

ASU Solar Decathlon Voting Ends Saturday

Written by Steve Frank
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Building on their success on this side of the Atlantic, Maison Reciprocity, Appalachian State University's entry in the Solar Decathlon Europe 2014, has been reassembled on its Versailles, France, location, and voting for the People's Choice Award is ongoing through this Saturday, July 12th. Appalachian had one of the first teams to assemble its house, and the design has garnered the attention of the media, according to Mark Bridges, communications manager for the project. Bridges reported that students have been busy conducting VIP tours of the house and also will give tours to the thousands of visitors expected to visit Solar Decathlon Europe 2014 before it concludes July 14th. The net-zero energy house was constructed in Boone, then six 40-foot modules that comprise the house traveled by cargo ship to the French coast and were then trucked to Versailles, where students had 10 days to reassemble the structure for the two-week competition. About 50 students from Appalachian participated in the primary design and construction of the home in conjunction with their international partners at the Université d'Angers in France. Twenty competition houses from 17 countries and three continents are on display. Only two U.S. universities were selected to participate in the international competition, Appalachian's Maison Reciprocity and a design by Rhode Island School of Design and Brown University.

Maison Reciprocity is the second Appalachian design to compete in a Solar Decathlon event. Appalachian last competed in the U.S. Department of Energy's 2011 Solar Decathlon with its Solar Homestead design and won the People's Choice award there.

To vote for the People's Choice Award for REC-Maison Reciprocity, visit <http://www.solardecathlon2014.fr/en/votez>. Click on the British flag at the top left of the website to enter the English-language site for voting.

For additional images of Maison Reciprocity, visit Facebook and search for Reciprocity 2014. For more information about the competition, visit <http://www.solardecathlon2014.fr/en>.