

Winners Announcement | Make A Connection



JoRatcliffe 9 Oct 2026

Hey everyone, it's time to announce our Make A Connection winners!

As always, we will do a very short recap of the competition and the prizes and then we will get straight into it :)

The Competition

The challenge was to build an electronics project that sends a message or signal, the more creative/innovative, the better! Each participant could interpret this theme in their own way.

The Prizes

FIRST PLACE (choose one of the below)



[Valve Steam Deck OLED](#) 512GB
SSD + 16GB RAM

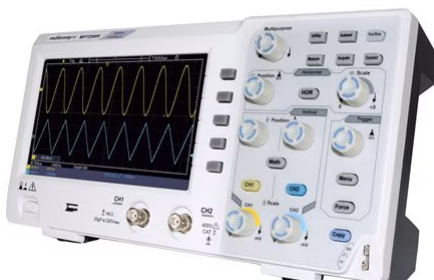


[Multicomp Pro MP720024](#)
[Digital Oscilloscope, 100](#)
[MHz, 1 GSPS, 20 Mpts, 3.5](#)
[ns](#)



[Dino-Lite AM4113ZT](#)
[Digital Microscope, USB, 20x](#)
[to 50x, 200x Magnification,](#)
[1.3 Mega Pixel](#)

SECOND PLACE (choose one of the below)



[🛒 Multicomp Pro MP720009 Digital Oscilloscope, 20 MHz, 100 MSPS, 10 kpts, 17.5 ns](#)

[🛒 Nintendo Switch Console, \(Red/Blue\)](#)

[🛒 Wera 7440/41 Torque Driver Set, 3N-M, 6.35MM, 255MM](#)

RUNNERS UP (choose one of the below)



[🛒 Dremel 3000-1/25 Rotary Multi Tool Kit, Variable Speed, 130 W, 230 V, 33000 RPM](#)



[🛒 Wera Adjustable Torque Screwdriver, 0.25" Drive, 155mm Length, 0.3N-m to 1.2N-m](#)



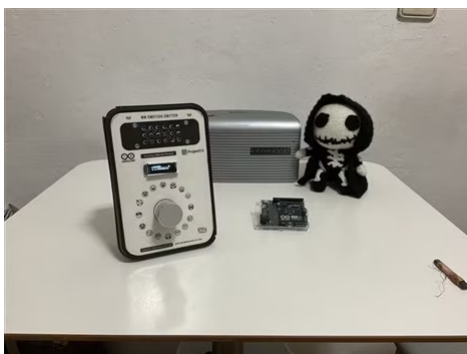
[🛒 Multicomp Pro MP009830 Ratchet Crimp Tool Kit, 5 Dies and Tool Box, 220mm L, Carbon Steel](#)

Don't worry if a prize is out of stock in your region or does not have the right plug for you. We can ship from global stocks, include a plug adaptor, or find a local equivalent of a prize.

The Winners

First Place

[Musical Emotions Emitter](#)



[javagoza](#) built an Arduino UNO R4 Minima-based project which generates a melody based on a user-selected emotion (represented by emojis on a rotary encoder). This is then sent to a local speaker and also used to modulate a medium-wave carrier which you can pick up and listen to on a radio.

Second Place

In no particular order

[RescueLink](#)



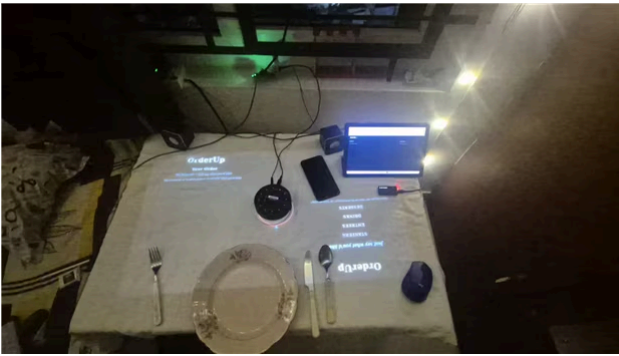
[taifur](#) created a LoRa-based emergency messenger for communicating during disasters when cell networks and internet connectivity might not be available. Check out the video at the end of the messenger in action!

[Antarctic Beacon: Bridging 130 Years of Wireless History with IoT & 20m RF](#)



[doctoriot](#) (and team) built a 3 W HF radio beacon that keys its RF carrier with Morse code, reports its own transmissions over Telegram, authenticates every message with a CRC seeded by Marconi's birthday — and is fully controllable through a web browser OR Telegram, anywhere on Earth.

[OrderUp](#)



[arvindsa](#) built an ordering assistant for a restaurant which listens to the conversation at a table, detects a customer verbally placing an order, figures out which seat they're in from the direction of their voice, then turns what they said into a structured order, and pushes it to the kitchen.

Runners Up

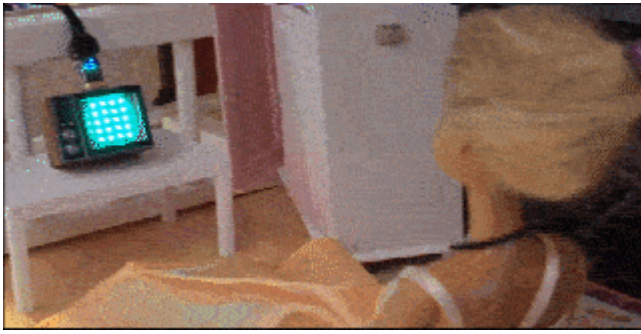
In no particular order

[EM Signal Detector](#)



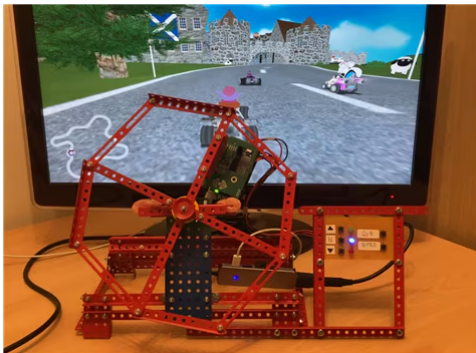
[Hoytman](#) created an EM detector for listening to and learning more about your environment, demonstrating it by listening in on a Nintendo 3DS and seeing what it's radiating.

[Blinking At A Webcam](#)



[apn201](#) built a proof of concept for a one-way optical data link using an M5Stack Atom Matrix, a 5x5 RGB LED matrix behind a diffuser, and a PC webcam, which can decode full messages at 1.5 metres indoors.

[Car Racing Game Console](#)



[misaz](#) made a SuperTuxKart racing game console using an Arduino Uno Q, a Meccano-type building set, gyroscope, accelerator shield, Linux driver, and a bunch of Python script to connect everything together. Take a look at the video to watch them turn the steering wheel and race to victory!

Well done, everyone! My fantastic colleague [e14Liz](#) will *connect* our winners with their prizes so look out for any messages regarding shipping etc in the near future.

I also want to give a huge shout out to everyone else who made a connection and submitted a project to this competition! If you haven't already done so then this is your chance to take a look at everyone's creations.

- [colporteur](#) – [A NUT \(Network UPS Tools\) Itch That Needed Scratching](#)
- [dougw](#) – [R2D2 Copilot For An E-Bike](#)
- [embeddedguy](#) – [Send Some Water To Your Plants From Anywhere In The World](#)
- [Erik.H](#) - [Full Duplex Morse Code using the BBC micro:bit V 2.2](#)

- [jelektro](#) – [Greenhouse Monitoring & Controlling System](#) + [Health & Activity Monitor](#)
- [khadri](#) – [EyeLink – A Wheelchair You Drive By Blinking](#)
- [Liam_Mitch](#) – [FarmShield: A Subscription Free, Solar-Powered LoRa Mesh Network For Remote Environmental and Water Monitoring](#)
- [obones](#) – [Fighting E-Waste And Device Obsolescence](#)
- [paolorobillos](#) – [AWR: The Signals Behind An Autonomous Canister Recovery Robot](#)
- [PlatypiMaster](#) – [Today's Adventure](#)
- [rahuljeyaraj](#) – [Handoff: Shake Hands, Share Contacts](#)
- [ralphjy](#) – [Meshtastic Solar Hat Node](#)
- [redcharly](#) – [Using LoRa for Remote Communication](#)
- [Shishir](#) – [MorseMatrix – Simple Morse Code Machine](#)
- [shreaypatel2](#) – [446MHz Tape Measure Yagi](#)
- [shogunx](#) – [Gestu: Gesture Communication with Arduino UNO Q](#)
- [Shreyas.chaurasia](#) – [AgriScout: A Smart Agricultural Rover Connecting Farmers To Their Fields](#)
- [soumyabrata](#) – [Energy Harvesting From Low Temperature Waste Heat Via Thermoelectric Generators](#)
- [Spain_mtg](#) – [Alarm with ZIHATEC AZ-Touch, ESP8266 and ESP-NOW Communication](#)
- [ThingToo](#) – [Spoon Box – My First 3D Print Became An ESP32 Media Player](#)

Each project is judged on its own merits but an honorable mention goes to [jelektro](#) for submitting two projects.

Projects can change or be updated over time so you can always DM me if you would like me to update a project description.



[ralphjy](#) 2 days ago

Congratulations to the winners! Good to see so many projects. Great participation in this competition.



[JWx](#) 2 days ago

Congratulations!



[Shishir](#) 2 days ago

Congratulations to everyone!



[redcharly](#) 2 days ago

Congratulations to all the winners, great competition, great ideas!



[abtAmit](#) 2 days ago

Congrats to everyone! Quick suggestion for next time: maybe let the winner pick any item(s) from the Newark / Farnell / element14 online stores under a specific price cap? Kind of like how the Open

RoadTest program allowed applicants to pick any component under \$175 to review. It would be a great way to make sure the prize perfectly fits the winner's upcoming projects.



[arvindsa](#) *2 days ago in reply to [abtAmit](#)*

Shopping cart prizes was apparently there in the past.

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