The step ladder’s size issue!

When Germany works with the United States, the result is the « Techstyle Haus » project! To oppose the permanent standard architecture, the Inside Out team has conceived a low energy footprint pavilion, equipped with a textile skin. In addition to several unusual obstacles, the Inside Out Team has been exposed to a singular size issue. Indeed, the French step ladders standard size is different from the American’s. As a consequence, their current timetable is delayed compared to the prototype which had been constructed previously in the United States.

Drills to celebrate music!

Students are working day and night, which allows them to meet their deadlines. During the evening of Saturday, June 21, the music festival was in full swing in all the cities of France. However, the Solar Decathlon Teams had their own original way of celebrating music: with the sound of drills and other machinery!

The observers

The observers role is fundamental. Mostly students in architecture, their job is to make sure that the French security rules & regulations are applied correctly on the construction site. They take turns every eight hours, day and night. The “observers” are the main connection between the competitors and the organization. Besides, they are a real support for the worldwide decathletes. There is one observer assigned to watch every solar-powered house permanently.

The Japanese bride

Fifteen students from ENSAV (Versailles’s school of architecture) are building an extra-competition project called “The Japanese bride”, within La Cité du Soleil. The project is funded by a partner and it is the students themselves who had to solicit suppliers and select materials. In the spirit of a traditional Japanese tea salon, the pavilion aims to be a place of rest for decathletes and visitors. Seats will be installed in the center. The pristine white walls reminded the students of the headdresses that Japanese brides usually wear. The Japanese Bride plays nicely with the sun through colored filters. The prototype is ironically located next to the Japanese Renai project. After 6 months of work, the students will take their exams next semester.