

RUUKKI

RUUKKI - LIVING DESIGN



Design Competition 18.5.-19.8.2005

Jury Report 30.9.2005



Entry "+PLUS"

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1 Invitation

1.1 Organisers and Nature of the Competition

Rautaruukki Plc, (hereinafter 'Ruukki'), organised a design competition to develop a range of new types of low-rise housing. The competition was organised as an international competition for six invited firms of architects.

The aim of the competition was to find ideas for a range of new types of modular, design-oriented low-rise/low-density house types suitable for the construction of single-family houses, holiday homes and residential areas suitable also for high-density areas. The goal was to find affordable solutions that can be produced as modular house kits using Rautaruukki Group products and materials as appropriate. The competition solutions were to be shown against the background of an imaginary environment to test the potential of the solution for building complete residential areas.

1.2 Participants

The following firms were invited to take part in the competition:

M41LH2, Finland
Koko3, Finland
ALA Architects, Finland
Huttunen-Lipasti-Pakkanen, Architects, Finland
Claesson-Koivisto-Rune, Sweden
Plot, Denmark

1.3 Competition Jury

appointed by Ruukki:

Ari Vouti, Vice President, Rautaruukki Plc, Chairman of the jury
Tom Dixon, Artistic Director, Artek
Asko Kaipainen, Architect
Jouni Koiso-Kanttila, Professor, Architect
Tarmo Mononen, Key Customer Manager, Rautaruukki Plc

appointed by the invited competitors:

Todd Saunders, Architect, Norway

Paula Huotelin, Architect SAFA, secretary to the jury.

Consultants :

Alex Nieminen, Managing director, Direction Helsinki
Paavo Aunola, Managing director, Kiinteistömaailma

The experts and the secretary to the jury did not take part in any decision-making. Tom Dixon was hindered to participate the jury work.

2. Competition Procedures

The competition was arranged according to SAFA Architectural Competition Conditions (www.safa.fi). The competition brief was approved by the jury and the Competition Secretary of the Finnish Association of Architects.

The competition brief and appendices were given to all the invited participants at the competition launch on May 18, 2005. The dead-line for submitting entries was on August 19, 2005.

The official language of the competition was English.

Entrants were allowed to ask for explanations and additional information regarding the competition programme. By the specified date (June 13) 5 questions were submitted. The questions and the jury's answers were sent to the participants by on June 22, 2005.

The competitors had the chance for further product information on Ruukki materials and solutions throughout the duration of the competition.

3. The Competition Assignment

3.1 Background to the Assignment

Ruukki supplies components, systems and turnkey deliveries to the construction industry and the mechanical engineering industry. The Group has a wide range of metal products and metals sector services. Ruukki operates in 24 countries and has a staff of 12,000. Ruukki's geographical focus areas are the Nordic countries and the Central Eastern Europe. The company now wants to strengthen its position in the low-rise housing market by creating a range of prefabricated house types that will give Ruukki a significant boost up the low-rise building value chain. To achieve this end, the company is using this architectural competition to seek ideas and future partners for the prefabricated house concept.

Every year approximately 30,000 homes are built in Finland, 14,000 of them are in blocks of flats, 4,000 are row houses and 12,000 are single-family houses. A large proportion of single-family houses are in the form of house kits, which can be either partial deliveries (e.g. processed wood products cut to size, accompanied by other building materials), or complete factory-made houses erected on site, or something in between these two extremes.

In Finland there are about 150 suppliers producing partly or completely factory-made houses. Most of these are small factories producing 1-10 houses a month. The larger manufacturers include Kastelli, Finndomo (Vaajatalo) and Honkarakenne, which specialises in holiday homes and produces perhaps hundreds of houses a month, mostly for export.

For the consumer, house kits are often an easier way to buy a house than going for an architect-designed house planned right from square one. Nevertheless, there are frequently major uncertainties associated with house kits, the most important being the overall cost of the project and the timetable. The companies selling house kits use the ironmonger/builder's merchant chains as their distribution channels.

Alterations to house kits are usually accompanied by significant extra costs, which cannot be calculated for the house-buyer in advance. Moreover, the alteration alternatives are always limited. The range of house types is also fairly limited; almost all the companies on the market tend to produce variations on the traditional houses built after the war. Slightly more modern versions are usually individual, one-off models listed in large catalogues.

3.2 Competition Aims and Design Instructions

The intention is to use the ideas emerging from this competition and the house concepts developed from it to radically change the current image of building a house as a complex, difficult project that generates a lack of confidence. The aim was to produce a new kind of construction experience, which for the consumer will be more like an interior design/decoration project than building a house. Distributors' solutions, site acquisition services and after-sales services are an integral part of this overall experience. The intention was for the competition to produce a distinct alternative to those that are currently available, in every respect including the architecture. This will then create a competitive advantage for Ruukki's range of prefabricated house types in relation to other suppliers.

The aim of the competition was to find a new concept for low-rise housing that can be commercialised as a range of prefabricated house types with a strong design content to give them a competitive advantage. The goal is to give the end-user the experience of an easy housing solution, to reach home-buyers not just home-builders. The idea is to use the range of house types and the concept on which they are based to change the image of building a house from being a difficult, time-consuming and risky way of obtaining a home into something else. The solution will have to catch the attention of a broad-based target group through its clear Scandinavian design: 'Everyone is entitled to good architecture'.

From the consumer's perspective, the range of house types will provide a turnkey solution. From the production perspective, standardisation and modularity combined with ease of erection will be an essential element in the evaluation of the proposal as a whole. Variability within the range of house types will be created by offering several alternative standards of fixtures and fittings in addition to the basic solution.

Ruukki's commercial aim is to expand the proportion of housing made up of single-family houses by bringing solutions to the customer that are easy to buy and easy to schedule, and are variable in a wide variety of ways. One particular target group is urban families who perhaps would otherwise never attempt to become house builders, perhaps not even now. For them, the Ruukki house will be a solution to living not a solution to building.

The main ideas of the range of house types were to be presented in the form of a detached single-family house (approx. 135 m²), but in addition, the functionality of the proposed solution was evaluated when a number of them are linked together round a courtyard or garden, or in a chain or terrace of houses in a residential area.

Ruukki materials and products were to be used as applicable in the design of the prefabricated house kit. The use of these products was not, however, an end in itself, but different materials may and indeed were supposed to be used in the design to exploit their best features. The design was supposed to aim for intelligent use of steel construction and materials, not just the use of steel as a replacement for other materials.

3.3 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria in the competition were:

Design

A new range of house types which are recognised for their design. Houses which will attract home-buyers interested in building design and interior decoration as well as traditional house-builders.

Implementation

The competition was seeking solutions that can be used to produce design efficiently on an industrial basis using modular construction, pre-fabrication and standardisation. Erection of the building must also be quick and easy.

Price

The aim was to achieve an affordable solution for the consumer (building cost EUR 1,500-2,000 per m², calculated as net area, prize including tax).

Living

In the evaluation, the emphasis was on the potential for multi-purpose use, plus comfort and well-being at home.

Adaptability

The range of types had to work on different sites and for building multiple residents.

4. Evaluation of the Proposals

4.1 General Comments

All the participants have delivered the required materials. The jury has received a wide variety of solutions to the criteria set in the competition. This competition was, by no means, an easy task. The challenge of designing a house for the general public, as opposed to a specific client, forces the architect to set up their own preconceived guiding principles of what is the optimal prefabricated house. This leads to, for example, such questions as: 1) What will catch the attention of as many people as possible? 2) What is relatively affordable? and 3) What kind of house will provide people with the right to live in good architecture?

In general, the proposals had different levels of quality. They were easily divided into three categories: 1) good, 2) average, and 3) poor. None of the entries can be built directly, and the final winners will have to be re-developed in accordance to the evaluations presented in this jury report. There was, however, no expectations from the jury to find a completed design, as competitions are generally meant to find a basis project that has the most potential for further development.

Only 4 of 6 of the projects have fulfilled the wishes of Ruukki to make "distinct alternatives". There are 2 proposals that have potential to be further developed as a house that can represent Ruukki's ambitions to contribute positively to prefabricated housing. Both of these projects had developed insightful principles and presented designs that reflected these principles in an inventive and inspiring way.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are two suggestions that were amateur and uninventive. In these proposals there was a lack of originality and depth of design. In no way did these solutions show the value of using an architect for this project.

As a jury, the job of picking a winner was challenging. We had to both put ourselves in the shoes of potential clients, architects, and manufacturers. What was sometimes optimal for one group was often in direct contrast to the others who would be involved in developing such a project. To judge the competition, each solution was evaluated in terms of five main criteria: 1) design, 2) implementation, 3) price, 4) living, and 5) adaptability.

The projects that scored best in terms of **design** were those that possessed both modern and traditional qualities, allowing them to adapt to various situations and to appeal to a wider variety of consumers. These houses have to be popular to be economically viable. Attaining this popularity is a task that few "prefabricated" housing companies have achieved. The best-designed projects in this competition had a distinct architecture that was recognizable and would be different from housing in today's market. As well as being a good designed house, the best projects will inherently be the best for marketing. A good idea usually sells itself.

Each team showed houses that could be **implemented** on an industrial basis, using modular construction, for standardization and prefabrication. The problem with this criteria is that when one thinks just implementation, aspects of design and the human qualities quickly disappear. An engineer could make a house that is perfect for implementation, yet easily forgets the people living in this house, or the neighborhood in which this house will be sited. This is where the role of the architect is essential to making a diverse house. Some of the best solutions for implementation were perhaps the worst designs. It was almost as if, some of the firms lacked an on-staff designer. Fortunately, this is a part of the competition that can be modified and improved tremendously when the winners work further with the experts at Ruukki.

The **price** for most of the houses presented was within reason. Some of the design suggestions, however, had unnecessary complicated technical solutions that made it impossible to produce the house in a cost efficient way. The strongest solutions in terms of cost were those with minimal details and who used steel in a constructive manner. Well-organized plan solutions that did not include wasted areas cut down on the use of extra materials and helped keep cost down.

The "**living**" aspects of most projects presented one of the biggest challenges of the competition. How could one design a prototype house that could both adapt to being a larger or smaller house? Most of the plans themselves were quite well thought out. The better plans experimented with volumetric spaces and ended up being more dynamic than those who just focused on square meters. In order to meet a larger market, the prototype has to work just as well for a family who wants 135m² as it does for a single person that just needs 50m², or a larger family with some of its members wishing to work at home and requiring a lot of space. Some of the plans tackled this part of the competition quite well, while it was difficult to imagine how some other houses could be anything other than the house that was presented. Flexibility is key, as people are very different in how they inhabit a house. The more flexible the house plans, the more adaptable it will be in the market.

There were only three houses that explored how the exterior or landscape could be integrated into the plan. Roof decks and terraces integrated into the core of the design are positive additions to these houses, making them more interesting places to live.

The "**adaptability**" aspect of most of the projects was variable. None of the solutions really pushed these aspects of their designs. Very few of the projects presented alternatives of how their buildings could adapt to steep sites - a common problem for many typical catalogue houses that often requires the destruction of the site to make the house "fit".

Most of the solutions only showed shallow scenarios of how their design could be grouped together to form a collection of their houses. Unfortunately, this was done quickly and few inspiring solutions were produced. A number of the groups just showed too many solutions yet never sorted out the best ones. Instead of presenting five good solutions, they showed, for example, 20 averages solutions. This lack of critical selection made it difficult to see which solutions they themselves considered most viable.

The jury was pleased with 4 of the 6 entries. The top two suggestions have the most promise for further development. In our evaluations these four suggestions received the most thorough evaluations.

5. Evaluation of Individual Proposals

5.1 Senator

Design

The proposed architecture is skillfully presented and harmoniously beautiful. The exterior architecture of the buildings is elegantly modern, and it would be possible to assemble them into expressive groups of buildings. The cross-sectional shapes of the buildings are exceptionally elegant, and the shapes of the roofs allow this building type to blend in naturally with other existing, more traditional types of buildings.

The forms are both traditional and modern at the same time. This allows the houses to adapt well to existing neighborhoods. Proposal is a unique, yet a positively familiar design. This will be a point of comfort for those who are both traditionalists and modernist in their buying habits. A solution that presents an exciting volumetric interiors by opening up to the second floor.

Adaptability

The strength of this proposal lies in its natural, strong architecture. The designer shows how the buildings can be assembled into a high-quality, distinctive product family that offers many different alternatives, including single-family houses and large two-story buildings or row houses. The designer is also consistent, as the proposal indicates how the designer's proposed "nine wishes for a contemporary house" are achievable within the framework of the design.

Proposal presents a good variety of plans that can be assembled to cater to a larger market. The building has potential as a prefabricated house, yet needs some implication for it to be a viable and innovative product for Ruukki. The illustrations showing the chain of row houses were very convincing. It showed that this house, when put together in larger groups, could offer dynamic forms and endless possibilities when adapted to various situations.

Implementation

The buildings in the proposal could easily be developed for industrial production by assembling the buildings partly from the components presented in the proposal and partly from ready-made volume elements. However, this execution technology or principle was not presented in the proposal.

Price

The design concept is expensive compared to other entries. Lots of cost is caused by complex detailing. There are a bit too many parts. Due to its lively form; this house may end up being too expensive for most people, thus pushing itself outside of a much large market. This can be solved

by simplifying the building to a point where it still included the essential themes, and allowing those with a better economy to choose possible additional part for the house. This is such the same as buying a car with a variety of "add-ons".

Living

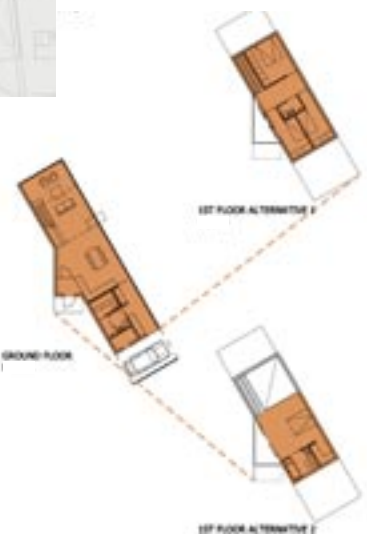
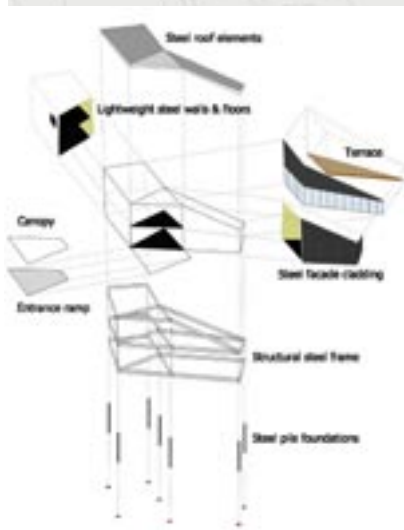
The floor plans of the housing units in the proposal are well planned and the designer has understood that the system must allow the use of a wide building frame in larger building types. On the other hand, the technical aspect of the system is left at the idea level, and the triangular shape forming the core of the design has not been utilised in the floor plan in a natural way.

The plans are well organized. Unfortunately, by using a triangle as the main pivotal point for the layout, this strategy creates as many problems as it solves (i.e. Unconventional transitions points and unusable spaces). With that said, this one triangle element can be replaced with more adaptable form.

The ground floor consists of a main entrance, a kitchen and a living floor which form one space opening to the yard. Beside the kitchen there is a sauna and a utility room with a back door entrance from a carport. There is a stairway to the first floor from a living room (privacy?). Bedrooms and a bathroom are in the first floor (only 2 bedrooms in 135 m² apartment). There were very little variations in plan in terms of living on the ground floor or the upper floor.



THE SITE



HOUSE TYPE 9 TO 6
GROSS FLOOR AREA
125 M²



GROUND FLOOR



1ST FLOOR



ALTERNATIVE 1ST FLOOR
WITH TV ROOM



SECTION A



SECTION B



SECTION C



SECTION D



ELEVATION A



ELEVATION B



ELEVATION C



ELEVATION D



5.2 +XI

Design

The architecture of the proposal is very distinctive, which is both the strength and the weakness of the proposal. The architecture of the presented example is strongly personal, convincingly controlled and modern in a positive way.

The floor plans of the buildings presented in the examples are natural, but they strongly resemble each other. All the designs are based on the use of a very narrow building frame, which results in difficult, impractical housing unit designs in large buildings. The designer has not indicated how wide-framed buildings could be designed within the framework of the system, and it is apparent that the proportions of such buildings would not allow them to achieve the architectural elegance displayed in the example buildings of the proposal.

Implementation

This is one of the only solutions that showed the structural potential of using steel. By cantilevering one house on top of the other, this team managed to create good outside spaces. By using tension wires, they pushed the limits, and showed why architects who use steel to make houses do things that are difficult to do with other building materials. The use of volumetric modules are the most competitive way to build the building.

Price

Affordable; technically the buildings could be produced industrially, but the long overhangs and wide roof terraces in line with the basic idea of the design are unavoidably costly. So, a building type according to this proposal would be relatively expensive. Overall, the proposal would be more worthy as a single group of buildings rather than the basis for an industrial construction system. By developing volumetric modules, the price could be on the affordable level.

Living

This was one of the only solutions that explored the benefits of using volumes to create a better home. Many of the other solutions focused too much on simple square meters and missed a valuable opportunity that this team captured.

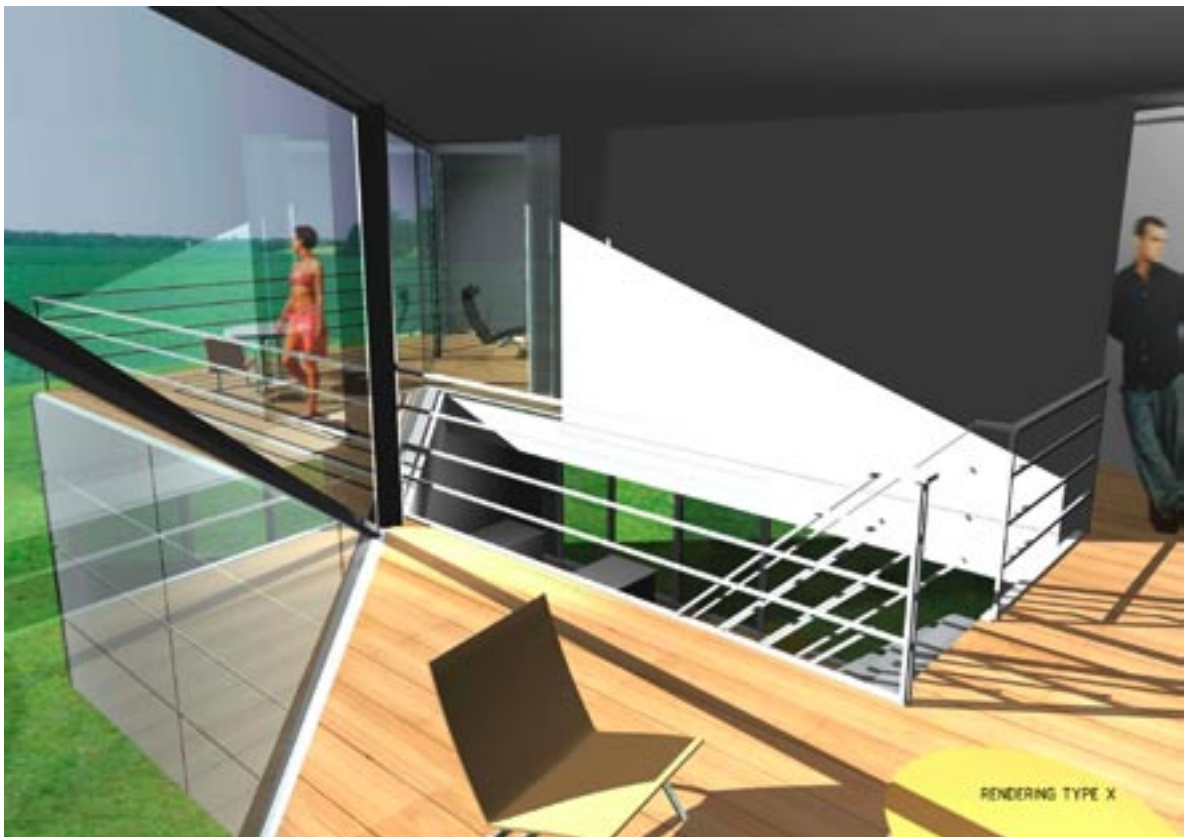
The authors were one of the only groups to write a pertinent text that addressed the reality of building for the "unknown client". They asked good questions and, as good architects, answered them with the use of inventive models, schemes, scenarios and plans.

The house is divided into living and sleeping areas. A ground floor living area with a double height dining area is a beautiful modern space. The first floor with bedrooms wastes 8 m² for a corridor around the double height space. A roof terrace links well with the first floor. The formalistic + -shape makes a nice carport and a terrace for a ground floor. All and all, the design gives you an impression of a leisure home rather than a home for a family.

Adaptability

The proposal is a captive of its own distinctiveness, as all the variations unfortunately resemble one and the same building. The proposal shows how the buildings can form a very successful, modern residential milieu, but fitting the building type in with existing, more traditional types of buildings would be perceptibly problematic.

The project has many positive features and it is one of the strongest and flexible solutions in this competition. There are weaknesses, but as a good starting point for the development of a viable and attractive prototype, this project has lots of potential.

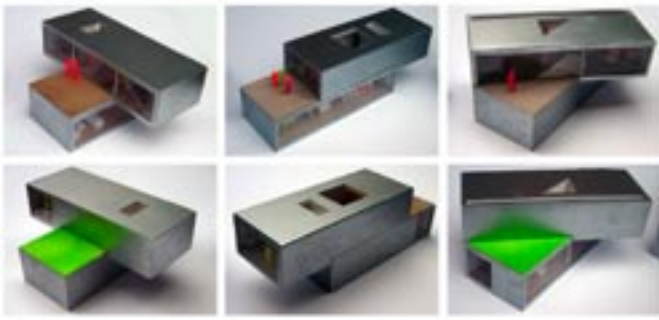




TYPE +

TYPE I

TYPE X



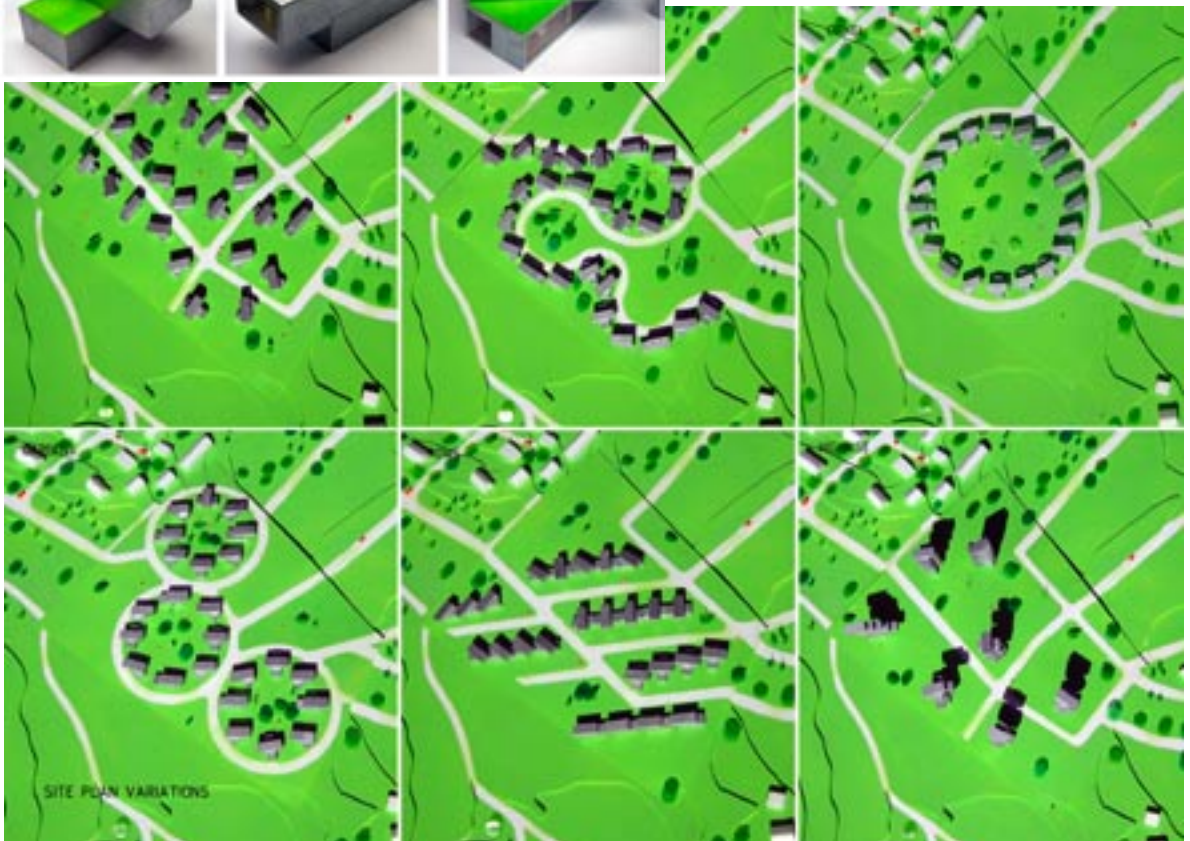
TYPE +



TYPE X



TYPE I



TYPE I



TYPE +



TYPE X



5.3 +PLUS

Design

The architecture of the proposal is captivatingly expressive housing architecture. The skilful composition and harmonious proportions of the buildings in the long cavalcade of façade variations presented in the proposal are convincing. The shapes of the buildings and their openings are very successful.

This is the best proposal in the sense of design. It is modern, balanced and well proportioned architecture with its own characters. The architecture and shape of building and other spaces is not based on some specific material. The proposal has a variety of choices in façade materials and colours. Possible clients could select wood, stone or steel house depending on outer material. The house and combined garden will attract both traditional and design orientated clients.

The facades are quite playful, yet clean and simple to build. The exploration showing the various façade configurations and types of materials made the proposal very convincing. Even though this was a competition for steel housing, the authors proposed other materials that could be combined with steel in an enlivening way. The use of various materials is welcoming and will add to the diversity and flexibility of this house.

Implementation

Technically the design is clear-cut and easy to modify into an industrially producible system. Nevertheless, it would be good if more different types of components that would facilitate modification were designed or incorporated into the system. All the modifications are based on projecting elements hung on the basic building frame.

The solution is based on modularity and standardization in the sense of execution of construction. Mixed technology is presented: separate steel frame and plane elements and modular wet rooms. Ready made modules could be also possible but not presented in the proposal. For the house's technical features there is space along the back wall and in the garage/storage building.

Price

Due to modularity, the price is on affordable level. Separate steel frame and cantilevers will cause additional costs. How will the steel frame be integrated into the wall and roof? It is not mentioned or presented if the steel frame is visible as an architectural affect in the interior.

Living

The floor plans of the different-sized buildings presented in the proposal are functional in principle, but the inflexibility of the systems is problematic. All the buildings have a very narrow frame. This leads to railroad car-type housing solutions, which is a weakness of this design. The modifiability of the system is also problematic: all the proposed examples, from the 86 m² two-room apartment to the 187 m² building, have the same rather small kitchen-dining-room-living room entity.

Openings are well designed and rooms are sunny. Light is reflecting from one or two direction in a way which connect the front garden into main building and living. A variety of different kind of spaces needed in living are recognised and presented. There is some weakness in the design of the room layouts. The rooms are too narrow and lot of narrow corridors is designed. The plot must be also narrow which is limiting the use of this building model in different sites.

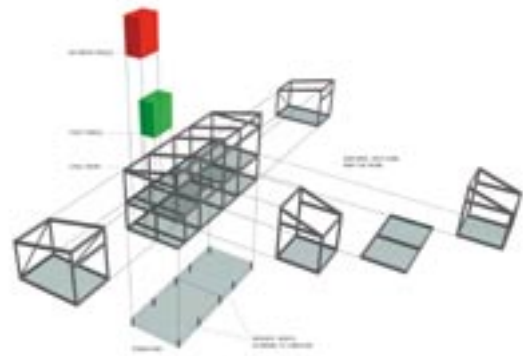
The plans work best for the smaller versions of this house. Yet, when the house gets larger, it increases in length and the plans create more wasted space in terms of hallways that are mere transit zones. In future versions, this could be resolved. By using different stair placements and configurations, and with exploration we feel would help for the viability of this solution.

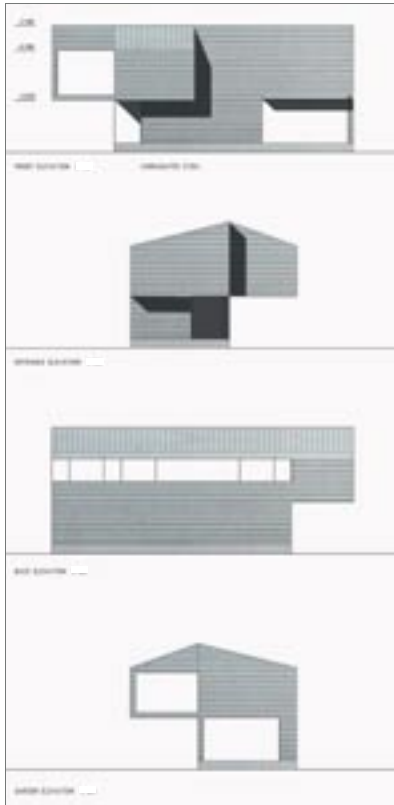
Adaptability

The house is very adaptable. The closely-spaced group of buildings with its beautifully expressive streetscape presented in the proposal is the contest's most successful example of modern dense and low-slung living. The architecture of the buildings is cleanly modern, but thanks to the shape of the buildings and roofs, this system would also be easy to fit into a traditional building environment.

The main building plus the additional parts create well optimized solutions that can be one family and detached houses and also in the dense building areas where houses are linked together. Whole building areas could reflect the design of the proposal. The additional "add-ons" are a good bonus for people wishing to enlarge their house as they proceed into a better economic situation and/or as their family grows.



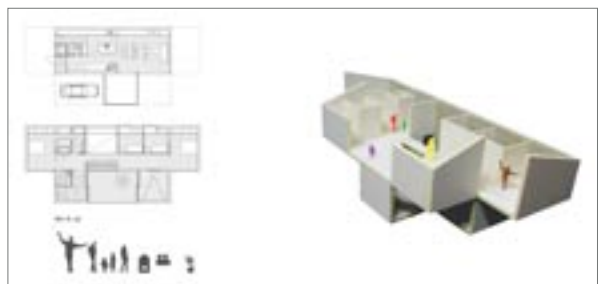




1ST FLOOR



2ND FLOOR



5.4 Rookie

Design

According to their own words, the designers "wanted to design a simple house with a strong character". This they have done, as the overall shape and architecture of the presented example building are interesting. The presented floor plans of the housing units are well planned, but they are variations of one and the same building. The designer has also presented a drawing with an idea of how the solution can be expanded into an entire system, but has left the idea at the level of building masses; thus, the proposal is regrettably incomplete.

Implementation

The building is technically clear-cut and would be suitable for industrial production. A new idea of large scale volumetric shell element was presented. It could be prefabricated and is probably cost effective. The main problems concern transportation of it to the site. Nevertheless, the buildings according to the proposal would be more naturally suitable as a separate group of buildings rather than the basis for an industrial construction system.

Price

Costs and price of the building and add-on's is at an affordable level due to simple detailing and clear structural system.

Living

The positive aspects of this project are that the simple form is quite adaptable to growth. This makes it a flexible house. The basic house can be a good starter home for young people, while the large houses are optimal for larger families. The ideas of adding on extended pieces so that ones house can grow on over time make it also a viable alternative. People will not have to move when their house is too small, yet just buy an additional piece. This aspect would be a positive element for Ruukki when thinking in terms of building up a long-term and loyal client base. Building onto ones house as one gets older and more established can always been an exciting element of owning ones own home.

A living - kitchen area with the first floor lobby and staircase combines a beautiful atelier-like space. Placing the sauna in another building cross the yard is interesting and gives possibilities with the use of storage and carport for using different types of sites. The plans are quite schematic but certain rooms need further development (kitchen, entrance, utility). The house has a captivating strong form, and by the form overwhelms the functional living needs.

Adaptability

This project and "+XI" are the only two projects that showed how the form of the house could evolve to different situations. Their full-page diagram of how this houses' form evolves was one of the best of the competition entries.

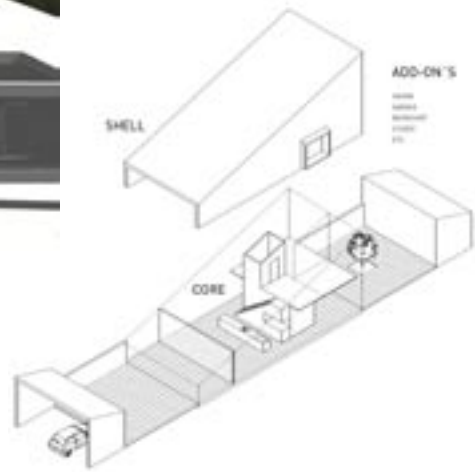


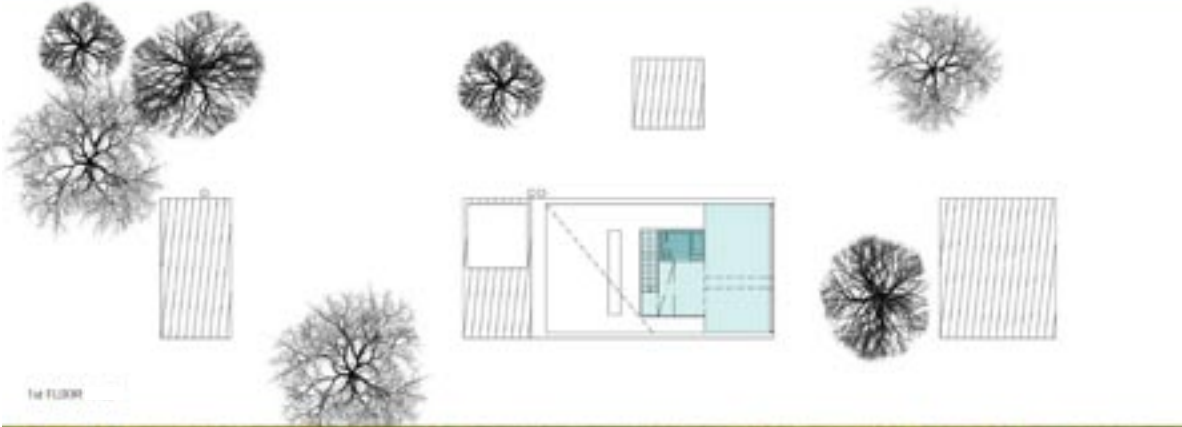
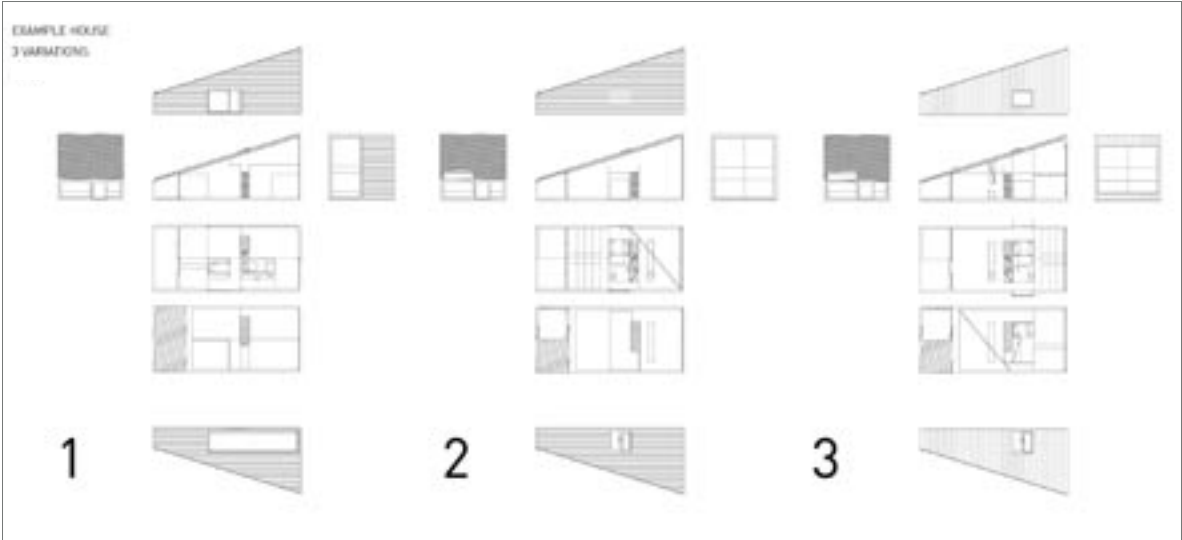
Skandinavisk komfort



Industrial loft







5.5 It's wonderful

Design

This suggestion had no architecturally distinctive features. The final house is far from being something one would view as "new" and "inventive", and thus will not at all help Ruukki gain a competitive edge. Instead of adding a distinctive alternative to that currently available on the housing market, these solutions are more or less the same type of mass produced houses that have always existed.

The architecture of the buildings is regrettably ordinary, and the proportions and openings of the buildings are in part downright drab. More architectural design would be needed instead of plain systematic engineering.

Implementation

Of all the contest's proposals, the designer of this proposal has expended the most effort in developing a system based on industrial volume elements. However, the modules of the system have been standardised to a greater extent than necessary for today's flexible industrial production. Thus, the basic principle of the proposal - as clear-cut a volume element system as possible - is also its limitation. The floor plans of the presented buildings are functional and utilise the wide frames permitted by the system in a natural way.

Technically the buildings are faultless and easy to build.

Price

This solution is affordable and could be produced on simple modular basis.

Living

There was too much focus on modularity and not enough focus on creating a full package where the house both functioned well and look beautiful.


The authors do not present much concerning multi-purpose use (example house 120 m²). Half of the house consists of an open living area with kitchen, dining living and fireplace. Bedrooms and a sauna / washroom open to this area cause problems with privacy. Due to the modular system some rooms are too small (entrance, laundry) while some are a bit too large (sauna).

Adaptability


The plans presented were relatively good, yet there were perhaps too many suggestions. Instead of having 5 good versions, there were 20 average solutions. The authors spread their ideas out too thinly. The entry is not complete in the sense of adaptability.







PLAN
10 ROOMS, 120 SQ



Family 4 persons

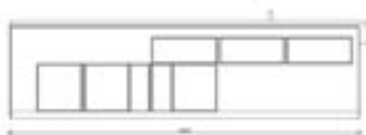
- Father, 44 years, photographer
- Mother, 39 years, art teacher
- Child girl 12 years
- Child boy 5 years

The parents take an interest in cooking indoors and out in the garden and making herbs and oils to drink. They like to spend time outdoors and are planning to build an outdoor kitchen for the summer season barbecue.

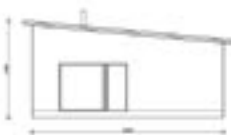
The garden is impossible thanks to the mother who can't keep her fingers off the soil. The father is keen on exercise, especially jogging and diving. After a hard day he likes to relax in the sauna.

The mother dreamed of a bathtub instead of the sauna but had to compromise in benefit of the father. The only connection is that beer on the terrace can be recommended.


The family is actually already leaving as for the beer accessories the another bathroom and suite for the father. The children have a play of their own: a swimming pool with a springboard!




SOUTHWEST ELEVATION



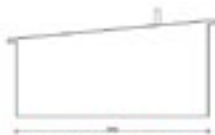
SOUTHEAST ELEVATION




SECTION TOWARDS SOUTHEAST



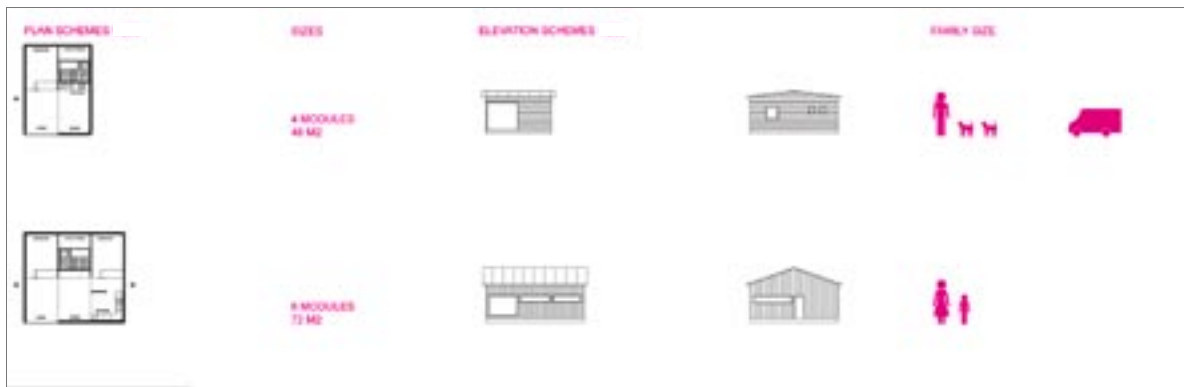
NORTHEAST ELEVATION



NORTHWEST END WALL LINKED TO NEXT HOUSE



SECTION TOWARDS NORTHWEST



5.6 Shuffle

Design

The design contains variations of a building mass with an interesting, slanted shape. Nevertheless, the variation as presented is quite limited, being a modification of one and the same building. All the presented variations are based on the same narrow-framed design, which cannot be naturally expanded into a large building. The architecture of the proposal's façades is ordinary, and in part the composition of the openings appears haphazard.

The form of the house is unexciting and not at all unique. Ruukki is looking for something that will set it apart from the rest of the prefabrication firms. A house of this type is among the average and not a distinct and contemporary house. This is, without a doubt, a good house, but not a great house.

Implementation

Technically the buildings are faultless and easy to build. It does not display the possibilities and opportunities one is given when building with steel. What makes this house different that just any plain wooden house?

Price

Due to simple shape the building could be prefabricated by using plane elements and the price is thus on affordable level.

Living

This project is a moderate and average project. The plans are sufficient, yet if one wishes to enlarge the house, the possibilities are limited.

The house is divided by function: living in the ground floor and sleeping in the first floor. This does not add any value to the design and there is no proper connection between the floors. You must go through the whole ground floor to reach the staircase. The larger version of the house is made by increasing the house's length: garage in the ground floor and bedroom in the first floor.

Adaptability

The authors do not show the possibilities their scheme presents when placed in groups. The presented group of buildings does not represent very meritorious milieu design.



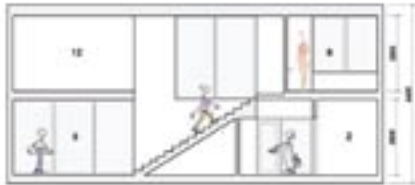
ELEVATION AA



ELEVATION BB



ELEVATION AB



SECTION CC



SECTION EE



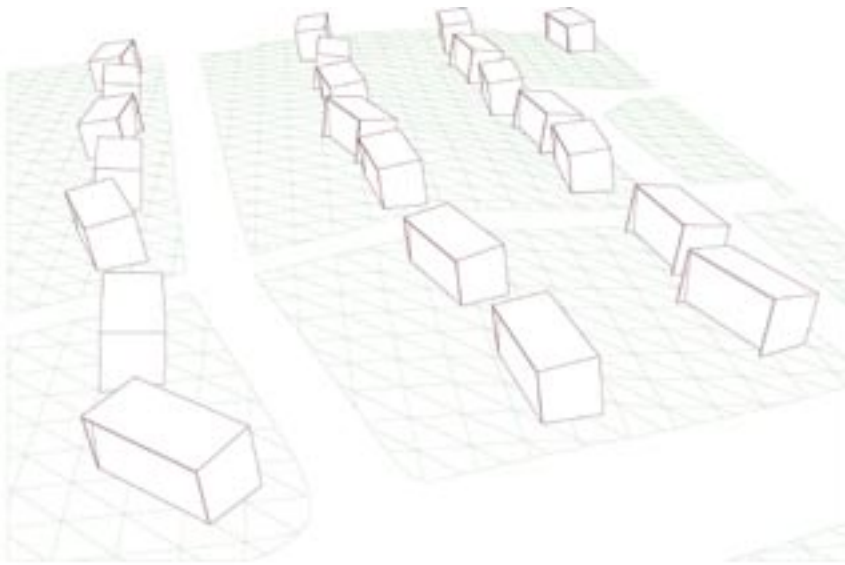
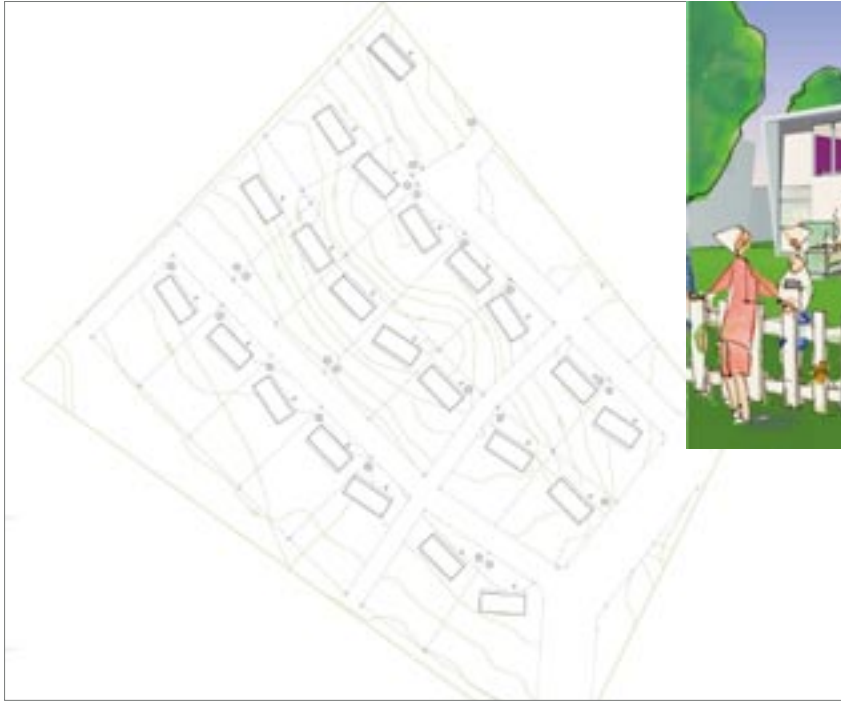
SECTION DD

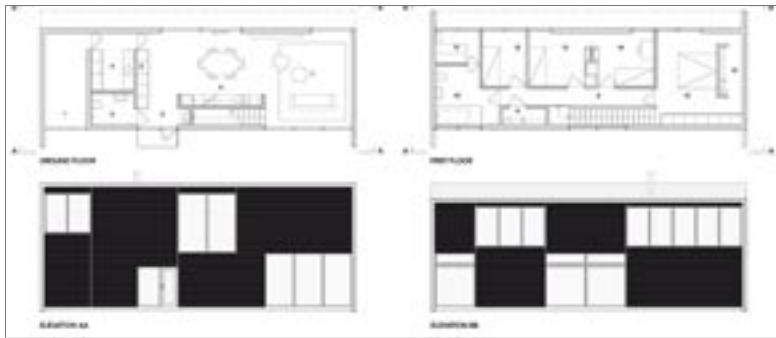


SECTION FF

HOUSE TYPE A







6. Results of the Competition and Recommendation for Further Measures

6.1 Results of the Competition

The Competition Jury has decided to award first place to entry "+PLUS".

The Jury has decided to award honorary mention to entry "+XI".

6.2 Recommendation for Further Measures

The jury proposes that Ruukki continues to further develop "+PLUS" and "+XI". The authors of "+PLUS" and "+XI" are to address the following considerations in future variations:

- how to develop the flexibility of the building for different kind of sites and environments
- how to adopt the system to a diverse variety of plan solutions
- how to make different sizes of buildings within this system
- how to develop the design concept and structural system matching with the requirements of the industrial production
- how to reduce the costs of cantilevered rooms

7. Confirmation of the Jury Report

In Vantaa, 30.9.2005
The Competition Jury



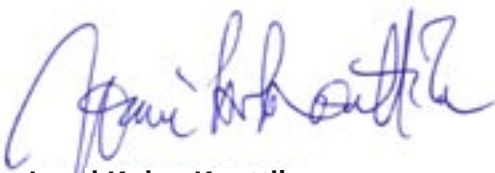
Ari Vouti

Vice President, Rautaruukki Plc, Chairman of the jury



Asko Kaipainen

Architect SAFA



Jouni Koiso-Kanttila

Professor, Architect SAFA



Tarmo Mononen

Key Customer Manager, Rautaruukki Plc



Todd Saunders

Architect MNAL



Paula Huotelin

Architect SAFA, Secretary of the Jury

8. Revealing the pseudonyms

“Senator”

ALA Architects Ltd, Finland

Competition Team:

Juho Grönholm, Architect SAFA

Antti Lassila, Architect SAFA

Janne Teräsvirta, Student of Architecture

Samuli Woolston, Architect SAFA

with:

Niklas Mahlberg, Architect SAFA

David Hernando, Student of Architecture

Erling Sommerfeldt, Student of Architecture

“+XI”

Plot A/S, Denmark

Authors and assistants:

Bjarke Ingels

Julien De Smedt

Nanna Gyldholm Møller

Rikke Møller Andersen

Kasper Brøndum Larsen

Simon Irgens

Louise Heebøll

Christian Bay Jørgensen

“+PLUS”

Huttunen - Lipasti - Pakkanen Architects, Finland

Authors:

Risto Huttunen, Architect SAFA

Santeri Lipasti, Architect SAFA

Pekka Pakkanen, Architect SAFA

Assistants:

Niko Huttunen, Student of Architecture

Tomi Jaskari, Student of Architecture

Markus Wikar, Student of Architecture

“Rookie”

M41LH2, Finland

Authors:

Johanna Hyrkäs

Markus Mikkola

Tommi Mäkynen

Tuomas Siitonen

“It’s wonderful”

Design Office KOKO3 Ltd, Finland

Authors:

Aino Brandt, Interior Architect SIO

Jukka Halminen, Interior Architect SIO

Helka Parkkinen, Architect SAFA, Interior Architect

Assistants:

Salla Eskola, Student of Architecture

Anna Mila Uusikivi, Student of Language Technology

“Shuffle”

Claesson Koivisto Rune, Sweden

Competition Team:

Mårten Claesson

Eero Koivisto

Ola Rune

Deta Gemzell

Olivia Herms

Patrik Coan