

Press Release

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Young Cundall superstar in line for top IET Award

A brilliant Cundall engineer who uses her free time to promote diversity and who tutors disadvantaged youngsters in maths has been named as a finalist in Young Woman Engineer of the Year Award, the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) has announced.

It's the latest in a string of honours for Dr Ozak Esu, recently named by The Telegraph as one of its 'Top 50 Women in Engineering under 35'. Earlier this year, she jointly won the IET's Mike Sargeant Career Achievement Medal for Young Professionals.

One-to-watch Ozak is an electrical engineer at Cundall, the multi-disciplinary consultancy, where she undertakes surveys of existing buildings, and engineers co-ordinated electrical services for newbuild, refurbishment and fit-out projects. She graduated with first class honours from Loughborough University and has been with industry leader Cundall since 2014. Dr Ozak works in the Birmingham office of Cundall, which has a reputation for providing sustainable solutions.

"In my professional career, I've always considered myself to be an engineer first and foremost and I love the challenge and satisfaction of the job. Women are under-represented in this profession and if I can do anything to raise its profile as a fantastic career for anyone and everyone, then I'm truly honoured. I want to excel as an engineer - and as a Member of the IET working towards professional registration, it's encouraging to have my contribution recognised. Thank you to my endorser Dr Nike Folayan (Associate Director at WSP and Chairperson at Association for Black and Minority Ethnic Engineers UK). Congratulations to all the other finalists." **Dr Ozak Esu, Finalist, IET Young Woman Engineer of the Year.**

Dr Ozak says she was inspired to study electronic and electrical engineering at Loughborough University because of the power crisis in her country, Nigeria. Learning about renewable energy developed her interest in sustainability which is at the core of the work she does at Cundall.

"I am delighted that Ozak is in line for such a prestigious award. Since joining Cundall in 2014, Ozak has selflessly carried out her duties as a local STEM ambassador mentoring many students at our Birmingham office. This is yet another award which recognises the wider contribution that she has made to Cundall, the local academic community and her profession. Ozak, along with many of our other staff, are shining lights in the wider world as we work to improve diversity and inclusion in construction. Well done Ozak". **Tomás Neeson, Managing Partner at Cundall.**

The winner will be announced at an IET awards ceremony on 7th December.

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Note to Editors:

Images:

Courtesy of Cundall

Short Biography:

Dr Ozak has taken on roles that promote equality, diversity and inclusion. She has been a panellist for the Association for Black and Minority Ethnic Engineers UK and has mentored international students at London South Bank University.

She is passionate about sustainable design, agriculture, renewable energy, and international development. She works with schools and organisations in her home country, Nigeria, motivated by the belief that poverty can be eradicated through engineering, knowledge-sharing, and empowerment of women.

Ozak Esu came to the UK from Nigeria in 2008 to study for a BEng Electronic and Electrical Engineering degree at Loughborough University. She graduated in 2011 with First Class Honours, and was awarded a Loughborough University scholarship to pursue her PhD in advanced signal processing and wind energy. Her thesis titled "Vibration-based Condition Monitoring of Wind Turbine Blades" proposed an autonomous low-cost device for monitoring the health of wind turbine blades with the aim of reducing turbine downtime, operations, maintenance, and capital costs associated with wind energy projects. She authored a book chapter, published her research in high-profile peer-reviewed academic journals, and presented at international conferences including the IET Renewable Power Generation (RPG) Conference. She concluded her PhD in 2015, and graduated in 2016.

Dr Ozak joined Cundall as a Graduate Engineer in 2014 whilst writing up her PhD thesis. Following her promotion in January 2017, she is an Electrical Engineer, working collaboratively within her team to engineer innovative and efficient electrical services design solutions on various projects within the built environment. Dr Ozak is a STEM Ambassador. She is also a Member of the IET, and is currently working towards attaining Chartered Engineer (CEng) status.

Cundall: 40 years of clever, friendly engineering

Cundall is an international multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy with over 750 staff and offices in 11 countries across the globe.

2016 saw Cundall (Cundall Johnston and Partners LLP) celebrate its 40th anniversary. Established in 1976, Cundall's founding partners shared a common vision that the practice would become a leading multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy built on sound ethical principles. For 41 years, Cundall's engineering expertise, coupled with creativity, innovation and a deep-rooted understanding of people and communities, has allowed the business to develop the best possible solutions for clients' projects. We are Clever, Friendly Engineers.

Harkening back to the founders' roots, sustainability is integral to our approach. We provide our clients with practical advice and solutions, which reduce the environmental impact of developments, and provide better spaces for building users and occupiers, as well as for the wider community.

Cundall is the world's first consultancy to be endorsed as a One Planet Company. As a business, Cundall has implemented several sustainable initiatives on projects around the world, as well as in our offices and homes. For example, Cundall's new London office at One Carter Lane is the first building in the UK and Europe to achieve WELL Certification through the WELL Building Standard™ (WELL), a goal intended to put the health and wellbeing of the occupants at the heart of building design.

For more information about Cundall, please go to www.cundall.com. Alternatively, you can find us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Cundall_Global](https://twitter.com/Cundall_Global)

To find out more about Cundall's One Planet Company commitments, visit <http://www.cundall.com/About-Us/Sustainability/One-Planet-Company.aspx>

