Electrochemical “welding” ... 

... serves as a powerful tool for the arylation of benzo[b]thiophenes in position 2 or 3. S. R. Waldvogel and co-workers report in their Communication on page 13325 ff. the first electro-organic dehydrogenative synthesis of 2- or 3-(hydroxyphenyl)benzo[b]-thiophenes by oxidative cross-coupling reactions. The direct use of electricity as a reagent eliminates the necessity of leaving groups, metal catalysts, stoichiometric oxidizers, or reducing agents. Therefore, the reaction enables a sustainable synthetic pathway to these scaffolds and can be considered as “green chemistry”.