

[Home](#) > [Infotech](#) > [International](#)

Now Micro-Windmills To Recharge Your Mobile Phones!

Saurabh Singh, EFY News Network

(Tuesday, January 14, 2014 4:41:50 PM)

Just ponder over the idea of windmills recharging your mobile phone. Are you there yet? Well, Dr. Smitha Rao and J.C. Chiao from University of Texas are...

Tuesday, January 14, 2014: Recharging your mobile phone might be a cumbersome task for many, with all the crazy wires and plugs and what not! However, Dr. Smitha Rao and J.C. Chiao from the University of Texas at Arlington, have taken your recharging experience to an all new level and a windy one at that. In an example of a menacingly amazing piece of engineering, the duo have succeeded in developing micro-windmills that are just 1.8-mm at the widest point, but this friends is only the beginning. Host hundreds of such windmills on your mobile phone and what you get is nothing short than a marvel, the entire apparatus can then charge your mobile phone on the go, claim the developers.

Intricately blending the concepts of origami & wafer-scale semiconductor devices, the developers were able to create a complex 3D structure from 2D metal pieces. Rao and Chiao have successfully solved the problem of durability by employing a nickel alloy and a smart aerodynamic design for the same. However, when it comes to potential applications of micro windmills this is only the tip of the ice berg, they believe.

The effort has triggered an obvious interest among concerned industries, a Taiwanese fabrication company, WinMEMS Technologies Co. to name for instance. The company, clearly in awe is currently exploring the commercial opportunities and showcasing the work through their website and public presentations.

In what seems to be nothing less than an engineering delight, the effort surely indicate what the future has in store for the world in terms of technology and electronics. As they say, the possibilities are indeed limitless...