



Lisbon Ideas Challenge

Designing with Photovoltaics – New Energy Concepts for the Built Environment

Innovative Ideas and Business Planning for Photovoltaic Systems and Technologies in the Built Environment

An International Competition

(Launching the Competition : : March 16, 2005)

1. Definition

“Lisbon Ideas Challenge” is an international design competition aimed at fostering innovative ideas relevant to the development of urban structures integrating photovoltaic systems and technologies. It encompasses an initial phase of direct contacts among experts from all areas involved in the competition and relevant institutions, followed by the presentation of the ideas to a pre-defined international committee. The prizes include a monetary award (of the order of five thousand Euros), opportunities of privileged contacts with the business community and entrepreneurship training.

The “Lisbon Ideas Challenge” is a joint organization of the Centre for Innovation, Technology and Policy Research, IN+, at Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of Lisbon, on behalf of Task 10 – Urban Scale Photovoltaic Applications, of the International Energy Agency, Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme; IC², the University of Texas at Austin; and the Michigan State University.

PME Investimentos is the main sponsors of the competition.

2. Objectives

“Lisbon Ideas Challenge” is aimed to promote innovative ideas of technological and business potential, to be developed by architects, engineers and designers with interest in new energy concepts for the built environment, either university teams and/or entrepreneurs. It is also aimed to foster new contacts between business leaders and the previously identified actors in a way that will allow to explore both new urban concepts and science-based developments, as well as to foster entrepreneurial attitudes.

3. Areas

The competition includes any relevant theme in the field of Photovoltaic Systems and Technologies in the Built Environment. The ideas could be presented in the following areas:

A – Building products;

Building products may include roofing products; façade products; and other building products such as shading devices.

B – Marketable urban structures;

Marketable urban structures include not only standard urban equipment, such as kiosks and street lights, but also other concepts emerging from new urban development paradigms.

C – Hybrid solutions,

Hybrid solutions comprise combinations of PV with other technologies and/or combinations of functionalities such as thermal and electric functionalities.

Designs could combine two or more categories if appropriate and could range in scope from an entire structure to a smaller item such a roof tile or mounting product.

4. Who is Eligible to Enter

The competition is open to individuals or organisations throughout the world. Architects, engineers, designers, undergraduate and graduate students and researchers of these fields, with interest in new energy concepts for the built environment, are especially encouraged to enter the competition.

Ideas already in development, with assistance and/or institutional or private financing, could be admitted. In this in case the candidates must describe the status of the business planning. The organization reserves the right to only admit the registrations that fit in the scope and objectives of the competition.

5. Registrations

Registrations are to be formalized online at www.lisbonideaschallenge.com.pt. The competition website will be online from April 16, 2005, and should be regularly checked for relevant documentation. The candidacies must be presented in English.

6. Calendar

The competition is launched on March 16, 2005 and ends on March 16, 2006. The call for candidacies is open from the April 16, 2005 to January 31, 2006. From March 16 to April 16, 2005, expressions of interest are encouraged to be sent to Maria José Francisco (maria.francisco@dem.ist.utl.pt). From then on, expressions of interest can be done directly on the competition website www.lisbonideaschallenge.com.pt. During the candidacy period the organization will visit a number of selected institutions, with a special focus on research centres, universities and professional associations, in order to present and discuss current business opportunities for Photovoltaic Systems and Technologies in the Built Environment. These sessions will involve major business leaders and photovoltaic systems experts.

7. Presentation of Business ideas

Candidacies will be presented according with the following topics:

1. Candidacy General Information;
2. Executive Summary;
3. Statement of the Problem and/or Identified Opportunity;
4. Proposed Solution;
5. Social and Environmental Aspects (Industrial Ecology);
6. Stage of Development;
7. Market;
8. Entrepreneur/Team Entrepreneur: identification and characterization.

A detailed description of the candidacies contents, as well as of the judging criteria, will be available from April 16, 2005 at www.lisbonideaschallenge.com.pt.

8. Prizes

An amount of 5 000€ (five thousand Euros) will be given to the best idea, selected by an international jury with experts in all the areas of the competition. The description of the prizes is the following one:

1st Prize – to the Best Idea of the Competition

- award of 5000€ (five thousand Euros);
- opportunities to present the idea to investors;
- entrepreneurship training.

2nd and 3rd Prizes - to Second and Third Classified

- opportunities to present the idea to investors;
- entrepreneurship training.

9. Intellectual Property

The intellectual property of the ideas presented in the competition belongs to their owners. The full content of the business ideas will be considered as confidential material during the competition and after its term.

10. Organization and Sponsors

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11. Jury

The jury is composed by experts in the field of the competition and in university-based entrepreneurship. It will be nominated by the organization. The proposals will be appreciated by all the members of the jury that is sovereign in its decisions.

The constitution of the competition committee, judging the ideas submitted, will be available from April 16, 2005 at www.lisbonideaschallenge.com.pt.

12. Public Presentation of the Ideas

After the jury selection, a public session of presentation will take place to present sample ideas, to be selected.

13. Requirements Validity

The present requirements are valid during the present edition of the competition, including the delivery of prizes. Successive editions of this initiative may have changes in the current requirements.