



LAFARGE
INVENTION AWARDS
2011



LAFARGE INVENTION AWARDS 2011 - RULES

By entering the Competition, each participant agrees to be bound by the following rules.

Lafarge, a public limited company duly established and validly existing under the laws of France, with a share capital of 1 145 815 116 euros listed on the Paris Registry of Trade and Companies under number B 542 105 572, and having its registered office at 61, rue des Belles Feuilles, 75116 Paris, France, is organizing a competition to be known as "Lafarge Invention Awards 2011" (hereinafter referred to as the «Competition») which is planned from September 1, 2011 to March 2012.

The Lafarge Invention Awards aims to reward innovative projects related to Lafarge building materials (cement, concrete, aggregates and gypsum) and contributing to sustainable construction.

The second edition of the Competition will take place in India.

10 finalists will be chosen from the submissions received, and a maximum of 3 will receive prizes in March 2012. Winners will be chosen by a panel made up of Lafarge executives and renowned experts.

First, second and third prizes will be awarded, with prize winners receiving respectively 1,000,000 INR, 500,000 INR, and 250,000 INR. Winners will also be invited on an all-expenses-paid visit to the Lafarge Research Center in France.

Participation to the Competition is free of charge.

1. Eligibility

1.1 What projects are eligible?

Participants must present a project based on an invention that is less than 5 years old, whether patented or not.

Projects may concern a product, an industrial process, a construction method or a service using inventive technology. It must be applicable to building materials (aggregates, cement, concrete, gypsum and related systems, including hybrid solutions) and contribute to sustainable construction. These projects should have reached at least the prototype phase.

1.2 Who can take part?

Submissions for the Competition will be accepted from Indian entrepreneurs, new companies, engineering consultants, architects, researchers, academics.



According to section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956, 'New companies' refer to companies which are in the process of being incorporated or exist since less than 3 years as of September 1, 2011. Their Directors and Shareholders shall be Indians.

'Indian' shall mean a person who has been a resident and has been working in India for a period of at least twelve months immediately preceding the beginning of the Competition.

Staff or employees of companies affiliated to the Lafarge Group or its subsidiaries, members of the panel of experts as well as their families are not allowed to participate in the Competition.

All participants shall be of the age of majority at the time of entry submission.

No submissions breaching Indian laws will be accepted.

2. Entry Conditions

To enter the Competition, participants must go to the www.lafarge-inventionawards.com website to fill in and validate their entry form.

To ensure confidentiality, participants must create their own password on the www.lafarge-inventionawards.com website before completing the entry form.

Completed entry forms must be received by midnight (Indian time) November 30, 2011. However, Lafarge reserves the right to postpone the closing date at any time without prior notice.

All Competition entries must be submitted exclusively using the submission tool available at www.lafarge-inventionawards.com. No other form of entry, by conventional mail or otherwise, shall be considered. Acknowledgement of registration will be sent via email to those who provide a valid email address.

All entries must be in English.

Once completed and validated, all entry forms are final. No changes will be allowed.

Any false statement is ground for disqualification.

By filling in a complete entry form, participants automatically take part and accept, if they are selected as one of the 10 finalists, to give an oral presentation of their project, unless prevented from doing so by circumstances beyond their control.

Travel and accommodation expenses for the 10 finalists will be covered by Lafarge.



Participants agree to provide all information required to assess their entry, including:

- a detailed description of the project stipulating the progress made and the resources required to develop it,
- an intellectual property statement including reports of preliminary studies already undertaken and a statement of any previous commitments with third parties that may affect the project including confidentiality agreements. Failure to comply with this provision may result in the participant being considered ineligible to compete,
- information on its commercial prospects and suitable markets,
- documents relative to the civil status of natural persons such as, but not limited to, documents evidencing their place of birth (i.e. birth certificate), passport details, place of residence and any other document that Lafarge may request.

Participants must warrant they have invented the project submitted and that they own all Intellectual Property related to the invention. If the invention implies a know how belonging to third parties (e.g: the company to which a participant may belong to), the participants must obtain the authorization to use and disclose this know-how to Lafarge in the context of this competition".

Lafarge cannot be held liable for any disputes related to protecting the intellectual property rights over any information given in the submissions. Participants will hold Lafarge indemnified and harmless against any person claiming intellectual property rights over the project.

Participants can apply as an individual or as a group. For innovative projects which may be created by several natural persons, only one person may officially participate and represent the team of such natural persons with their agreements. The other natural persons forming the project team must be described in the application form.

One participant can only apply for one project as an individual, and can be part of a group provided that he / she only represents one project. One participant is authorized to be part of several groups as long as he / she only represents one project.

Companies making a submission must be represented by their legal representative.

3. Timeline of the various phases of the Competition

Launch of Competition	September 1, 2011
Assistance in completing entry forms	From September 1, 2011 to November 30, 2011
Closing date for entries	Midnight November 30, 2011
Pre selection and 10 finalists selected by a panel of Lafarge experts	From December 2011 to January 31, 2012
Notification by e-mail to the finalists that they have been selected	February 1, 2012



Preparation by the finalists for the Presentation Day	February 2012
Presentation Day and announcement of awards during the Awards ceremony in India	March 2012



4. Selection process

A committee of Lafarge experts will examine the submissions and short-list 10 finalists.

The submissions of the 10 finalists will be presented to a panel of experts who will meet in March 2012 in Mumbai.

The panel of experts will be made up of members who are renowned for their skills in their respective fields of expertise, including Lafarge managers and external experts.

The decision of the panel will be conclusive and binding upon the participants; it will not be open to review or challenge. The panel is not required to provide any reasons to support its decision.

Each of the 10 finalists will give a 15-minute oral presentation of his/her project to the panel of experts.

The panel of experts will evaluate the human, technological, legal, financial and commercial aspects of each project according to the following criteria and related weights:

Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	Criterion 5	Criterion 6
Relevance to the sector covered by the Competition	Novelty of the invention	Viability and economic impact, project maturity	Technical feasibility & existing prototype	Contribution to sustainable construction	Quality of the presentation
	Coefficient 4	Coefficient 3	Coefficient 3	Coefficient 3	Coefficient 1

The panel of experts will choose 3 prize winners.

5. Awarding the prizes

First, second and third prizes will be awarded, with prize winners receiving respectively 1,000,000 INR, 500,000 INR, 250,000 INR. Winners will also be invited on an all-expenses-paid visit to the Lafarge Research Center in France.

The prizes will be awarded to the winners at the Awards Ceremony planned in March 2012.

If any of the prize winners are disqualified due to a breach of any of the terms of the Rules or information provided being found to be insufficient, incorrect or misleading, the panel of experts will then be entitled to review their decisions and choose another submission as the prize winner in place of the disqualified prize winner.

Lafarge will organize a press campaign to promote the prize winners' projects. For this purpose, the potential finalists and prize winners, whether natural persons or legal entities, hereby allows Lafarge to use and communicate, over a period of 5 years, as part of the communications campaign related to the Competition, in



any media whatsoever including, but not limited to Lafarge websites and social media, without being entitled to claim any rights or indemnity whatsoever anywhere in the world, the following information:

- identification of the finalists and prize winners (surname, first name, e-mail address, image and full contact details, trademarks and logos, company names)
- a non-confidential description of their project as described and presented in the submission form and throughout the Competition process.

The finalists agree not to announce their nomination by any means of communication whatsoever before the Awards Ceremony.

If the prizes are not awarded or claimed within thirty (30) days from the day of the Awards Ceremony, Lafarge will be free to dispose of them as it sees fit.

The future prize winners agree to stipulate that they are Lafarge prize winners in all public communications or statements.

6. Interruption, cancellation or extension of the Competition

Lafarge reserves the right, without having to explain the reasons, to interrupt, cancel or extend the Competition at any time, if required by circumstances, without the applicants being entitled to any compensation whatsoever. In particular, Lafarge reserves the right to cancel the Competition if the number of applicants is lower than 10.

7. Intellectual Property and Confidentiality

All submissions for the Competition will be treated as confidential during the term of the Competition.

The panel of experts and people with access to the submissions will undertake in writing to keep all information relative to each project and the participants confidential.

All rights and ownership of the submitted projects remain with the participant unless otherwise transferred or assigned by the participant to Lafarge.

8. Limitation of Liability

Lafarge reserves the right to take action by any means in the event of a breach of the present rules, in particular if erroneous information is provided.

Participation in the Competition implies knowledge and acceptance of the characteristics and limits of the internet, in particular regarding technical performances, response times for consulting, interrogating or transferring information to www.lafarge-inventionawards.com, risks of breaks in service and more generally risks inherent in all internet connections and transmissions, absence of protection of certain data against possible improper use and risks of contamination by internet viruses.



Lafarge therefore cannot be held in any way liable, including but not limited to, for any internet malfunction that prevents the smooth running or performance of the Competition, any failure of any receiving equipment or communication lines, loss of any e-mail and, more generally, loss of any data, operation of any software, consequences of any viruses, bugs, IT errors, technical failures or any damage to an applicant's computer.

It is hereby stipulated that Lafarge may not be held liable for any direct or indirect damage resulting from a break in service, for any malfunction whatsoever, for suspending or ending the Competition, for any reason whatsoever, or any direct or indirect damage that may result in any way from the Lafarge website at www.lafarge-inventionawards.com. All applicants are responsible for taking all appropriate precautions against any risks to protect their own data and/or software stored on their IT equipment. Connection to www.lafarge-inventionawards.com and participation in the Competition are at users' own risk.

9. Processing of applicants' personal data

The finalists and prize winners agree that Lafarge may use their data for communication purposes related to the Competition.

10. Telephone enquiries

No telephone enquiries will be answered regarding the terms and conditions of the Competition, interpretation and application of the present regulations and/or the list of applicants.

11. Jurisdiction – applicable law

The Competition and the present rules are governed by Indian law. If certain provisions of the present regulations are declared null and void or inapplicable, the remaining provisions will still apply.

The parties will make every effort to settle amicably any disputes that may arise over the validity, interpretation or performance of the present regulations and Competition. In the event of any definitive disagreement, the dispute will be decided by the Arbitration Mediation Council - ArMC, India which, it is expressly stipulated, has sole jurisdiction.

12. Acceptance of the rules

Participation in the Competition implies that the applicants fully accept all the rules.

The rules (available on www.lafarge-inventionawards.com/rules) may be modified at any time; applicants shall read them before validating their entry form.

Contact for any question: inventionawards@lafarge.com