#)

27755

[About](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Archives](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Forums Archive](#)

[Advertise](#)

[AdChoices](#)

[PCMag.com](#)

[ExtremeTech](#)

[ComputerShopper](#)

[Logicbuy](#)

[Toolbox.com](#)

ziff davis © 1996-2013 Ziff Davis, LLC. [Privacy](#) [Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#)