

Frimley, UK  
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## Top engineering students come together for innovative Siemens challenge

**Last weekend, over 70 students travelled to the University of Sheffield to take part in the 48 hour Sir William Siemens Challenge: MindSphere Live, the UK student engineering event of the year!**

The aim of the event was to creatively challenge and inspire the most talented university students across a variety of engineering subjects. Working in multi-disciplined teams, their challenge consisted of being given a set of data collected from the Diamond Building's MindSphere installation and using their programming skills to analyse the data and build a mechanical/electrical device which showcased that data and brought it to life in a unique way, with the winning team having their creation permanently displayed at the University as well as being offered the opportunity of an internship with Siemens.

MindSphere is Siemens' industrial cloud-based operating system that connects machines and devices via the Internet of Things and the University of Sheffield is the first to join Siemens MindSphere Innovation Network (MINE). The building which houses the MINE is home to thousands of MindSphere sensors, tracking changes in the university's vicinity and uploading them to the cloud, then allowing the data to be analysed and used to make positive changes to benefit the students and the campus they study and live on.

Putting the students right in the heart of a data-driven environment, the challenge saw 12 teams go head-to-head over a period of 48 hours to build an incredible device to bring their data visualisation ideas to life. The winning team, Team Simotion, made up of students from the

universities of Birmingham, Sheffield and Loughborough, used their combined skills in electrical, and mechanical engineering, robotics and computer science to create an incredible beating heart device which was judged – by a team of senior managers and engineers from Siemens - to be the most deserving against the criteria of collaboration, adaptability, problem-solving, data, engineering and creativity (*pictured are the winning team of Samuel Maxwell, Marwen Tahar and Brandon O’Connell from the University of Sheffield, Isaac Harris from the University of Birmingham and Rebecca McGrother from Loughborough University, with Brian Holliday, MD of Siemens Digital Factory division*)

Simon Roberts, Talent Acquisition Manager for Entry Level Talent commented, “MindSphere Live has been a truly exciting and innovative way for the Talent Acquisition team and Siemens as a whole to engage with the next generation of future makers. It was especially fitting to run such an event in what is the Year of Engineering, helping to showcase just how amazing engineering is! The students’ enthusiasm, focus and commitment to the challenge over the 48 hours was amazing to see! As well as offering a year-long or summer internship to all members of the winning team, we were so impressed by the talent on show that we are going to be offering immediate internships to nearly half of those attending and we hope to see this rise over the coming year.”

Rebecca McGrother, Mechanical Engineering Student at Loughborough University commented, “I didn’t know what to expect with my team coming from a range of Universities. We soon realised that we had some good ideas and started to work well as a team. I really wanted to develop my skills as an engineer and Mindsphere Live gave me the opportunity to do things that I wouldn’t have had the chance to do in my degree. The challenge has excited about the opportunities at Siemens and I am looking forward to undertaking my year placement with Siemens in the coming months. I would definitely recommend the challenge to fellow students. It challenges you so much, but you get a huge amount from it! Thank you to the University and Siemens for choosing our idea as the winner!”

**Ends**

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