Costa Concordia cruise ship ran partially sank after hitting a reef off the coast of Isola del Giglio on January 13th, 2012, in Tuscany, Italy. This disaster resulted in the loss of 32 lives.

Costa Concordia was a Concordia-class cruise ship built in 2004 in Italy. It belongs to the fleet of one of the biggest cruise ships in the world, capable of accommodating 4,880 people: 3,780 passengers and 1,100 crew members.

At the moment of the tragedy Costa Concordia was carrying 3,229 passengers and 1,023 crew members. It was on a routine 7-night route, departing from Civitavecchia, Italy, when around 21:30 local time it has hit a rock next to Isole le Scole, which resulted in a 53-meter long dash in the engine compartment. The power to the engine was cut off and the cruise ship started to drift and sink. Strong wind has pushed the vessel next to the Punta Gabbianara, where it has grounded and rolled onto its starboard side.

During 2013-2014 Costa Concordia was brought to the vertical position and towed to the Port of Genoa, Italy.

More information regarding this disaster can be found here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Costa_Concordia_disaster
LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses are built in appropriate and significant locations, on coastal heights, islands, rocks and eventually right into the sea onto artificial islands. They guide, warn, mark, alert, lighten and highlight dangerous coast areas, difficult passages, complex obstacles and entrances to harbors, city ports and shallow estuaries.

Their expressed purpose is to carry light in the most remarkable and visible manner, so that even distant ships can be warned or guided. Even through the darkest nights, through the most opaque and starless universe, heavy storms and fogs, the lighthouse’s warm and familiar signals can be perceived. Whether the lighthouse sits almost like a sturdy tower-house on a higher cliff, hanging over the sea, or grows up to a monumental height, it is programmed to verticality and ascensional dynamics. The ascensional character is settled in its typological genealogy and is an essential aspect of its character.¹

Lighthouses have a long history starting presumably from the 8000 B.C. During the centuries the typology of the lighthouse has changed drastically – from one of the Wonders of the Ancient World, The Lighthouse of Alexandria, to the contemporary poorly designed purely technological structures which have lost their original spellbinding architecture and metaphorical power.

MISSION STATEMENT

Participants are asked to redefine a contemporary lighthouse typology and take into consideration advances in technology, development of sustainable systems and its metaphorical value which has made it one of the most inspiring structures in the world.

Even today when global positioning systems seem to diminish the role of the lighthouses, lighthouses still play and important role and are inalienable parts of the marine navigation tradition.

New Lighthouse should become a tribute to the Costa Concordia Disaster and highlight the vulnerable borders between the elements of Land and Sea, Sky and Ground, Light and Darkness.

¹. Metaphysical Archaeology of Lighthouses. Lucien Steil
Full PDF is available in the Concordia Lighthouse Competition Download Section: http://matterbetter.com/competitions/show/5
LOCATION DATA
Country: Italy
Island: Isola del Giglio
Site: Punta Gabbianara
Location: N: 42° 21' 57'' E: 10° 55' 12''

SITE
The site is located next to the Costa Concordia disaster location on the small peninsula north of the Giglio Porto village on the Giglio Island in Tuscany, Italy. Please see DWG in the Download section for more detailed information.

PROGRAM
There are no restrictions in regards the size and particular position of the lighthouse on the peninsula. The only requirement the design has to meet is that the new Lighthouse should accommodate at least one living cell for a lighthouse watcher or visitors. The objective is to provide maximum freedom for all participants to develop a project in the most creative way to push the boundaries of how the contemporary lighthouse should appear and function.
MATTERBETTER AWARD

The total money prize is 6000 EUR.

1st place: 3000 EUR + certificate
2nd place: 2000 EUR + certificate
3rd place: 1000 EUR + certificate

Honorable Mentions Award: 7 Awards + certificate

Editor’s Choice Award – granted individual publication on our blog and social media pages to three entries that are carefully selected by matterbetter editors.

Top 50 – Fifty short-listed entries featured in one single online publication on our blog and social media pages.

REGISTRATION

Architects, students, engineers, and designers are invited to participate in the competition. We encourage you to have multidisciplinary teams.

Participants must register by May 17, 2015
Early Registration: 60 EUR until 31st of March 2014.
Standard Registration: 80 EUR from 1st of April till 30th of April
Late Registration: 100 EUR from 1st of May till 17th of May

Teams can be represented by a maximum number of 5 participants. Individual entries are also accepted.

After your registration has been approved matterbetter will send you the unique 6-digid Team Code and a Password (within 24 hours), which will be necessary for the design proposal submission.

SCHEDULE

10th of March 2015 – Official announcement of the competition.
15th of March 2015 - Start of the registration period.
31st of March 2015 – Deadline for submission of questions.
17th of May 2015 – Registration Deadline (23:59 team local time).
24th of May 2015 – Closing date for submissions (23:59 team local time).
30th of June 2015 – Announcement of results.

Results of the competition will be published on the leading architectural and design websites and magazines.
REGULATIONS

1. This is an anonymous competition and the registration number is the only means of identification.
2. The official language of the competition is English.
3. The registration fee is non-refundable.
4. Contacting the Jury is prohibited.
5. matterbetter, as the competition organizer, reserves the right to modify the competition schedule if deemed necessary.
6. Entrants will be disqualified if any of the competition rules or submission requirements are not considered.
7. Participation assumes acceptance of the regulations.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The project submission must contain the following files:
- **1x A1 horizontal board in PDF** (150 dpi) no more than 10MB, that includes artist impressions, plans and sections. Participants are encouraged to submit all the information they consider necessary to explain their proposal. Maximum 250 words for project explanation on the submission boards. In the TOP LEFT corner of the submission board you should mention your unique 6-digid registration number using Arial 24pt font.
- **DOC file** containing the project statement (600 words max) and your unique 6-digid registration number in the header.

FILE NAMES

Your submission files (PDF, DOC) should have the following name: "CLC-A-XXXXXX", where XXXXXX is your unique 6-digid registration number

COMPETITION MATERIALS

Basic material includes a competition brief in PDF and a vector drawing of the site in Amsterdam in DWG that can be downloaded from the competition page on the matterbetter.com

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Integration of the lighthouse with the context;
- Translation of the metaphorical power of the lighthouse archetype into the architectural design;
- Meeting the requirements of the mission statement;
- Architectural innovation: aesthetics and originality;
- Sustainability, functionality, structural efficiency and tectonics;
- Meeting the submission requirements;
- Clarity and comprehensibility of the overall design.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We highly recommend our participants to check the FAQ section on the matterbetter website as this will provide additional vital information. In case you still have questions, please send them to info@matterbetter.com with FAQ subject until 31st of March 2015. All answers will be posted in our blog on 7th of April 2015.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please see the terms and conditions section on the www.matterbetter.com