

This report has been compiled by the I'm an Engineer team as a summary, containing moderator observations and our web data, to provide some meaningful information on the zone.

The Detection Zone was quiet to start off with but quickly picked up as the week went on - it was quite busy during the second week. The live chats were fun and the students seemed to learn lots.

Number of page views in the 3 weeks surrounding the event

| Zone page | Page views |
|-------------------|------------|
| Zone homepage | 29,358 |
| ASK | 2,608 |
| CHAT | 5,119 |
| VOTE | 2,228 |
| List of questions | 1,027 |
| Engineers page | 898 |
| Samer Kilani | 1,247 |
| Gary Boorman | 1,495 |
| Dan Weatherill | 930 |
| Ben Drumm | 1,119 |
| Amanda Lewin | 1,046 |

Key figures from I'm an Engineer June 2013 for the zone

| Zone | |
|--|-------|
| Number of registered students | 661 |
| % of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented) | 86% |
| Number of questions asked | 688 |
| Number of questions approved | 294 |
| Number of answers given | 516 |
| Number of comments | 50 |
| Number of votes | 544 |
| Number of live chats | 30 |
| Number of lines of live chat | 8,459 |
| Number of schools | 15 |

Popular topics

In the live chats, students asked lots of questions about careers – what the engineers' jobs are like, where they work, who they work with and how they got to where they are now etc. Another popular topic was women in engineering and encouraging more girls to get into the field – 'do you think there should be more women in engineering?' 'what is the most popular type of engineering for women?'. The engineers were often asked to explain their work and the equipment they use; designs and inventions were two more popular topics.

Topics were similar in the submitted questions, with lots on careers and day to day work. Health and safety came up a few times, with students asking how dangerous engineering is.

Sample questions

Why do you work in engineering instead of another job?

Do you think there are enough women in this profession?

How would you explain what an engineer does in a tweet of 140 characters?

Do you think that graphene has the potential to change the future? Have you ever worked with it?

Does game programming count as a form of engineering?

What would happen to you if you stood inside the particle accelerator when it is switched on?

Is there any invention you think should never have happened?

What's the most useless thing you have made/designed?

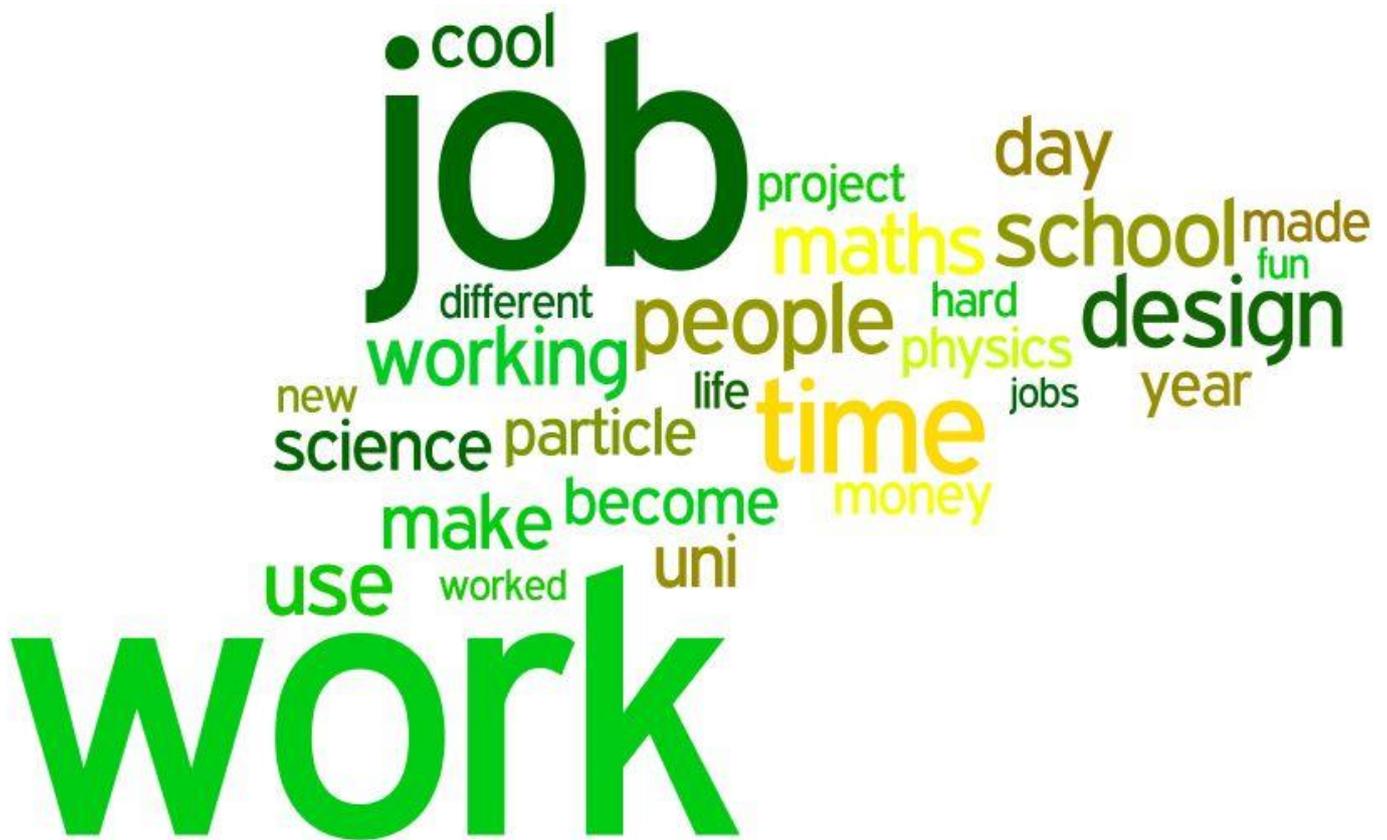
How does taking pictures of protons colliding help physics?

The LHC seems like a truly amazing thing to work on. Do you still think it is amazing every day, or has the novelty worn off?

Keywords of questions asked in the zone (the size of the word represents its popularity; the number indicates the number of times it was tagged as a keyword)

[accelerator](#)2 [age](#)2 [atlas](#)3 [Big Bang Theory](#)2 [career](#)16 [CERN](#)4 [computer](#)2 [danger](#)2
[engineer](#)13 [equipment](#)2 [female](#)2 [food](#)2 [future](#)7 [GCSE](#)4 [gender](#)6 [goal](#)2 [hobbies](#)3 [invention](#)2 [job](#)11 [Large Hadron Collider](#)2 [lasers](#)2 [LHC](#)6 [life](#)3 [Maths](#)5
[models](#)2 [music](#)2 [particle](#)2 [people](#)3 [Personal](#)24 [planet](#)2 [programming](#)2 [project](#)5
[qualification](#)2 [research](#)6 [school](#)11 [science](#)7 [space](#)3 [spare time](#)2 [sport](#)2
[technology](#)4 [time](#)2 [TV](#)2 [university](#)4 [win](#)2 [work](#)86

Keywords from live chats in the zone (the size of the word represents its popularity)



Examples of good engagement

There was some really good engagement, with the engineers proving great advice and information.

07johnsonj: where does your career take you in life? I can't imagine studying to be in one job all my life, sounds boring - change is good

bendrumm: I AGREE!!! So with Mechanical Engineering there are a WHOLE HOST of fields you can work in (so I do particle accelerators at the moment, but there's rail, aviation, automotive etc.) PLUS in an engineering career you tend to progress from doing the actual design (where I am now i.e. bottom of the food chain lol) to managing other engineers, working on bigger projects and (personally) I would like to one day be the lead engineer on a large project with a team of people working beneath

Engineer winner: Gary Boorman

Gary's plans for the prize money: *"The prize money will be spent on developing some models of accelerators, controlled by Raspberry Pi single-board computers, for demonstration in schools and during open days at my place of work."* [Read Gary's thank you message here.](#)



Student winner: drdeath

For asking some great questions, **drdeath** will receive a certificate and £20 WH Smith voucher.

Feedback

We're still collecting feedback from teachers, students and engineers but here are a few of the comments made during the event...

"Thank you both very much for your time and detailed feedback about engineering." – georgegibbons, student

"thank you guys... It was a great session. Very good questions" – Samer Kilani, engineer

"It was a hectic two weeks but very enjoyable. The range of questions was fantastic, and hopefully we explained what an engineer does, as well as providing encouragement to those thinking about an engineering career." – Gary Boorman, engineer

"thanks very much! I have enjoyed this better than maths lessons! good bye uve got my vote!" – chivo514, student

"thanks for taking the time to answer our questions, its been inspirational and i hopee to talkk to you again, thankyou" – chucknorris269, student

"thankyou v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v. v.v.v.v.v.v.v.v. v.v.v.v much ben! been very interesting talking to you" – eviekins, student

"Guys - another BRILLIANT chat" – Ben Drumm, engineer

"you really encouraged me to follow my dreams" – rosannagrace, student

"@engineers Huge thanks for your time and best of luck. @mods thanks again for organising this event." – mrholden, teacher