SOFTPEDIA®
Updated one minute ago

autoevolution test drive: 2014 PORSCHE Cayman S

TODAY'S NEWS: Nokia Launching Asha 4xx with 1.7GHz CPU and Android 4.4 with Asha Touch UI

🏠 WINDOWS   GAMES   DRIVERS   MAC   LINUX   SCRIPTS   MOBILE   HANDHELD   NEWS

NEWS CATEGORIES:

Home > News > Green > Research & Tech

Oscars 2014
Edward Snowden
Latest News
Oddiverse
NEW! Laptops & Tablets
NEW! 3D Printing
NEW! Photo
Games
Microsoft
Apple
Telecoms
Technology & Gadgets
Reviews
Linux
Life and Style
Webmaster
Security
Editorials
Interviews
Science
Green

I ♥ SOFTPEDIA
[ ] ‹ 43k
g+ Find us on Google+
Like ‹ 190k
[Follow @softpedia]
Softpedia

TRENDING TODAY
· Download UC Browser 9.3 for Java
· This Is How Microsoft Forces the Use of Its Software and Denies Linux Alternatives
· Titanfall Closed Alpha Test Gets Leaked Gameplay Video, Screenshots [Update]
· Download UC Browser 9.2 for Java
· Michelle Obama to Divorce Barack Obama After Presidential Run Is Over
· Chinese Government Says Ubuntu, Windows, and Android Are Not Safe, Launches New OS
· Ubuntu Software Center Features a Game that Costs $50,000 (€37,000)

January 14th, 2014, 08:28 GMT · By Laura Sinpetru

Micro-Windmills Smaller than a Penny Could One Day Charge Smartphones

SHARE: [ ] ‹ 0   Like Share ‹ 0   Tweet   Adjust text size: ⊖ ⊕

Most people are used to seeing folks waving their phones around hoping to get a signal, but, should researchers at the University of Texas at Arlington have their way, there might come a day when all this not-so-coordinated gymnastics could serve one other purpose: getting the gadget moving through the air to charge.

🔍 ENLARGE

Said scientists have come up with a very innovative ⤤ means to harvest green energy.

Long story short, they have pieced together miniature windmills that are considerably smaller than a penny, and that, despite their size, appear to be quite efficient ⤤ as far as harvesting renewables is concerned.

According to Eco Watch, these so-called micro-windmills are the brainchild of Dr. J.-C. Chiao, an electrical engineering professor, and researcher associate Smitha Rao.

By the looks of it, they are so small that about ten of them would have no trouble resting on a single grain of rice, all at the same time. More precisely, they measure 1.8 millimeters at their widest point.

Hence, Dr. J.-C. Chiao and Smitha Rao have high chances to figure out a way to fit hundreds of such devices in a sleeve for a cell phone ⤤.

"Imagine that they can be cheaply made on the surfaces of portable electronics so you can place them on a sleeve for your smart phone ⤤."

"When the phone is out of battery power, all you need to do is to put on the sleeve, wave the phone in the air for a few minutes and you can use the phone again," explains Dr. J.-C. Chiao.

The researcher goes on to explain that those who for one reason or another are opposed to waving could settle for merely holding the gadgets they wish to charge, together with their micro-windmills sleeve, in front of an open window.

Provided that outdoor conditions are windy, the miniature windmills should have no issues producing electricity and then feeding it into the gadgets.

At some point in the future, it might be possible to fit such micro-windmills onto home or building walls, and have them help keep lighting, security and wireless communication systems up and running.

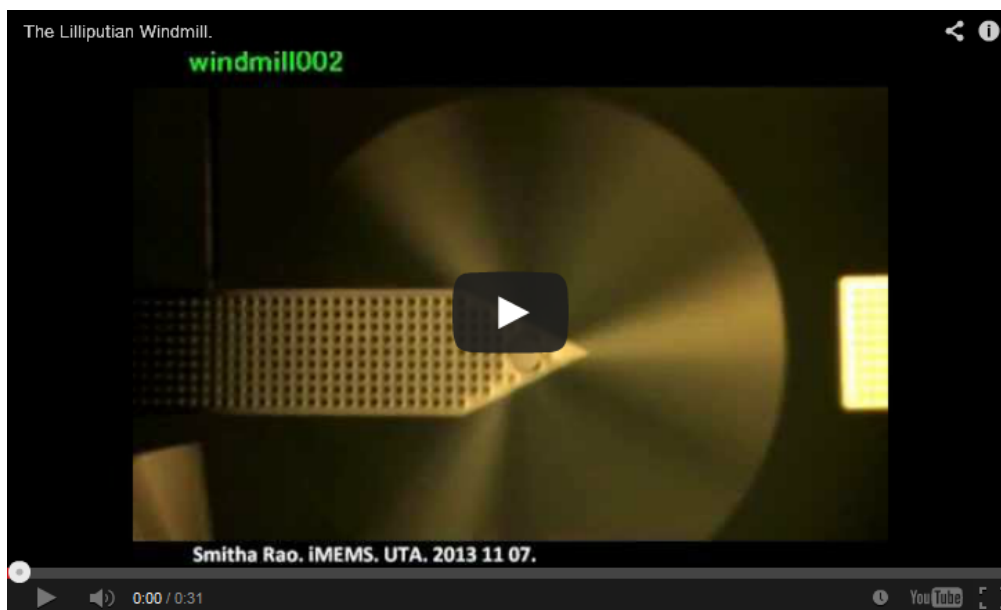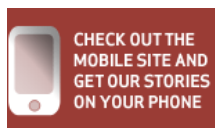Check out the video below to see one such miniature green energy producing device at work.

· Nokia Lumia 1520 mini Coming Soon with 4.3-Inch Display, 14MP Camera

· Nokia Launching Asha 4xx with 1.7GHz CPU and Android 4.4 with Asha Touch UI

· AMD Prepares 16-Core Processor with Integrated PCI Express 3.0 Controller

CHECK OUT THE MOBILE SITE AND GET OUR STORIES ON YOUR PHONE

The Lilliputian Windmill.

windmill002

Smitha Rao, iMEMS. UTA. 2013 11 07.

0:00 / 0:31

Follow @SinpetruLaura | 178 followers

FILED UNDER: | WINDMILLS | MICRO-WINDMILLS | SMARTPHONE | RENEWABLES | TECHNOLOGY |

250m Americans Infected

Fatigue
Itchy/burning eyes
Mouth ulcers
White coated tongue
Itchy skin and rashes
Bloating
Genital itching
Constipation or diarrhoea

Learn More >>

Share your thoughts on this story...

252 hits

Link to this article · Print article · Send to friend

MUST-READ RELATED ARTICLES:

Wind Power Helped Texas Stay Afloat During the Record Freeze

There's a New Generation of Nuclear Reactors Coming Our Way

Europe Needs a 2030 Green Energy Plan to Meet Climate Change Targets

Portable Solar Charger Is No Bigger than a Book When Folded

Portable Wind Solar System Lets You Harvest Renewables While Camping

READER COMMENTS:

No user comments yet.
Be the first to express your opinion!

| WINDOWS | GAMES | DRIVERS | MAC | LINUX | SCRIPTS | MOBILE | HANDHELD | NEWS |

SUBMIT PROGRAM

This site uses cookies to offer you a complete experience. Find out more or close **(x)** this notification permanently.

Copyright Information | Privacy Policy | Terms of Use

Search   Go