THE BUCKMINSTER FULLER CHALLENGE

“Socially Responsible Design’s Highest Award”

A DESIGN SCIENCE REVOLUTION

Buckminster Fuller’s prolific life of exploration, discovery, invention and teaching was driven by his intention “to make the world work for 100% of humanity, in the shortest possible time, through spontaneous cooperation without ecological offense or disandvantage of anyone”.

Fuller coupled this intention with a pioneering approach aimed at solving complex problems. This approach, which he called comprehensive anticipatory design science (CADS), combined an emphasis on individual initiative and integrity with whole systems thinking, scientific rigor and faithful reliance on nature’s underlying principles.

Since 2008, the Buckminster Fuller Institute has awarded a $100,000 prize annually to the best example of Fuller’s legacy that we can find.

ENTRY CRITERIA

The Buckminster Fuller Challenge seeks solutions that are:

- **Comprehensive** - applies a whole systems approach to all facets of the design process, aiming to simultaneously address multiple goals, requirements, conditions and issues.
- **Anticipatory** - factoring in critical future trends and needs as well as projected impacts of implementation in the short and long term.
- **Ecologically Responsible** - reflecting nature’s underlying principles while enhancing the Earth’s life-support systems.
- **Feasible** - relying on current know-how, technology and existing resources.
- **Verifiable** - able to withstand rigorous empirical testing.
- **Replicable** - able to scale and adapt to a broad range of conditions.