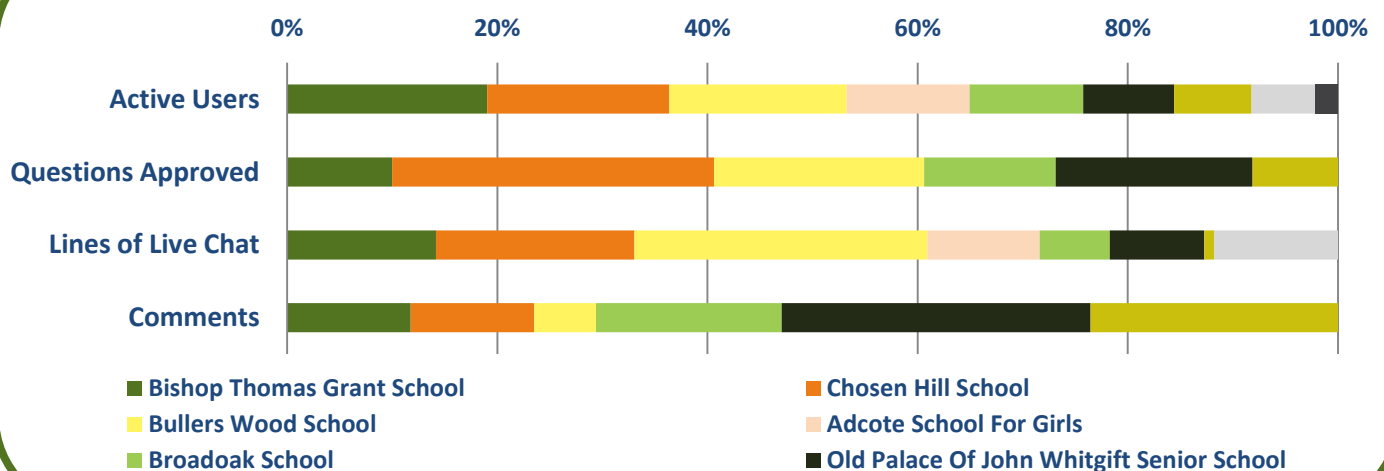


June 2015

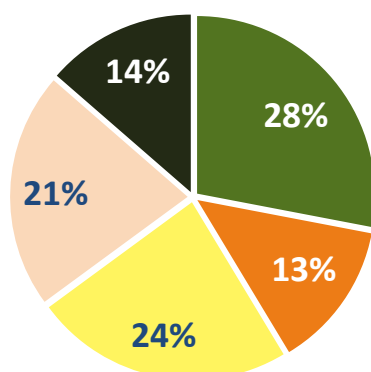
The Kelvin Zone was a general engineering zone funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and Simon, Norbert and Craig worked for organisations related to the research council. The engineers taking part covered a wide range of fields from aircraft engineering, satellites, flood defences, scientific research equipment and automotive engineering. It was the smallest of the June zones and both ASK and live chats were quiet compared to other zones. The main focus of the zone was on engineering as a career, either what the engineers enjoyed about their current jobs or how they came to be where they were. More specific engineering questions covered the wide variety of topics related to the work of the engineers. Norbert, who won the zone, put a great deal of effort into attending chats in particular. All the engineers interacted positively with the students and their different experiences of engineering illustrated nicely the varied potential the discipline offers.

School data at a glance

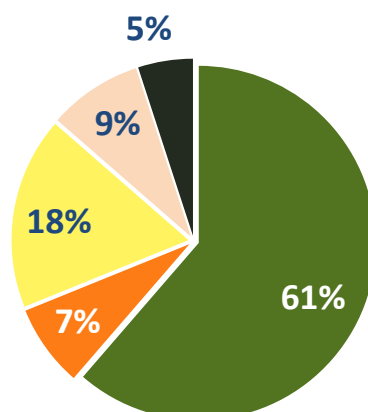


Engineer activity

Answers



Lines of live chat



Engineer	Profile views	Position
Norbert Gogiel	597	Winner
Craig Ainslie	433	2nd
Simon Lay	390	3rd
Hannah Pearlman	335	4th
Siu Ng	434	5th

Key figures from the Kelvin Zone, and the average of the June zones

PAGE VIEWS	KELVIN ZONE	JUNE '15 AVERAGE
Total zone	13,339	19,241
ASK page	852	1,490
CHAT page	2,138	3,100
VOTE page	782	1,437

	KELVIN ZONE	JUNE '15 ZONES AVERAGE	IAE 2012-15 AVERAGE
Students	315	413	356
% of students active in ASK, CHAT or VOTE	74%	87%	83%
Questions asked	445	727	518
Questions approved	160	229	195
Answers given	382	455	435
Comments	25	27	41
Votes	190	311	277
Lines of live chat	4,276	5,574	4,896
Live chats	16	19	16
Average lines of live chat	267	290	305
Schools	9	11	9

Popular topics

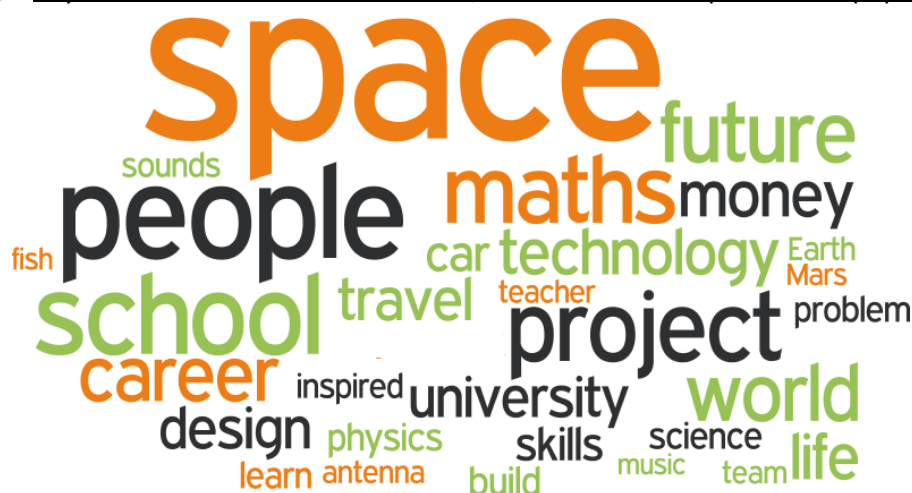
Questions in Asks and live chats were general in nature, mostly asking about engineering as a job (career path, routine) rather than about the engineers' projects and specialities.

Popular questions included 'why did you decide to be an engineer?' and 'do you like being an engineer?' and 'how much do you earn?'. Other popular topics included vehicles, such as aeroplanes and cars. Students sometimes seemed unsure about what engineers do, with lots of references to fixing things, although this ambiguity was cleared up by good answers from the engineers

In the live chats a very popular theme was spacecraft technology and space travel, often as a result of Norbert being the sole engineer present. The students were also keen to question the engineers on how they thought engineering would impact the future of the planet.



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





Keywords of questions asked in the zone, length of bar represents frequency of use

0 5 10 15 20



Example Questions (click for links)

"What is the most important event, to do with engineering, that you have attended?"

"What are the cons of automated systems?"

"In your opinion what do you think is the best way of stopping floods?"

"Has your design been used by the army?"

"Are there any future projects you want to be a part of?"

"Why do you work on engine coolers when it pollutes and kills the planet? Electric cars are better aren't they?"

"How do you feel about the stereotypical engineer (nerdy, holding a spanner, wearing a hardhat, scroll of paper and a pencil)?"

"Why are female engineers paid less than female engineers? (I googled it)"

"What drives you to do your job as an engineer every day? Do you ever get bored?"

"What is your biggest fear?"

"Where do you get the money to fund your projects?"

"If you could combine one other car with a McLaren, which one would it be and which bits would you change?"

"How is making a robot a benefit to us?"

"What do you think is going to become the biggest challenge for engineers in the future?"

"How would you persuade a young person to go into the career of engineering?"

"How long did it take to become an engineer?"

Examples of good engagement

In this ASK question the engineers got the chance to directly address the popular representation of who an engineer is, giving the student an insight into what modern engineering more accurately involves:

“How do you feel about the stereotypical engineer (nerdy, holding a spanner, wearing a hardhat, scroll of paper and a pencil)? – Student

“I think that that is very out of date. The tool I use the most is my laptop to connect up and sort out problems and set up equipment. Most engineers wear trainers and Superdry tops and look at drawings on iPads...” – Simon, engineer

“I think, like any stereotype, you will be hard pressed to find any actual engineer which fits that description.

A lot of what engineers do is not hands on anymore, we spend a lot of time working on computers designing things, answering emails and in meetings, however it is always good fun when you do get to do something practical.” – Hannah, engineer

“Definitely an engineer is not holding a spanner. These are technicians that do that. Also, hard hats are worn by people who walk on a construction site, they can be anyone, either engineers who designed the building and they are just checking it or a technician who is fixing things. Most of the engineers would look nerdy sitting by the computer doing a lot of maths or drawing an invention on the computer.” – Norbert, engineer

Engineer winner: Norbert Gogiel

Norbert’s plans for the prize money: *“I would like to organise an engineering project with students from a high school. I would preferably raise a blog for students to apply with project proposals. I would choose the most interesting project and help organise and mentor the project donating the money I would have won.*

Also, in other case I would donate the money to already running engineering project at the school to which I will write in person. I will consider most of the engineering schools in the UK. I will also offer to provide mentoring for their project.” Read Norbert’s [thank you message](#).



Student winner: Miscellaneous

For great engagement during the event, this student will receive a gift voucher and a certificate.

Feedback

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

“Simon and Norbert thank you so much for speaking to my class -we're really enjoying this!” – Mrs F, teacher

“I loved the questions and I did my best at answering” – Norbert, engineer