

The IET awards bring together people from across the engineering industry ranging from students still at school or college to highly qualified engineers with years of experience. This year the Make Your Mark campaign set the assembled engineers a small challenge; we asked each attendee to come up with one idea of how engineers might best contribute to reducing the impact of industry and individuals on the environment. Here are just a few of the responses that came from discussions over tea and cakes.

- **Develop low cost easily transportable beehives to increase fruit tree pollination and productivity**
- **Develop virtual meetings and encourage people to see that face to face is not the only way**
- **Write efficient software that doesn't waste memory and power, poor code = global warming**
- **Walk to work**
- **Develop low cost domestic devices to make householders aware of their energy consumption**
- **Develop a home ring main circuit that as you leave home switches off all devices on standby; similar to card key systems in hotels**
- **Reduce low energy light bulb start up times**
- **Ensure that all products used in engineering projects use recyclable packaging**
- **Make micro generation and PV technologies cheaper and more efficient**
- **Develop a device tracking HGV destinations and ensuring that they travel in pods to ease road congestion on motorways**
- **Develop an off the shelf grey water harvesting product that can be installed easily by the average D.I.Y enthusiast**
- **Develop and LED light that emits the same intensity of light as a 50 watt halogen bulb**
- **Standardise DC supply for all PCs and Laptops**
- **Help third world populations to develop small solar cells to power appliances**
- **Use energy efficient machines to create paper**
- **Make sustainability part of engineering education from an early age**
- **Develop induction charged mobile phones and other electrical appliances to reduce dependency on fossil fuels**