Press release

Eur: Contest for a new lighting system – the “Urban Lightscape” competition announcement is now online.

Rome, June 12th 2015. The competition announcement for the international ideas contest “Urban Lightscape – Modern urban landscapes: light as a means of linking together past, present and future” is now online on the following website: www.urban-lightscape.com. The aim of this contest is to design a new lighting system for “Eur”, a district in the south of Rome characterized by its impressive concentration of rationalist architecture.

The contest will concern the following areas: The “Cristoforo Colombo” route (a famous street in Rome); historic buildings belonging to the E42 (Palazzo Uffici, Palazzo Previdenza Sociale, Palazzo INA, Palazzo della Civiltà Italiana, Palazzo Congressi, Palazzo dell’Arte Antica, Palazzo delle Arti e Tradizionali Popolari, Monument to Guglielmo Marconi, Palazzo Mostra della Romanità, Palazzo dell’Arte Moderna, Palazzo della Scienza Universale, Basilica dei Ss. Pietro e Paolo and Archivio Centrale di Stato); buildings constructed after the E42 (Palazzo BNL, Palazzi UNICREDIT, Nuvola and Lama, Palazzo Poste Italiane, Torri di Ligini, Palazzo Eni, Palazzo dello Sport and il Fungo) the “Lago dell’Eur” and the “Parco del Lago”.

Announced by AIDI, The Italian Lighting Association, in collaboration with the PLDC, Professional Lighting Design Convention, APIL, The Italian Association of Lighting Professionals, The “Roma Tre” University School of Architecture and The Masters in Lighting Design “Sapienza” University, the contest is promoted by The National Council of Italian Architects’ Department for Environment and Sustainability, in collaboration with The Contest Area for The Order of Architects of Rome and its Provinces.

“Together with Rome’s Division for Urban Development, The IX Municipality’s Administration and EUR S.p.A., we have selected all the iconic elements of this historic district which will be examined during the contest” - comments Marco Frascarolo, lighting designer and executive director of the Urban Lightscape organizational committee. “We wish to improve EUR through a smart lighting project which will convey an image of ideal harmony between past, present and future”.

“The idea to promote the contest was born - states Alessandro Marata, President of the National Council of Italian Architects’ Department for Environment and Sustainability – from the desire to search for a simple and cheap way of regenerating cities. We wish to integrate energy-efficient lighting with innovative technologies for open spaces, thereby ensuring the sustainable development of cities and the ethical and social responsibility of architects.”

“Urban Lightscape”, whose institutional partners are EUR S.P.A, ROMA CAPITALE – Division of Urban Development – and the IX Municipality, calls on architects and engineers registered in their respective professional Orders and lighting designers – Section A of the Contest is open to all these professions – and on near-graduates and recent graduates not yet registered in professional Orders – to whom Section B of the Contest is open – to design a lighting system for the Eur district which encompasses public, artistic and environmental domains. It must meet the needs of this historic city and establish links between all the elements that make up this complex system, paying particular attention to the relationship between ancient and modern aspects in a contemporary urban dimension.

The lighting systems should preferably use ICT (information and telecommunications) technologies and be designed from a “smart”, systemic and intelligent viewpoint so as to make the district sustainable both in terms of energy/environment, through energy-saving choices and technologies, and in terms of functionality, by ensuring quality urban services which meet the users’ needs. These choices must improve the quality of life of Rome’s citizens by facilitating the usability and productivity of the new services.

The contest deadline date is set for September 25th 2015; the awards ceremony is expected to take place on October 30th 2015 in Rome, in concurrence with the third evening of the fifth edition of the Professional Lighting Design Convention.
The contest documents can be consulted and downloaded online on the following website: www.urban-lightscape.com

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