

For Immediate Attention of the Media

May 22, 2014

National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)

**“TSUNAGARI” Project 2014
Geo-Cosmos Content Contest
Starting from June 1, 2014 (Sun.)**



The world's first 'globe-like display, Geo-Cosmos

From Friday, June 1, the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Chief Executive Director: Dr. Mohri Mamoru; Address: Aomi, Koto-ku, Tokyo) will hold a competition titled “Geo-Cosmos Content Contest,” which welcome contents to be displayed on the Geo-Cosmos. The Geo-Cosmos is the world's first ‘globe-like display.’ This symbolic exhibit of Miraikan created from the idea by Dr. Mohri Mamoru, Miraikan Chief Executive Director: and first Japanese astronauts, to share with people the image of the shining Earth as seen from space. The high-definition, spherical, organic EL (electroluminescence) display with a resolution of 10million pixels and a 6 meter diameter shows a realistic image of the Earth shining in the middle of the Space.

The Geo-Cosmos is a unique light-emiting device that can display a seamless image on its spherical surface. In contrast to a flat image, there is no concept of ‘front’ to a sphere, and the image can be viewed from any direction. This feature of a spherical display opens up new possibilities of visual expression and promises overwhelming freedom that cannot be achieved by traditional flat displays. It is so unique that we can say that such a device, as a permanent exhibition, cannot be seen in anywhere else in this world.

The abovementioned contest will be held with the aim to pioneer new possibilities and expressions for the spherical display, Geo-Cosmos. With a view to building a new connection between people through content creation, Miraikan will call for proposals, from people in various fields, for new content that takes up the challenge of yet-unknown visual expressions.

■Contest Outline■

General description:	This contest will be open for a wide range of participants including professionals, amateurs, organizations, and individuals, from Japan and abroad. Miraikan will seek original content of about 15 seconds in length based on the theme of “TSUNAGARI” (connections) between the earth, humans, life, and future, to pioneer a new possibility of the Geo-Cosmos.
Date	Application period: June 1, 2014 (Sun.)–July 31, 2014 (Thu.) Main contest/Award ceremony: October 23, 2014 (Thu.)
How to apply:	Submit an entry using the application form on the website or send an application by mail. URL: http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/sp/gc3/
Eligibility:	Anyone who can produce contents in the designated format and who can communicate in either Japanese or English can participate.
Theme of creation:	Contents must be based on the theme of “connection” in any one of the following combinations. Human x Human / Life x Life / Human x Future / Human x Earth / Earth x Future
Screening:	The judges will conduct a preliminary contest. Participants who pass the preliminary contest will then produce the content to be displayed on the Geo-Cosmos. In the main contest, the judges will evaluate the finalized work and select the award winners.
Awards:	First award: 1 / Second award: approx. 3 / third award: approx. 5 / Judges' special award
Exhibition:	The works that proceed to the main contest will be exhibited at the DIGITAL CONTENT EXPO 2014 (October 23–26, 2014).
Details:	Details of the contest will be announced in the application guidelines.
Host/co-host:	the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) Digital Content Association of Japan

[Production of the Work]

The production of the work will be carried out over approximately 1.5 months starting from the end of the preliminary contest. In this production period, participants will create flat image data. Data preparation for the Geo-Cosmos will be conducted by Miraikan. Adjustment work, such as synchronization of images and sound, will be jointly conducted by the participants and Miraikan in the process of completing the content.

[Screening and Judges]

Screening will be conducted at the screening meetings in both preliminary and main contests. In the preliminary contest, the judges will examine the validity of the content and other factors based on the submitted documents and media. In the main contest, the judges will evaluate the works at the main screening meeting based on the screening policy, and announce the results and give the awards immediately. The panel of judges is planned to consist of leading professionals from different fields such as art and science. Details concerning the judges are due to be announced around June 12 (Thu.).

[Miraikan's "TSUNAGARI" Project and Geo-Cosmos]

The "TSUNAGARI" project aims to deepen the understanding of the present Earth and visitors themselves, as well as to create a vision for the future together with the visitors by visualizing scientific information and sharing it through expressions that appeal to the human senses. The Geo-Cosmos is a key tool of the "TSUNAGARI" project as it enables the visitors to feel the earth by projecting an image based on scientific and other data. Following are some of the contents shown in Miraikan.

<p>■ Visualization of scientific data This content series features several scientific data updated every day, such as seasons on the earth and predictive simulation of the future of the earth.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">"Seasons on the earth"</p>	<p>■ The Movements This content tracks all sorts of movements that take place on Earth in a breathtaking way.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">"The Movements"</p>
<p>■ The World Processor by Ingo Günther This content series was created for the Geo-Cosmos by Ingo Günther, a media artist born in Germany.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">"Life expectancy"</p>	<p>【Specification of the Geo-Cosmos】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luminescent device: Organic EL display (96mm square panel x 10,362) • Size: Approx. 6m diameter (about 1/2,000,000 scale of the earth) • Weight: Approx. 13 tons • Pixel count: More than 10 million pixels • Internal structure: Geodesic regular octahedral model

<p>Inquiries from general visitors:</p> <p>National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) TEL: +81-3-3570-9151 / FAX: +81-3-3570-9150 URL: http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp</p>	<p>For information on this release, please contact:</p> <p>Public Relation Section, Exhibition Development Division National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) 2-3-6, Aomi, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0064 TEL: +81-3-3570-9192 / FAX: +81-3-3570-9150 press@miraikan.jst.go.jp</p>
--	--