A QUEST TO INVENT
A CALLING TO CURE

MERCK
INVENTING FOR LIFE
CULTURE

We are committed to maintaining a workplace where our employees and business can thrive.
gallons of water saved over the past 5 years

reduction in total Scope 1 and market-based Scope 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions over the past 5 years
Zach

Zach Pinner, Community Engagement and Innovation Specialist for Merck, is a transplant from New Jersey to Prague to Austin. He lives downtown, one mile from the Merck office. Initially, Zach happily walked to work back in the fall, winter, and spring. Then – lo and behold – he experienced his first Texas summer.

Zach reconsidered his commute. First, he decided to keep a towel in his backpack to help alleviate his sweltering journey. However, as any local knows, the heat became unbearable for a casual stroll uphill. Now Zach takes either the bus or an electric scooter to work. Upon arrival, he immediately fills up his Big Hero 6 coffee mug with water and counts down the days until winter.

Way to go Zach!

Regina

In the midst of working full-time and being the mother of a toddler, how could one possibly dedicate two hours per day fulfilling an artistic hobby? Regina Imhoff, Solutions Engineer at Merck, has discovered this luxury through her bus commute from Leander to Austin each day. On her daily 60-mile roundtrip trek, Regina knits – a pastime that she learned in college and has enjoyed for the past 15 years as a meditative therapy to alleviate stress.

Shawls, sweaters, hats, rugs, mittens, shirts – you name it, Regina knits it all – practically with her eyes closed. People on the bus often ask Regina about her masterpieces, which entail only the best yarn (she is a self-proclaimed “yarn-snob”) and a lot of time. If you happen to spot Regina on your next bus route, you’ll likely witness her working on a month-long labor of love.

Way to go Regina!

Jan

Jan relocated to Austin from Prague to assist with the opening of Merck’s newest technology office, located in UT’s Dell Medical Center Health Discovery Building. He lives about 2.5 miles away from work and rides his road bike to and from the office every day to avoid sitting in traffic (which Jan notes is more congested in Austin than in Prague). Jan’s preferred commuting choice was especially reinforced during SXSW: “I learned that cycling is the best way to get around the city. I beat everyone who drove a car as I zipped around town.”

A few days per week, Jan mixes up his routine and opts for a longer, more scenic 14-mile bike route along the Walnut Creek trail where he can zone out and enjoy his ride. On one particular outing, he hit a commuting trifecta: 1) He found someone’s missing car keys on the trail, 2) he almost got run over by a deer, and 3) he almost ran over a rattlesnake. Thanks to his creative commuting adventures, our Czech friend has been officially acquainted with the Lone Star State!
We are innovating environmentally-sustainable ways to meet the world’s health needs now and in the future… this includes adopting new ways of working: from silos to networks to lessen the impact of Austin’s carbon footprint.
THANK YOU