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Young Engineers 1991 International Design Competition

Introduction

Engineers and architects practice in an increasingly international environment. Not only do more of them work overseas, but they are aware that engineers and architects from overseas are working in their country and sometimes in their own organisation. They need to recognise and match their own ideas with those of their international competitors and colleagues and use the best of the available technologies and products.

While architects have for a long time enjoyed the challenges of formal competitions, engineers have been less fortunate and young engineers neglected in this respect. The British Group of IABSE and the Institution of Structural Engineers wish to change that situation and have established an international design competition for young engineers. As well as the kudos of winning the competition there are worthwhile financial incentives. The two organisations have been able to proceed with this competition thanks to the generosity of a British Construction firm, which is financially sponsoring the competition.

The contestants in this competition are required to exercise ingenuity, imagination, and inventiveness in providing their solutions to the set problem. They are encouraged to match their ideas with those of other young engineers around the world. It is hoped that they will thereby appreciate much better the benefits from participation in the affairs of IABSE and the engineering institutions.

Eligibility and prizes

For the purpose of the competition young engineers are those who have not reached their 30th birthday on the date for submission of entries (28 June 1991). This will allow both those who have graduated and those still on undergraduate courses to participate. The competition is therefore open to:

- engineers
- individuals who are taking or have successfully taken a recognised engineering course of study.

The winner of the competition will receive £ 5000 and a certificate of commendation. The best entry submitted by anyone who has not reached his 25th birthday will be awarded £ 2500 and the Drury Medal of the Institution of Structural Engineers. The same person may win both prizes. At their sole discretion, the judges may also announce commendations for entries other than the prize winners or winners.

Entries for the competition have to be in English. Those wishing to participate need to register their intent by 28 February 1991, although competition entries are not due until 28 June 1991.

Judges

A distinguished panel of judges has been appointed, consisting of:

Professor Dr. Hans von Gunten
President IABSE, Zurich

Eurling David W. Lazenby
President, The Institution of Structural Engineers

David Quinion
Vice-President IABSE & Chairman British Group of IABSE

Professor A. R. Cusens
University of Leeds

D. J. Lee
G. Maunsell & Partners

Entries

The rules for the competition lay down that entries should comprise:

- not more than two drawings of A1 size showing plans, general arrangements, and all relevant details to enable the judges to understand the competition intentions
- only sufficient and not more than 10 A4 size pages of calculations to support the structural and functional integrity of the main features of the entry
- written statement, not exceeding 1500 words, giving an explanation of the competitor's choice, an engineering appraisal of its advantages and disadvantages.

The brochure containing the formal rules, the competition theme and an application form for registration, is available from the Institution of Structural Engineers, 11 Upper Belgrave Street, London SW1X 8BH, Great Britain.

R. J. W. Milne
Honorary Secretary, British Group of IABSE