

# Meet the Tiny Windmills That Could Charge Your Phone Someday

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Courtesy of J.C. Chiao

A MEMS micro windmill, designed by Dr. Smitha Rao and J.C. Chiao, Professor of Electrical Engineering at University of Texas - Arlington.

Forgot your charger? Open a window and let your phone get a little air

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company WinMEMS, which has agreed to commercialize the micro-windmills.

The designers, electrical engineering professor J.-C. Chiao and graduate research associate Smitha Rao, drew from traditional origami concepts and modern semiconductor device layouts to create the tiny power plants, which use durable nickel alloy material. They say the windmills could be used for quotidian tasks like energizing portable electronics or powering the lights in your home.

"We've only scratched the surface on how these micro-windmills might be used," Rao said in a statement.

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