



'Wind tree' creates more energy New turbine inspired by nature



These wind trees can be set up next to residences. (Bloomberg)



A COMPANY in France (法國), New World Wind, has created a new kind of wind turbine that is shaped like a tree. The firm's CEO and co-founder, Jerome Michaud-Lariviere, got the idea of a 'wind tree' when he "saw the leaves **tremble** when there was not a breath of air" at a square in Paris (巴黎).

The trees were set up in many regions, from Europe (歐洲) to Asia (亞洲), for testing. Michaud-Lariviere designed them to produce energy even when the air **currents** are weaker, such as when they flow between buildings. Soon these wind trees might appear in the US as the company expands.

The trees' leaves, called Aeroleafs, are actually miniature vertical-axis turbines. The trees themselves are 9.8m tall and 7.2m wide, with the leaves 91cm high. These trees are small and quiet, which means they can be set up anywhere, including next to homes.

HK animation wins Asia film award

IN early December, a short **animated** film made in Hong Kong won an award at an Asian short film **competition**. The short, *Another World*, earlier won a local award, before the Asia-wide award.

In the 21st DigiCon6 Asia competition, *Another World*, which was created by Point Five Creations, won the DigiCon6 Asia Gold Award – Grand Prize. Directed by local animation director Tommy Ng

Kai-chung, the film focuses on death and **reincarnation**. In the 14-minute-long movie, a boy ghost has an adventure with a girl who wants to find her brother.

The girl was voice-acted by Kay Tse and Rosa Maria Velasco. It was uploaded to YouTube on April 2019. DigiCon6 Asia was **originally** hosted by TBS, a media outlet in Japan (日本), but the award ceremony was moved to Hong Kong for 2019.



Another World explores the afterlife.



G08-09



GFun

Circle the correct answer

1. Who is the head of New World Wind?

- A. Emmanuel Macron
- B. Jean-Luc Picard
- C. Jerome Michaud-Lariviere

2. When are air currents weaker?

- A. When going between buildings
- B. When there is too little oxygen
- C. When they are blocked by the ozone layer

3. What are the Aeroleafs supposed to be?

- A. Solar panels B. Wind turbines C. Batteries

4. What is the name of the short film?

- A. Ten Worlds B. Another World C. Another Earth

5. Who directed the film?

- A. Hayao Miyazaki B. Stanley Kwan C. Tommy Ng Kai-chung

6. Where can the film be watched?

- A. YouTube B. TikTok C. Netflix



Discussion

1. Do you like the new wind tree design? Why or why not?
2. Do you think the wind trees will sell well? State your reasons.
3. Are you glad that a Hong Kong film has won an award? Why or why not?
4. Will you watch the film? State your reasons.

Answers on P12

GTips

‘CEO’ stands for ‘chief executive officer’ and this person is the head of a company.

The firm’s **CEO** and co-founder ...

A ‘founder’ is the person who created the organisation.

The **founder** of the SPCA wanted to help all sorts of animals.

A team leader in an office is usually a ‘supervisor’.

The team **supervisor** told her workers to fry more fish.

Higher than a supervisor is usually the ‘manager’.

The shop **manager** sends out a work schedule every two weeks.

GPlus

One of the ways films are sorted is by length. Movies that are under 40 minutes long are called ‘short films’. Movies that are longer are called ‘feature films’. Back when motion pictures were first invented, most were short films, or even just a clip lasting only a few minutes. They usually just showed one scene, with simple plots, if they even had one. But that changed in the 1930s, during the Great Depression. Film studios began making longer movies and later, feature films. Nowadays, most of professionally made movies are feature films.



animated (adj)
動畫的

competition (n)
比賽

Vocabulary
Challenge ★★★★★

reincarnation (n)
轉世化身

originally (adv)
起初