
PRESS RELEASE

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IVORY COAST TAKES SECOND PLACE AT SAINT-GOBAIN'S INTERNATIONAL MULTI COMFORT STUDENTS CONTEST

Illustrating excellence in architecture on the African continent, three students from Ivory Coast took second prize at Saint-Gobain's 15th Multi Comfort Students Contest, held in Milan, Italy.

More than 2,200 students, most of whom are studying engineering and architecture, from 199 universities entered the contest. 60 competing teams from 34 countries presented their projects to an international panel of representatives from the Municipality of Milan, architects and experts.

Amid stiff competition, Emmanuella Ohene Mantey, Mohamed Fakhri and Patrick Kore from the Abidjan School of Architecture in Ivory Coast received the second prize with the "Social Canopy" project.

This is the first year that a team from Ivory Coast entered the contest. In the last three years, submissions from students from Africa have been placed first or second.

"We are exceptionally pleased with this year's results which are testament to the quality of thinking, design and approach and clearly show Cote d'Ivoire's high calibre of work and understanding of the importance of Multi Comfort," says Jean-Claude Lasserre, CEO of Saint-Gobain Sub-Saharan Africa.

The first prize was awarded to students from the Silesian University of Technology in Poland, and the third prize went to a team from Brest State Technical University, Belarus.

"This year, the contest task was a perfect illustration of some of the major challenges that cities are facing. I was again very impressed by the students' enthusiasm and their commitment in using Saint-Gobain's Multi Comfort solutions for imagining and building the cities of tomorrow. Cities that can improve our daily life and our wellbeing, and that will also take care of the planet," said Pierre-André de Chalendar, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Saint-Gobain.

Created in 2004, this contest recognizes student talent. Participants have to design a project based on Saint-Gobain's Multi Comfort principles: thermal, visual and acoustic comfort, as well as good-quality indoor air.

The challenge for the 15th International Multi Comfort Students Contest, developed in close collaboration with the Municipality of Milan, was to design a project to rehabilitate and reconnect the urban area around the Crescenzago subway station in Northeast Milan. The project needed to be in line with the City of Milan's #milano2030 development concept, which includes the renovation of three existing buildings and the development of a new complex with housing, public spaces and infrastructure. Entries were judged on their innovative approach, environmental qualities and compliance with Multi Comfort criteria, as well as their ability to blend perfectly into the environment and account for the climatic conditions specific to the area.

ABOUT SAINT-GOBAIN

Saint-Gobain designs, manufactures and distributes materials and solutions which are key ingredients in the wellbeing of each of us and the future of all. They can be found everywhere in our living places and our daily life: in buildings, transportation, infrastructure and in many industrial applications. They provide comfort, performance and safety while addressing the challenges of sustainable construction, resource efficiency and climate change.

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