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Scientists see micro-windmills charging cellphones

Posted: Feb 26, 2014 7:59 AM CST

Updated: Feb 26, 2014 7:59 AM CST

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ARLINGTON, Texas – Scientists at the [University](#) of Texas – Arlington believe tiny windmills may someday charge smart phones.

They designed the devices that are so small about 50 could fit on a penny. Hundreds could easily fit on a case.

Wind created by waving the phone or holding it up on a windy day would create electricity to recharge the battery.

"So the strategy for manufacturing this is they are going to be very [cost](#) effective and you can mass produce them. And in the future I believe this can be produced very cheaply and in mass quantities," said Dr. JC Chaio, a professor of electrical engineering at UT – Arlington.

Dr. Chaio said many designers have run into problems because the micro-windmills are just too brittle, but his are made from a durable nickel alloy.

A company in Taiwan is currently showcasing the work on its website and in public presentations.



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