April 14, 2009

International Ideas Competition for the Bering Strait Project:

Interconnection & Communication

with the Island of Today and Tomorrow

Questions & Answers

※ **The answers here are considered to be an addenda to competition regulation.
What is redefined or stated differently from the original competition regulation
overrides the old one and is final.**

■ Registration

- Does my tutor(professor) also register somewhere on the web-site like students?

A : In the student category, a professor can not put his/her name in the team list, but just needs to sign the identification form for the students under his/her instruction.

- Could you confirm me by email that my team this properly enrolled in th competition?

A : We sent a confirmation email of your registration to all entrants(including the team leader) at April, 14. If you did not receive it by this time, please let us know by email(admin@bering-competition.org)

■ Eligibility

- I am an university student majoring in Urban design. Am I still eligible even if I'm not an architectural student?
- In the professional category, should we have a registered architect for our team? What if we're a group of fresh graduate?
- I have registered and paid for the professional category. Is it okay for just any people in our team to have professional qualification? or should a team leader have a professional license?
- Two people in my team are student now but one is just graduate with no licence. Are we still eligible for the student category?
- Regarding the licence, does it mean an architect license only? Does an engineering license also work?
- In order to prove that we are graduates, do we have to provide a letter from the school that we graduated from? What other means are there?

A : Professional category is open to all licensed architects worldwide, groups of architects, or teams of multi-disciplinary professionals including urban designers, landscape architects and engineers with a licensed architect as team leader.

Therefore, even if you are not a licensed architect, you can still enter the competition as a team member as long as your team has a team leader who is a licensed architect.

Student category is open to an architectural student or a team of students with an

architectural student as a team leader under the instruction of a professor.

Therefore, even if you are not an architectural student, you can still enter the competition as a team member as long as your team has a team leader who is an architectural student.

If you find yourself not eligible for either of the category, please let us know as soon as possible by email.

■ Team Member

- Can I change or add team members after the initial registration?

A : You may modify or add the name of a team member at the homepage. After logging in, click 'INFO' at the upper-right corner. However, you can not change the team leader.

- Is there a limit of members of the team for this competition? I just sign in 5 people in my team, but we are more and I want to add them later.

A : You can add up to maximum five person for your team.

- If I choose to have a professor as a tutor, do I need to formalize his participation in the final work document?

A : Professor can not be a member of your team.

- Is it obligatory to have a professor as a tutor for this work?

A : Yes, for the student category.

- If yes, does he count as a group member?

A : No.

- I have some collaborators over the components of the design team. Where can they be register?

A : You may add them as a team member.

■ Submission

- When we say a student registration form, is it what I can download from the website or the copy of valid student ID card? Should it be translated into english by authorized units?
- The guidelines say that students need to hand in a copy of Student Registration Form. Is this the form that we have already signed to register in the first place? Also, what is the signed acceptance form of promoter's terms?
- They might be the ones that we wrote our names in for registration online, but it sounds like they are actual papers that we have to sign. So far, I haven't signed anything with a pen.

A : There are some forms that you should submit as follows.

Forms to be submitted	P	S	
ⓐ A copy of an architect license	O		per team leader
ⓑ A copy of student registration form		O	per each team member
ⓒ Identification Form for Professionals	O		per team
ⓓ Identification Form for Students		O	per team
ⓔ Acceptance of Promoter's Terms	O	O	per team

- Architect license means a piece of paper or a document which shows a valid licensure for practicing in a country. If your country does not have the license system, an original document showing that you(or the team leader) have the right to practice the profession in your country can substitute the architect license.
- Student registration form means a valid student ID or its equivalent which is issued by a school showing your current status and the name of the school.
- ⓐ and ⓑ forms should be an original document and have a contact number for verification purpose. If those are not in English, a translation of your own should be attached.
- ⓓ form provides a section where a professor can sign.
- Identification Form and Acceptance of Promoter's Terms will be available at the time of submission at the competition homepage. You can log in and click 'FORMS' at the upper-right corner for download. Please print them out, fill in and submit.

- Because of the global character of the competition, several parcels may arrive after the deadline date, would you consider accepting digital submissions until the physical ones arrive?
- A : Unfortunately, digital submission is not an option. Most delays in delivery happen when a material arrives at the customs. It is advised to declare "No Commercial Value" (or

Value of less than USD 200 if you have to) in order to prevent unforeseen delays.

- In reference to 4.4.3 - 4 on page 13, additional A3 size (landscape) panel image reassembled from the whole panels in pdf format for future publications, please elaborate.

A : Entrants are required to digitally submit your proposal laid out in A3 size (landscape) pdf format. It should be same contents with what is presented in the panels but in different layout. However, there is no restrictions like scale, PIN number or the designated drawing on a specific panel. The layout is totally up to your taste. Submitted pdfs are gathered together and might be published later.

- Could you elaborate on your definition of diagram and thus differentiate between the terms 'diagram' and 'drawings'?

A : Whether it is a drawing or a diagram, they are just examples of different types of presentation components in your panel and design description. You don't need to include, in your presentation, what is not necessary for you to best express your idea.

■ Drawing Panel and Design Description

- Are we granted any leeway in our presentation layout? For example, can the site plan occupy more than one panel, and can it be drawn at a different scale?

A : Site plan should be drawn in the number 1 panel at the scale of 1:20,000 with a north direction clearly indicated upward. However, the drawing may extend over the number 1 panel.

- Is 3-dimensional board presentation allowed?

A : No projected material on a board is allowed.

- Can we include more information on panel 1? e.g. Brief concept write-up.

A : Of course you can.

- Do I have to detail a drawing (about the bridge) on panels? Is there any limit ? (height, depth, area)

A : As long as the required drawings are shown in your panels, you may freely present your idea with any type of drawings. Here are the required drawings.
  • Site plan on number 1 panel at the scale of 1:20,000

- • Other drawings showing the design schemes of the two Islands and a peace park on number 2, 3 & 4 panels.
- • Ideas of connecting two continents on number 5 & 6 panels.

- According to the rule, the site plan of the Islands should be placed on number 1 panel. Is it a site plan of current situation or my design?
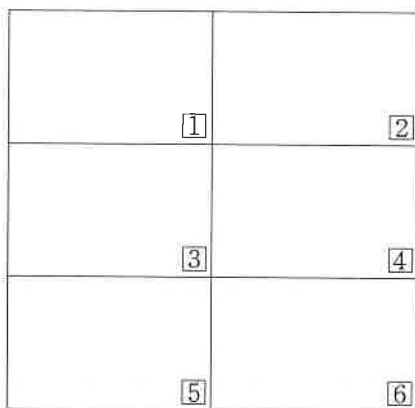
A : It's the site plan of your design.

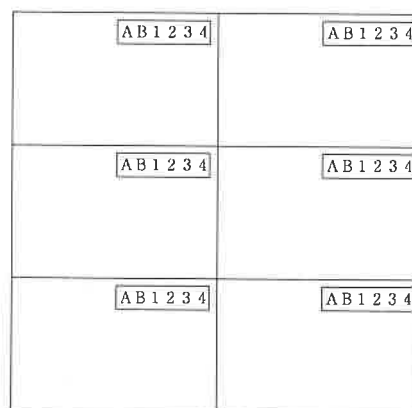- Regarding the numbers and PIN, should I write on a board or print?

A : The numbers can be printed out on a board directly or be glued onto the panel surface. As long as the format and size of them are compliant to the regulation, it doesn't matter whether you print, write, or attach them.

- Can we fold the presentation boards? Can we bind them? Can we alter the presentation format as long as we stay within the size restrictions?

A : You should not fold the boards. We are going to lay out 6 separate A1 boards that you sent as illustrated below. Any deviation of the panel layout is not allowed.
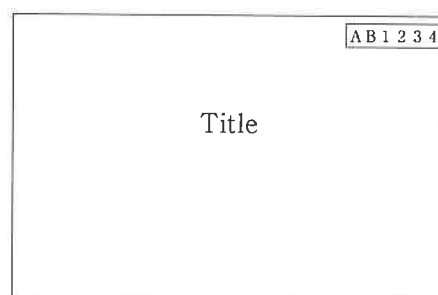
1	2
3	4
5	6

<front of panel>

AB1234	AB1234
AB1234	AB1234
AB1234	AB1234

<back of panel>

For the cover of Design Description and CD/DVD, no texts except for the title and the PIN number should be printed. The cover is white paper.

	AB1234
Title	

■ Islands & The Bering Strait

- Should we assume that the islands of tomorrow will be international land?
- Is it necessary to place any Custom office? If we have to, should we place it in the islands or in the continent border?
- In order to fill certain area of the sea between the two Diomedes for the creation of an artificial land, where are the raw materials for filling coming?
- What would be the scale of the impact on the marine environment as a result of tunneling and pier installation?
- Should I consider that this the level will continue to rise

A : Please keep in mind that this is ideas competition. Political issues are not the main concern of this competition. However, it is also not appropriate to limit extensive and diverse ideas from the entrants. If you consider these issues including environmental one to have a significant role in your design, then, you may propose your idea of how to deal with these issues.

- Will there be the time adjustments for travelers and traveling merchandise through the IDL?

A : IDL and its practice should be kept unchanged in any case.

■ Design Scope

- Do we limit our proposal to the bridge between the two islands? Or is it advised we design for the entire infrastructure of the project
- Could other forms of physical connection be proposed than a bridge and/or tunnel?
- What scale of footprint should we limit the project to?
- Is it essential to propose designs that will be placed on either of the islands?
- Should the project propose a solution for the water and electricity shortage?

A : The scope of the ideas competition is as follows.

- A peace park design with a bridging structure using the two islands, Big Diomede and Little Diomede at the Bering Strait to symbolize the continuation of two continents
- A design idea including all existing options such as a tunnel and bridge or totally new ones to connect two continents.

It is recommended to include in a design proposal, a technical solution for building a structure in an extreme condition of the Bering Strait.

- What is the difference in design scope of Professional and Student categories?

A : We provide 2 categories with same scope and programs in order to encourage students

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to participate by separating the competition between two groups, and thus, giving more chances to them.

- Are we expected to produce complete sets of drawings for every building?
- How specific should the drawings/and or supplementary information be about material choices and building technologies?

A : The level of details and the number of drawings can be decided when you feel that your idea is explained enough. Please, don't forget this is ideas competition.

■ Programs

- Should all the program components be shown in detail?
- What about the level of resolution of the different programs?
- Should we keep the programs specified in the design guideline? Can we propose additional architectural programs?
- Can information regarding the areas of the basic program components be provided?
- May we set the peace park in only one of the islands? Can the peace park be positioned in between the islands? Can designer locate the park freely?
- Information of the park with regard to the program, regulations or restrictions and budget?
- What is the number of researchers to be expected at any given time at the research facility?
- How many people should we design the resort to accommodate? Who are they?

A : Finding relevant programs other than what is written and sizing them are also a part of your design strategy to make your idea more compelling. Please include your explanation on the analysis from your research and assumptions for the design strategy.

- Should we avoid building around (or over) the existing town, or are the inhabitants OK with relocation?
- Due to climate conditions, should the entire program be enclosed?
- How much the weather condition can allow outside activities (in summer/winter)? Should we consider only inside activities?

A : It is open to your interpretation and strategy.

- Will these facilities and zones be designed to be used on a permanent year long basis or on a temporary basis?
- Is the tourist resort usable during the polar winter or is it to be considered a half-season

holiday resort?

A : We assume that the facilities are to be used all year long.

- Regarding the "persons who dedicated their lives to peace" at the Peace Park, are these persons only from the past or are future peace-workers also going to find their place here?

A : It includes both.

■ Transportation

- Should plane and ship transportations be considered in a design?
- Shall we provide an air-strip on the islands?

A : It is up to your interpretation. However, plane and ship are not the type of transportations that we recognize as 'symbolizing' the connection between two continents.

- What kind of navigation is passing through the bering strait?
- Can a detailed sea-route map in the Bering Strait be provided?
- Is there a ferry service connecting two islands?

A : We don't have a specific information on this.

- Is the competition implying a certain accommodation of horizontal circulation in regards to the surface? Does this mean that trains are not expected to pass overhead or that the competition has a tendency to promote a particular arrangement of these?

A : Design guideline reads that underground train station should be located at the bottom of the two islands, WHEN an undersea tunnel is planned. We don't have any preference for a specific transportation.

- Should there be a distinction between freight trains and passenger trains?
- Is it OK to propose inner transportation system which is only used within the island?

A : Please keep in mind that this is ideas competition. It is up to your interpretation and imagination.

■ Further information requested.

- Site section
- Information on the weather, plantation, creatures, air flow and wind speed
- Wind pressure diagrams/ data

- Diagram of the sea currents, Speed of the water
- Size and speed of the iceberg floating at the strait
- Chemical composition of bottom of the strait.(kind of granite)
- What is the expected number of travelers/tourists annually?
- Does the area of project fall into a category of natural disaster prone belt?
- Detailed plans or maps with the villages
- More detailed and precise CAD file for topology.
- Can you please provide more information about the inhabitants of the Big Diomede and the harbors?
- Feasibility studies

A : This is again ideas competition. Competitors can begin with just as much information as they can get from the internet. Please, refer to topo.jpg which is provided in the website to see detailed contour line information and date line location.

■ Evaluation

- Can you provide us the criteria of the jury and their priority?
- About the tendency towards either a Bridge or a tunnel connection among the jury

A : We are seeking for the creative ideas of interconnection and communication at the Bering Strait. For that purpose, the jury will evaluate an idea in terms of symbolizing the connection as well as visualizing how to actually connect the continents in spite of all the difficulties of the location. However, more specific criteria will be discussed in the jury session. Great idea that we are looking for is what make this unreal situation more real and feasible.