## EIP



## EIP supports innovation at TEDxBristol

EIP attended an independently organised <u>TED</u> conference showcasing local leaders in the fields of sustainability, innovation and creativity. The event was held at Bristol's newly-opened <u>Mshed</u> on 8 September.

The theme for the event was the World Around Us. A particular strength of Bristol enterprise is the ability to work both at a global and local level.

- Wendy Stephenson, a renewable energy engineer, described how <u>The</u>
   <u>Converging World</u> helped a small Somerset village, <u>Chew Magna</u>, build wind turbines in India to offset their carbon emissions.
- Tony Bury, a philanthropist and serial entrepreneur, explained the difference a mentor can make. His charity, <u>The Mowgli Foundation</u>, matches mentors with entrepreneurs in South West UK, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The Innovation session saw talks from, amongst others, <u>Bloodhound SCC</u>, the <u>Nanoscience & Quantum Information (NSQI) Centre</u> at the University of Bristol and inventor <u>Tom Lawton</u>.

- Richard Noble of Bloodhound SCC explained how they found themselves inspiring the next generation of engineers as part of their efforts to obtain a Eurofighter jet engine. Their journey to build a 1000mph car is now gathering pace, with tests due to begin in just over a year. They are aptly based just behind the SS Great Britain in Bristol Docklands.
- Professor Mervyn Miles presented some of the Centre's current research including work on a <u>holoassembler</u>. This device uses optical traps of focused near infra-red radiation, positioned in space via a dynamic hologram, to assemble microscopic, and even nanoscopic, structures.

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• Tom's talk provided a fascinating insight into the ups and downs of a private inventor. Over the last ten years Tom has worked on a 360-degree camera for capturing immersive images (a 'BubbleScope'). Tom explained his <u>journey</u> from his initial inspiration while travelling to his current iPhone pre-production accessory.

The event also featured performances that built upon another of the West Country's strengths: an ability to combine technology and the arts.

- <u>nu desine</u>, a young start-up from Bristol, showed off their <u>AlphaSphere</u> musical instrument.
- <u>David Glowacki</u>, a theoretical chemist at the University of Bristol, demonstrated his <u>Danceroom Spectroscopy</u> project. This fuses theoretical Feynmann-Hibbs molecular dynamics simulations with a 3D imaging camera to allow the motion of dancers to warp the external forcefields felt by the simulated particles. View it

">here.

• <u>Tom Mitchell</u> and Imogen Heap ended the day with a demonstration of Tom's musical gloves. These gloves allow wearers to manipulate music using just hand gestures. You can watch the performance "target=" blank">here.