

# hinge

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### Speed Of Light

Swedish firm CAKE already had pretty decent eco-cred. They make lightweight off-road motorcycles that run on electricity rather than petrol. But they've gone further now. You no longer need to plug into a fossil-fuel-powered electricity grid to charge the motor of your off-roader. CAKE have partnered with green energy provider Utellus to create a solar charging system that will keep your bike powered up and your carbon footprint down. "What CAKE aims to do to the motorbike-scene is inspiring and we [would be] profoundly proud if we [could] make the riders understand the connection between what they power their bikes with and the impact that choice has on the environment," says Utellus CEO Stina Yones. Four panels (made by Silicon Valley-based manufacturers SunPower) on your roof will be enough to charge up your bike every day. More panels can be added, increasing your clean-energy production, the surplus of which can be used in your home, thus reducing your 'unclean-energy' consumption.

"It's amazing to be a part of the new energy era and clean-tech development," says CAKE founder Stefan Ytterborn. "To be able to serve users with clean, silent and light electric vehicles discovering the back country, on par with charging solutions, in this case solar power, making the riding self-sufficient and emission-free, is a dream come true." Currently, this charging system is only available to CAKE's Sweden-based riders, but the firm are looking at ways to extend the service to their international clientele.

[www.ridecake.com](http://www.ridecake.com) [www.utellus.se](http://www.utellus.se)



### On Her Majesty's Special Service

British door-and-cabinet-hardware specialists Turnstyle Designs have been feted with a Queen's Award for Enterprise in the category of International Trade. The Devon-based firm received the honour for their "exceptional export sales" record. As a result, the firm will be invited to attend a Buckingham Palace reception later this year, and have the privilege of displaying the Queen's Award emblem on its merchandise packaging, promotional literature and letterhead for a period of five years. Turnstyle will also be able to fly the Queen's Award flag at their Barnstaple headquarters.

"I am extremely proud that Turnstyle Designs has been selected for such a prestigious award," says founder Steve Roberts. "The award is in recognition of the whole company in every department and all their hard work as well as our hardworking partners and reps around the world who represent our line and look after our clients so well. I know how much this will mean to the staff and their families." The Queen's Awards for Enterprise were established in 1965 to recognise "outstanding achievements" by British businesses in the fields of innovation, international trade, sustainable development, and promoting opportunity through social mobility.

Turnstyle's products are available in Hong Kong and China via GID Limited.

[www.gid.com.hk](http://www.gid.com.hk)



### Bridge To The Future

In April, the One University One Village (1U1V) team from the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) completed a bamboo bridge in Dujia Village in the Yubei district in Chongqing. Measuring 21 metres in length, it is the longest bamboo bridge in rural China.

The nexus was built under the auspices of CUHK's Yi Xin Qiao programme, an initiative that promotes the incorporation of modern mechanics into traditional bridge-construction techniques. "Great importance is attached to the use of local resources and sustainability," says CUHK. The main structure of the bridge is made with moso bamboo, which is indigenous to southern China, while bamboo panels are used for the flooring; steel is used sparingly, for bolts and other connecting parts.

According to a Chinese government Ministry of Transport survey, over 10,000 pedestrian bridges are needed in rural locations. The design devised by CUHK is easily replicated. Parts can be prefabricated in factories, reducing onsite construction time. Economy of scale production will also reduce the cost of the bridges.

"I am happy to see the team's breakthrough in technical research," says Edward Ng Yan Yung, professor of architecture at CUHK. "Bamboo is an environmental material that can answer villagers' travelling needs. The 1U1V team will continue to seek practicable solutions to rural problems and help promote sustainable development in mainland villages."

[www.1u1v.org](http://www.1u1v.org)





# British Handcrafted Luxury



GID 意念 · 香港 Hong Kong Showroom / Project Office

意念五金有限公司  
GID Limited

1/F. Chuang's Enterprises Bldg, 382 Lockhart Rd, Wanchai, Hong Kong

香港湾仔骆克道382号庄士企业大厦1楼

电话Tel : +852 - 2572 9800 传真Fax : +852 - 2572 9808

网址Website : [www.gid.com.hk](http://www.gid.com.hk) 电邮Email : [info@gid.com.hk](mailto:info@gid.com.hk)

GID CHINA 意念 · 中国

深圳市意念装饰材料有限公司 - 深圳办公室

GID (Shenzhen) Decorative Materials Supplier Limited

电话Tel : +86 - 0755 - 88847936 传真Fax : +86 - 0755 - 82916545

电邮Email : [gid\\_china@vip.163.com](mailto:gid_china@vip.163.com)

意念五金有限公司 - 上海办公室

GID Limited - Shanghai Office

电话Tel : +86 - 21 - 61159363 销售热线Sales Hotline : +86 - 1812 - 111 - 2783

电邮Email : [samchung@gidchina.com](mailto:samchung@gidchina.com)