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International Design Challenge

PORTABLE EMERGENCY CLINIC: REIMAGINING MOBILE HEALTHCARE FOR CRITICAL MOMENTS

First Edition

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PORTABLE EMERGENCY CLINIC

REIMAGINING MOBILE HEALTHCARE FOR CRITICAL MOMENTS

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Introduction

Natural disasters, humanitarian crises, pandemics, and remote geographies often expose the fragility of healthcare infrastructure. In moments where speed, accessibility, and adaptability are crucial, conventional healthcare buildings fall short. The Portable Emergency Clinic competition challenges designers to rethink healthcare as a mobile, rapidly deployable, and human-centered system that can respond effectively to emergencies across diverse contexts.

Participants are invited to envision clinics that are not fixed in place but can travel, unfold, adapt, and serve—bringing dignity, care, and resilience to the most critical moments.

Objective

The objective of this competition is to design a **portable, modular emergency healthcare clinic** that can be quickly deployed in crisis situations such as disaster zones, refugee camps, rural areas, and conflict regions. The proposal should emphasize speed of assembly, functional efficiency, hygiene, sustainability, and psychological comfort for both patients and medical staff, while remaining adaptable to different scales and locations.

The Building Program

Participants may interpret the program flexibly, but the proposal should consider the following essential components:

- Patient triage and waiting area
- Examination and treatment rooms
- Minor emergency / first-aid space
- Isolation or quarantine unit
- Medical storage (supplies, medicines, equipment)
- Staff workspace and rest area
- Sanitation facilities (toilets, wash areas)
- Power, water, and waste management systems
- Modular or expandable units for scalability

Designs should prioritize infection control, accessibility, and efficient circulation.

Site

The clinic is site-agnostic and should be adaptable to multiple scenarios, such as:

- Disaster-affected urban areas
- Remote rural landscapes
- Flood-prone or seismic zones
- Refugee or relief camps
- Conflict or post-conflict regions

Participants should select one primary context to demonstrate how the design responds to climate, terrain, logistics, and local needs.

Timeline

Registration deadline: 31st January 2027

Submission deadline: 10th February 2027

Result Announcement: 16th April 2027

Submission Requirements

Participants must submit:

- Design Panels – minimum 2 panels and maximum 6 panels (panel size: A2, Landscape, format jpeg./jpg.)
- A brief **concept description** (format docs. File)

Drawings may include:

- Concept diagrams
- Plans, sections, elevations
- 3D views / visualizations
- Exploded diagrams or process sketches

Important:

- No participant names, university names, or identifying marks are allowed on the submission sheets
- Design title and slogans are permitted
- Submissions must follow anonymity rules strictly

Jury

The jury panel will consist of experienced architects, designers, educators, and industry professionals from diverse backgrounds. Entries will be evaluated based on:

- Innovation & Conceptual Clarity
- Mobility, Deployment & Modularity
- Functional Efficiency & Healthcare Response
- Sustainability & Resource Management
- Contextual Adaptability & Design Communication

The jury's decision will be final and binding.

Eligibility

- Open to all.
- Individual and team entries are allowed
- Team size: minimum 01 – maximum 4 members
- No restrictions on age, nationality, or academic background

Contact Details

Brief link: https://www.archiolcompetitions.com/competitions/portable_emergency_clinic

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Organizers

Archiol Competitions

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