

Press Release

EU-LIVE OPEN DESIGN CONTEST: WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR L6E CONCEPT

In our modern times, society is facing the challenge of satisfying the rapidly increasing need of cost-efficient, quiet and easy-to-maneuvre urban vehicles, which enable a broad spectrum of users to comfortably and affordably move around in highly populated areas. The EU-LIVE project delivers a unique answer to this demand by launching an extraordinary International Open Design Contest. Costumer compatibility as well as focussing on a realistic implementation are essential key points, which significantly set this contest apart from others. In order to make this idea come true, we asked some of Europe's Top designers to contribute their version of a vehicle, which meets the interests of both environmental and consumer issues.

The foundation of the design contest has been the architecture of the L6e category vehicle. Regarded as a contribution to the EU-LIVE modular platform, which forms the unique core of the EU-LIVE project, this 4-wheeler was designed with a special focus on user needs and market compatibility.

The participants were given only a handful of vehicle requirements, such as outer dimensions, number of passengers and number of wheels, to leave them as much room as possible for a new and unconventional design. A description of a possible future vehicle's use case was presented to give the designers a feeling for the innovative vehicle concept.

WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

In April 2016, after a tough evaluation phase for the jury, which consisted of seven highly renowned individuals, six of them members of the EU-LIVE consortium, we finally had the honor to announce the three winning concepts:

1. cityFLEX by Robert Hahn (Germany)
2. SightSeeingTaxi Berlin by Jörn Lutter (Germany)
3. Smart Mobility by Hugo Bricout (France)

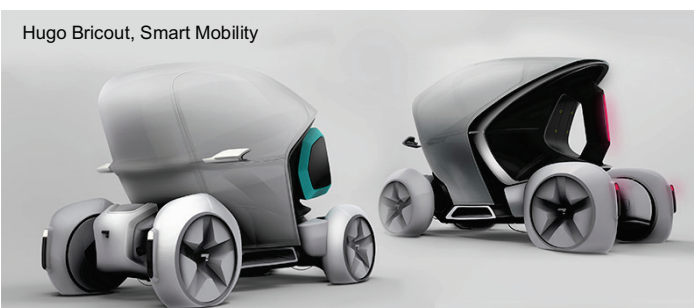
With his futuristic and original concept, **Robert Hahn**, a young Transportation Design student at HS Pforzheim, was rewarded the first place. The "**cityFLEX**", a one + one seater, is convincing due to its flexibility based on providing the opportunity to drive it in an open or closed mode. This concept greatly appeals to potential customer needs by enabling them to freely decide whether they want to store a great amount of luggage or take a second person with them. Moreover, the easy-to-clean interior provides the perfect pre-requisite for serving as a car sharing vehicle.



The second place goes to the outstanding concept **SightseeingTaxi Berlin** by **Jörn Lutter**, who thrilled the jury by presenting the idea of a versatile vehicle that combines the services of a taxi with the services of a tour guide. In fact, this concept provides the basis for a complete change in today's urban transport and tourism system, which would enable tourists as well as interested locals to comfortably get to know the city while still reaching their desired destination. In an advanced development stage, the vehicle would have even provided the possibility to function autonomously.



The French freelance designer **Hugo Bricout** was ranked third with his intriguing **Smart Mobility** concept, which delivers the perfect city compatible vehicle. Thanks to its scalable platform, it enables the user to reduce as well as to enlarge its size. In order to provide with the possibility of gaining more storage space and giving a second passenger a lift at the same time, there are top cases located outside the passenger compartment. This unique storage system not only equips the vehicle with more space but enables it to be used for car sharing.



We are greatly pleased to reward these three contestants with a prize money as well as to announce the development of, the overall winning concept, cityFLEX, into a virtual prototype, which will also undergo a feasibility study to ensure a seamless implementation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The EU-LIVE project has a total budget of EUR 6.7 million. It is coordinated by the VIRTUAL VEHICLE Research Center in Graz and combines the know-how of twelve partners from six countries, including two large European vehicle manufacturers (PSA Peugeot Citroën, Peugeot Scooters) as well as numerous renowned suppliers and prestigious research institutions.

At the end of the 3-year research project, which started in June 2015, two prototypical real demonstrators for a purely electric motorcycle (L3e) and a full-fledged plug-in hybrid tricycle (L5e), and one virtual prototype for a four-wheel vehicle (L6e selected from the “Open Design Contest”) will be presented.

TWELVE PARTNERS:

Project leader: VIRTUAL VEHICLE Research Center (AT)
Peugeot Citroen Automobiles S.A. (FR), Peugeot Scooters (FR), Continental Automotive GmbH (DE), Pres SAMSUNG SDI Battery Systems GmbH (AT), Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Forschung E.V. (DE), Mondragon Goi Eskola Politeknikoa J.M.A. (ES), fka Forschungsgesellschaft Kraftfahrwesen mbH Aachen (DE), Spirit Design – Innovation and Brand GmbH (AT), IFP Energies nouvelles (FR), Brembo Spa (IT), Elaphe Pogonske Tehnologije Doo-Elaphe Propulsion Technologies LTD (SI),

Six countries: Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Spain

Website: <http://eu-live.eu>

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