

Notice

**Second Annual
International Student Design Competition:
Safe Affordable Ferries**

A project of the Worldwide Ferry Safety Association¹

In 2013 awards were made to student teams in the amount of \$10,000 with the top prize \$5000. An impressive roster of internationally recognized maritime professionals served as judges. The top awards were presented at the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Annual meeting with wide media reporting.

For the annual international student competitions, ferries are to be designed according to specifications of a particular developing emerging market nation. For 2014, the specifications are for an open ocean ferry route for the Pacific Island nation of Papua New Guinea and applicable to other Pacific Island nations.

Background. In many parts of the developing world emerging markets ferry travel is not safe. One of the most intractable causes of fatal accidents as identified by the Interferry – IMO Ferry Safety project and subsequent Ferry Safety Information Sharing Forums is the lack of safe affordable ferries.^{2, 3.}

For the Pacific Island nations the need for safe ferry transport is critical to the economic vitality of the area; most residents are absolutely reliant on waterborne transportation. In the past four years there have been three major ferry disasters. The financial challenges for the low GDP Pacific Island nations include sparse budget for government procurement as well as for operational support. Physical challenges include strong trade winds and high sea states.

Terms of Reference. The terms of reference call for a responsive and innovative concept for a ferry prepared to basic design detail. The ferry must be safe to operate in the conditions of the waterway, the weather, and required passenger capacity. The ferry must be affordable to construct, acquire, operate, maintain, and repair. Full specifications are available with registration.

About the competition:

Collaboration. Teams are encouraged to collaborate among disciplines within an academic institution, between institutions, and across national boundaries.

Submission: Competitors must contact ferrysafety@gmail.com to receive a registration identification number and the Terms of Reference. Registration closes April 1, 2014. Submissions will be due electronically by June 1, 2014.

Prize: Top prize is \$5000 with additional prizes of \$3000 and \$1000. Winners will be invited to an award ceremony.

¹ Worldwide Ferry Safety Association (www.ferrysafety.org)

² http://www.interferry.com/ferry_safety_project

³ Maritime Transport Technologies for the Other 90% of Us, TRR (2012)
<http://trid.trb.org/view.aspx?id=1129917>