

# Global Universal Design Educator's Online News

Volume 10 Number 4, Winter 2010



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# Global Universal Design Educator's Online News

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy 2010! We are excited to start the New Year off with what may be our most “diverse” issue yet of the Global Universal Design Educator’s Online News. This issue includes news items from 15 different countries/regions.

More and more resources are becoming available, some of them not in English, to help guide the practice of universal design -- Accessible Tourism (Australia), La Maison de repos du 21e siècle : un lieu de vie convivial, soins inclus (Belgium), Turismo Inclusivo no Brasil, Age-Friendly Communities (Canada), Universal Design – Best Practices Volume 1 (Germany), Service Design (Greece), Universal Design - A Reconsideration of Barrier Free (Japan), Homes for our old age (UK), CAST UDL Online Modules (US), Universal Design Case Study Collection (US), Visibility Video on U-Tube (US), Transit Access Training Toolkit (World) and DESIS-Network (World).

Reports have been published about how successful inclusive design efforts have been: Achieving full participation through Universal Design & E-Inclusion Report (Europe).

Continued efforts, both public and private, to structure the inclusion of universal design principles are reflected in: Hotel Rating System Includes Accessibility Requirements (India), Draft Final Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas (US), and Draft Standards on Universal Design for Commercial Buildings Open for Public Comment (US).

And, we continue to see a number of design competitions where accessible designs are awarded: Fourth Universal Design Awards & IF Design Award China, 2009 (China), INDEX Awards Announced (Denmark), and President’s Design Award Singapore 2009

Past and future conferences (please see calendar) continue to share information and design successes with those wishing to embrace the tenets of universal design: American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) “Idea House” (US).

In the US, both government and private agencies embrace universal design and inclusion: NEA’s FY10 Universal Design Leadership Project & What is Disability – Collaborative Art Project (US).

You might notice that several pieces are quite brief. Given the plethora of news available and that often times new resources are not available in English, we are now including “brief mentions” of such non-English resources for your information. We also mention projects that we want to bring to your attention and yet due to space limitations, cannot explore in any depth.

As always, please check out the Calendar for upcoming events. Information from the Online News can still be freely copied and quoted as long as the individual author, and/or web site and this source is cited. Previous issues of the Online News are available online at the Global Universal Design Education Network website at: [www.universaldesign.net](http://www.universaldesign.net).

Also please note: Any Internet links mentioned in this newsletter were verified as functioning as of the publication date. Web sites and e-mail addresses, however, change frequently, so changes may have occurred after that date.

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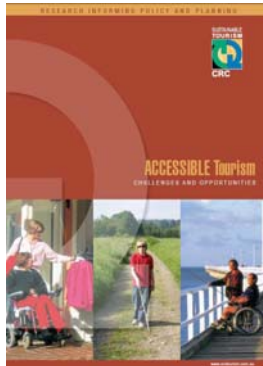
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## NEWS FROM THE GLOBAL NETWORK

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### AUSTRALIA

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Three quick links for tourist opportunities:

1. Accessible Tourism Research Blog [Australia],  
<http://accessibletourismresearch.blogspot.com/>
2. Accessible Tourism Research Snapshot (2008) (PDF format) [Australia],  
<http://www.crctourism.com.au/WMS/Upload/Resources/CRC%208017%20Accessible%20TourismFINAL.pdf>
3. There are other PDF publications available via the Sustainable Tourism Cooperative Research Centre (STCRC) Bookshop,  
<http://www.crctourism.com.au/bookshop/>

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### BELGIUM

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#### **La Maison de repos du 21<sup>e</sup> siècle : un lieu de vie convivial, soins inclus / Het woonzorgcentrum in de 21<sup>ste</sup> eeuw: een gezellige woonomgeving, zorg incl.**

The King Baudouin Foundation (Brussels, Belgium) has issued a new publication on how to improve the quality of life in residential settings for the elderly and combine well-being and quality health care. It provides suggestions and practical tips addressed to the elderly, the staff, politicians, managers, the media, etc and presents twenty examples of good practices. This publication is available in Dutch and French only (a summary in English can be downloaded) on the foundations website at: <http://www.kbs-frb.be/publication.aspx?id=249626&LangType=1033>



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## BRAZIL

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Turismo Inclusivo no Brasil (Portugues),  
<http://www.slideshare.net/guest6390726/turismo-inclusivo-no-brasil>

We learned about this from the Rolling Rains Report (Precipitating Dialogue on Travel, Disability, and Universal Design),  
<http://www.rollingrains.com/>

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## CANADA

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### Age-Friendly Communities

In June 2009, the City of Toronto hosted a consultation titled Age Friendly Communities. A document has been produced that records the day's discussions and ideas for future actions. The topics include and are not limited to: Meeting the Needs of Persons with Life-Long Disabilities, Continuing Adult Education, Housing, Meeting the Needs of Persons with Reduced Independence, Technology, Meeting the Needs of Persons from Diverse Ethno-racial, Cultural and Linguistic Backgrounds, Transportation, Meeting the Needs of Persons with Hearing Loss, "From my Eyes" – When does a Community Feel Age-Friendly, Age-Friendly Washrooms in Public Buildings, etc.

Full document at: <http://www.agefriendlycommunities.org/images/stories/PDFs/Age-Friendly%20Book%20of%20Proceedings%20doc.pdf>

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## CHINA

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### Fourth Universal Design Awards

These awards centered around the theme of “Kitchen” and attracted 782 innovative designs. The first prize went to U-pad, a special scrub sponge designed by Ru-Wei Huang from the Institute of Applied Arts at National Chiao Tung University (NCTU).

Read more at: <http://140.113.40.35/H9603/OIA/20091204-2.pdf>

For the full article in Chinese (including information about other entries), see:  
[http://www.pac.nctu.edu.tw/Report/report\\_more.php?id=18170](http://www.pac.nctu.edu.tw/Report/report_more.php?id=18170)

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### IF Design Award China, 2009

Clarion Co., Ltd. with its NX509 audio, visual and navigation (AVN) device won the iF design award china 2009 in the communication + entertainment category. The NX509 is a 7-inch, 2DIN AVN unit with built-in GPS navigation. Other than three hard keys, the device is controlled with soft keys via a touch screen. The NX509 was highly evaluated for its superior hardware and software designs, including its stylish simple appearance that harmonizes readily with vehicle interior spaces, augmented by the minimization of hard keys through the use of a touch screen.

The iF design award china program is an annual design competition organized by iF International Forum Design GmbH. This year's awards focused on design quality, workmanship, choice of material, degree of innovation, environmental friendliness, functionality, ergonomics, visualization of use, safety, brand value/branding, and universal design.

Read more at: [http://www.clarion.com/sg/en/newstopics/index\\_2009/090917\\_01/index.html](http://www.clarion.com/sg/en/newstopics/index_2009/090917_01/index.html)

Learn more about IF (International Forum Design) at: [http://www.ifdesign.de/index\\_e](http://www.ifdesign.de/index_e)

For the 2010 competition information, see: [http://www.ifdesign.de/awards\\_china\\_index\\_e](http://www.ifdesign.de/awards_china_index_e)

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## DENMARK

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### INDEX Awards Announced

The bi-annual INDEX:Award is financed by Denmark and receives nominations from China to the United States, from Finland to South Africa, from Singapore to Jordan and supports INDEX:'s mission to generate more Design to Improve Life of higher quality all over the world.

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Each of the five winners, announced in August 2009, represents one of the INDEX:Award categories – Body, Home, Work, Play and Community – that together span the spectrum of human activity and are relevant and understandable to people all over the world.

Full details of the 2009 award winners are at:

[http://www.indexaward.dk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=31&Itemid=9](http://www.indexaward.dk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=31&Itemid=9)

General information about Index: can be found at:

[http://www.indexaward.dk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=30&Itemid=8](http://www.indexaward.dk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=30&Itemid=8)

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## EUROPE

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### Achieving full participation through Universal Design

There are still many Europeans with disabilities who are unable to take part in important activities and aspects of society. And with the number of elderly people rapidly rising, there will be a need for inclusive measures and physical surroundings adapted to the particular requirements of a growing number of people with disabilities. But as this report points out, the legislation, rules, action plans and measures already launched throughout Europe do not harmonize with each other.



The report discusses measures in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Portugal.

The report appeals to the 47 member states to promote full participation in community life by ensuring all citizens access to all aspects of society, including the built environment, transport, products and goods, information, public services, education, employment and care. The report emphasizes the importance of implementing universal design as a strategy for ensuring equal and democratic rights in society for all individuals, regardless of their age, abilities or cultural background, including persons with disabilities.

Learn more about, view an abstract and details for purchasing are found at:

[http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit\\_aliasid=2410](http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2410)

We learned about the report from a Norwegian Universal Design web-site: <http://www.universal-design.environment.no/>



## **E-Inclusion Report**

Previous studies have demonstrated that, in order to be effective, e-Inclusion initiatives had to involve actors from three complementary sectors: Public sector, Private Sector and Civil Society. But in times of global crisis, the natural propensity of private sector to focus on their most immediate goals and customers, and the additional funding difficulties met by civil society stakeholders leave only one actor, Public sector, as capable of steering a steady course.

As Europe get towards the end of the i2010 policy, and because the ambitious goals of reaching an all inclusive society have clearly not been fulfilled yet, this report analyzes the various e-Inclusion public policy initiatives that have blossomed all across Europe, stemming from Member States, Local Authorities, but also from the European Commission itself and draw lessons from them.

The report (.doc format) can be accessed at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/einclusion/library/studies/docs/einclusion\\_policies\\_in\\_europe.doc](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/einclusion/library/studies/docs/einclusion_policies_in_europe.doc)

The report (.pdf format) can be accessed at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/einclusion/library/studies/docs/einclusion\\_policies\\_in\\_europe.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/einclusion/library/studies/docs/einclusion_policies_in_europe.pdf)

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## **GERMANY**



## **Universal Design – Best Practices Volume 1**

This new publication discloses what the approach of universal design means, the prospects its application offers, and what developments are currently taking place on the market. German authors illuminate several aspects of Universal Design and point out possibilities for the future. This book is written in German and English.

For more information see: [http://en.red-](http://en.red-dot.org/1957.html?&tx_ttproducts_pi1[backPID]=1957&tx_ttproducts_pi1[product]=221)

[dot.org/1957.html?&tx\\_ttproducts\\_pi1\[backPID\]=1957&tx\\_ttproducts\\_pi1\[product\]=221](http://en.red-dot.org/1957.html?&tx_ttproducts_pi1[backPID]=1957&tx_ttproducts_pi1[product]=221)

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## GREECE

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### Service Design

Re-public produced a special issue focusing on Innovative Service Design for All. Service Design is very active internationally; it keeps developing as a subject of academic study, as well as growing and expanding into different areas of application. The papers included in this special issue present a great variety in any respect, ranging from theoretical explorations of the industrialisation of services to outlining new university programs focusing on service design; from waste management in Bangladesh to dyslexia-friendly classes in Greece.

Re-public is an online journal published in Greece, in two languages (Greek-English):  
<http://www.re-public.gr/en/>.

Issue #1 can be found at: <http://www.re-public.gr/en/?cat=45>

A call for a "Part II" was issued with a deadline of mid-December, <http://www.re-public.gr/en/?p=1630>

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## INDIA

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### Hotel Rating System Includes Accessibility Requirements

The India Ministry of Tourism has revised its hotel rating system to include accessibility requirements. Hotels must meet these voluntary standards in facilities and services to achieve "star" ratings. The requirements include -- Facilities for the differently-abled guests: dedicated room with attached bathroom, designated parking, ramps, free accessibility in public areas and at least to one restaurant, designated toilet (unisex) at the lobby level etc. All operational hotels will require to conform to the requirements by 01.09.2010.

Information on Hotel Rating System can be found at:  
[http://www.incredibleindia.org/newsite/pdf/Guidelines\\_for\\_classification\\_of\\_Hotels.pdf](http://www.incredibleindia.org/newsite/pdf/Guidelines_for_classification_of_Hotels.pdf)  
Brought to our attention in the January 2010 edition of the Universal Design Newsletter,  
<http://www.universaldesign.com/newsletter/>

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## JAPAN

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### **Universal Design - A Reconsideration of Barrier Free**

This book, originally published in Japanese has now been published in English by The Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) has published it in English. The book, written by Dr. Yoshihiko Kawauchi, was to serve as a bridge between the U.S. interpretation of the concept of universal design and a Japanese audience with a different cultural perspective and set of catalysts. Dr. Kawauchi (Yoshi) is a member of the International Network of Designers with Disabilities. Autographed copies are available at IHCD.



For details, see: <http://www.humancentereddesign.org/index.php?option=News&articleid=1023>

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## SINGAPORE

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### **President's Design Award Singapore 2009**

The awards honor significant achievements and contributions of the city-state's design talents and is awarded to designers and designs that have challenged conventions with innovation and enhanced the lives of the community, <http://www.designsingapore.org/pda/pda2009.html>

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## UNITED KINGDOM

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### Homes for our old age

This Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) report, launched with the Housing Learning and Improvement Network (Housing LIN), features ten case studies of housing schemes which show how the range and design of housing can allow older people to have more independence, a better choice and the ability to maintain friendships and community networks.

The report (.pdf format) is at: <http://www.cabe.org.uk/files/homes-for-our-old-age.pdf>

For all CABE publications, checkout: <http://www.cabe.org.uk/publications>

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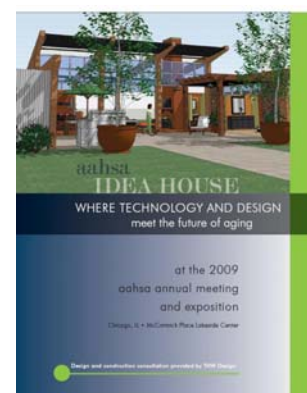
## UNITED STATES

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### American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) "Idea House"

The November 2009 AAHSA Annual Meeting & Exposition featured the "AAHSA Idea House," a 2,600-square-foot model home that we built right inside Chicago's McCormick Center. The house contained innovative technologies and designs that could soon make aging-in-place a reality for most Americans.

The AAHSA House wasn't just for older people. Many of its features would be just as appealing to a 30-year-old as to an 80-year-old. It incorporated barrier-free designs and recycled products. It featured water- and energy-saving devices. And it also included some devices to help younger and older occupants remain safe, take care of their health and enjoy meaningful social interactions.



Read the article: <http://futureofaging.aaahsa.org/2009/11/19/consumer-focus-column-creating-homes-that-support-aging/>

Check out this document about the house (pdf format):

<http://www.aaahsa.org/uploadedFiles/technology/Idea-House-for-web.pdf>

A You-Tube video can be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bs3mmFieWaA>

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### **CAST UDL Online Modules**

These two online modules introduce the theory, principles and application of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to teacher candidates and in-service teachers. They provide higher education faculty with a multimedia, interactive online-learning environment that can be embedded in instructional methods courses. CAST is the host of the National UDL Center, founded in 2009 to support the effective implementation of UDL.

Online modules available at: <http://udlonline.cast.org/home>; also see [www.udlcenter.org/](http://www.udlcenter.org/).

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### **Draft Final Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas**

The U.S. Access Board has made available for public review and comment draft final accessibility guidelines that address trails, camping facilities, picnic facilities, viewing areas, outdoor recreation access routes, and beach access routes. The guidelines will apply to sites developed or altered by Federal land management agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and Army Corps of Engineers. The comment period ended in late December. The Board will now proceed to finalize the guidelines and republish as a final rule. Additionally, the Access Board is collaborating with the Federal land management agencies to develop a separate technical assistance document to accompany the final rule.

Full details are at: <http://www.access-board.gov/outdoor/draft-final.htm>

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### **Draft Standards on Universal Design for Commercial Buildings Open for Public Comment**

A new private organization, the Global Universal Design Commission has created The Universal Design Consensus Standards, voluntary guidance standards that can be adopted to incorporate universal design principles into new and existing commercial buildings. They are intended to complement existing accessibility standards by identifying and encouraging the incorporation of features that increase usability, safety and health for a diverse end user population. The Draft Standards on Universal Design for Commercial Buildings (Version 0.1) is now open for public comment.

To access the draft, visit:

[http://www.globaluniversaldesign.com/index.php?option=com\\_sectionex&view=category&id=8&Itemid=26](http://www.globaluniversaldesign.com/index.php?option=com_sectionex&view=category&id=8&Itemid=26) (note that you will need to register at the site to gain access to this document)

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### **NEA's FY10 Universal Design Leadership Project**

The National Endowment for the Arts seeks to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with an organization that will carry out a project to increase understanding, acceptance, and practice of universal design within the design profession, by design educators, and by the American public. Proposed projects should focus on extending the appeal of universal design from the disability

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community into the mainstream of American design and American society. The project should educate designers and others including developers, city planners, and consumers on this important issue.

Applications must be submitted via Grants.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on February 9, 2010.

Full details at: <http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/RFP/UnivDesign.html>

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## Universal Design Case Study Collection



The Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD), with support from the National Endowment for the Arts through their 2008 Leadership in Universal Design Award, has created a website that hosts an international collection of Universal Design case studies of the built environment. The site is designed to appeal to a global audience of design practitioners, educators, students and other built-environment project stakeholders ranging from individuals to governments. This project seeks to explore the current “best practices” in Universal Design in the built environment and make this information freely available for individuals planning projects in the build environment.

Available at: <http://www.udcasestudies.org/>

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## Visibility Video on U-Tube

The video, "Building Better Neighborhoods" (originally created in 1994 by Concrete Change), is now on U-Tube. The video lays out the basic rationale and shows a lot of Visitable houses.

+ Part I includes the Atlanta Habitat for Humanity construction engineer explaining that Habitat Atlanta decided to build virtually every house Visitable. Part I is at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KuYmTo17XU0>

+ Part II includes an architect testifying in favor of visitability. Part II is at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Js9lasjXUts>

For more background and resources, see: [www.concretechange.org/](http://www.concretechange.org/)

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## What is Disability – Collaborative Art Project

VSA Arts is sponsoring “an international call for postcards,” asking people from around the world to send in a postcard documenting their interpretation of disability. All languages accepted. Create a visual representation of your experiences, impressions, and perceptions. VSA Arts is taking a creative approach to investigate how many different ways people will interpret the same word. The deadline for receipt of postcards is February 5, 2010.

Full details at: <http://www.vsarts.org/PreBuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/calls/PostCardProject/>

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## WORLD

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### DESIS-Network

DESIS is a network of schools of design and other schools, institutions, companies and non-profit organizations interested in promoting and supporting design for social innovation and sustainability. It is a non-profit organization, conceived as a network of partners collaborating in a peer-to-peer spirit. There are several geographically focused networks – Africa, Brazil, China, Columbia, Europe and USA.

Read more at: <http://www.desis-network.org/>

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### Transit Access Training Toolkit

The Transit Access Training Toolkit was developed by the Disability and Development Team within the Human Development Network of the World Bank. This publication includes pocket-size guides, model posters, public service announcements, and other resources to assist in training bus drivers and other public transport personnel, thanks to an initiative of the Bank using funds provided by the governments of Norway and Finland.



The purpose of this Transit Access Training Toolkit is to help motivate and train bus drivers and other transit staff to provide safe and accessible service to all their passengers and especially to improve service for persons with disabilities and seniors. This will make public transportation available to more passengers.

The document is also available in Spanish and Portuguese, and in printed and CD versions.

English-language version (PDF Format) is at:

<http://www.udeworld.com/recapt/images/aptdocs/TOOLKIT.ENG.elec.pdf>

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**CALENDAR AND CALLS**

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**\*NEW\* January 14, 2010:** Workshop 'Innovation in Accessible Transport for All': Washington D.C. The International Transport Forum (ITF) and the World Bank jointly sponsor this international workshop. More information at:

<http://www.designforall.org/en/novetats/noticia.php?id=656>

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**\*NEW\* January 29, 2010:** Deadline – European Prize for Urban Public Space. The first European Prize for Urban Public Space was offered in 2000 and since then it has been awarded bi-annually with the aim of recognising and promoting activities for the recovery and improvement of public space in European cities. Full details at: <http://www.publicspace.org/>

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**\*NEW\* March 31, 2010:** Initial Submission Deadline – Student Design Competition :: CREATE 2010 conference, Edinburgh, Scotland. Create10 is a conference that celebrates innovative interaction design, whether digital products, services, environments or new interaction paradigms. This competition is aimed at students from a range of disciplines, both undergraduate and postgraduate, in interaction design, product design, industrial design, communications design, architecture, fashion, multimedia, HCI, and related fields. Full details at: <http://companions.napier.ac.uk/~create2009/Site/welcome.html>.

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**\*NEW\* April 30, 2010:** Registration Deadline – Schindler Award, Germany. Students of architecture are invited to put forward visionary design ideas for developing an area of the grounds that were used for Berlin's 1936 Olympic Games. The central theme of the competition is "Access for All", a design philosophy characterized by inclusiveness and barrier-free mobility for people of all ages and capabilities. Completed projects must be submitted by July 30, 2010. Full details as well as past competitions at: <http://www.schindleraward.com/>

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**May 3-6, 2010:** International Federation on Ageing – 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference, Melbourne, Australia. The three themes that form the program framework - Global Warming and the Environment; Social Inclusion; The Changing Economy; and Human Rights - are expected to stimulate new conversations as well as explore in more depth more traditional subject areas. For full details, see: <http://www.ifa2010.org/>

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**\*NEW\* May 19-20, 2010:** Unitech 2010 -- The First International Conference on Universal Technology, Oslo, Norway. The conference addresses all issues related to universal access, including universal design of computing systems, the evaluation of such systems, guidelines, legislature, training programmes, research results and overall best practices and experiences.

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For full details, see: <http://www.iu.hio.no/~frodes/unitech10/cfp.html>

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**June 4-10, 2010:** The 12th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED 2010), Hong Kong. Theme will be "Sustainable Transport and Travel for All." The conference will be hosted by the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation. Information is available at: <http://www.transed2010.hk/front/> (for more information on Global Transportation events and news, check out <http://www.globalride-sf.org/newsletters/>)

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**\*NEW\* Oct 9-12, 2010:** Universal Design Summit 4, -- Creating Livable Homes and Communities, St. Louis, Missouri. This conference focusses exclusively on universal housing and neighborhoods with the goal to bring about community integration and participation while enhancing the independence of all people at home and throughout their daily lives. Content will include universal design features in housing, sustainability, community design, green design and affordability to create communities usable by all. Full details at: <http://stlouis.uds4.org/>



**October 9-12, 2010:** The 12th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED 2010), Hong Kong. Theme will be "Sustainable Transport and Travel for All." The conference will be hosted by the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation. Information is available at: <http://www.transed2010.hk/front/> (for more information on Global Transportation events and news, check out <http://www.globalride-sf.org/newsletters/>)

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**\*NEW\* October 30 – November 3, 2010:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference for International Design, Hamamatsu, Japan. Sponsored by The International Association for Universal Design (IAUD, Patron HH Prince Tomohito of Mikasa). The theme is "For the People and the Earth of Tomorrow." Details available at: <http://www.ud2010.net/index.en.html>

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NOTE: Previous issues of the Online News are available online at the Global Universal Design Education Network website at: <http://www.universaldesign.net>

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## **Adding your information, questions to the Online News:**

Send e-mail to [elaine@ostroff.org](mailto:elaine@ostroff.org) for inclusion in the upcoming quarterly issue. Articles should be limited to 300 words. If the issue is too full to include, and the timeliness of the article allows it, we may hold the item until the following issue. Queries about potential submissions are welcome.

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