

# A study on the color design process of facilities in the Port of Osaka

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## 1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In the Edo period, there used to be a lively color scape, the speeding race ships and many crews in red costumes created a beautiful contrast against the riverside whitewashed warehouses in the Port of Osaka. Today, there is a wide variety of colors and designs, but present environmental colors lose the sense of direction. The purpose of this study is to understand landscape elements and its component colors such as ships, containers, warehouses, terminals, cranes and bridges by focusing on historical transition of colors by interview survey. The environmental color which is clarified in this study gives clues to find the color design process. This survey makes it possible to propose the color design of the passenger terminal in Tempoan and the color planning for the public warehouses in the port.

## 2. RESEARCH ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL COLOR

The color scape in the Port of Osaka is linked to the paint appearances such as facilities, infrastructure, ships and containers. Today's architectural paint has countless numbers of colors, therefore Osaka City prevents the use of color which is departed from the standard explained in the color scape guideline, but this guideline is unenforceable and broad planning. In order to gather the historical information, the present color data and the design concept on landscape elements such as the architectural form and design of the warehouses, the research was conducted based on the field survey, literature review and interview survey with City of Osaka and private companies. This study analyzes the future perspective of design for the public facilities whose colors can shape the base colors of landscape in the port, because Port and Harbor Bureau can make a decision regarding the color of the owned warehouses on the basis of the original color planning.

## 3. COLOR DESIGN OF PASSENGER TERMINAL IN TEMPOAN

The concrete proposal on color was suggested through the participation in the redesign project of the passenger terminal for cruise ships in Tempoan from May. to Dec.2010. The design concept which translated by the preliminary research of this site and the practical design approach before starting the repainting the terminal is reflected in the exterior colors not to seek for the newly build eye-catching terminal blindly. The color design is to begin with the understanding the environments surrounding the site. Then, these landscape elements were organized according to the relation of "accent color" and "base color". Finally, under these conditions, the final color is proposed by factors which found at the field. However, "Background design" may be carried out without the basis for the decision. Therefore, this study described the decision-making process, and the appearance of terminal will give clues of growing the environmental colors in the port through a long-term management.

## 4. CONCLUSION

The clothing color of people and the large marking color drawn on the wall of warehouses added color in the waterfront landscape at a time when there were only a few natural materials such as fabrics, woods and plasters. Though the industrial paint on the material changed the landscape, today, color of the sky and the sea are steadfast existence, and the ship's color for the purpose of rust prevention, discrimination effect and aesthetic play the leading part of landscape in the Port of Osaka. Most colors such as ships, containers and infrastructures have low brightness and high vividness, therefore, the color of buildings shouldn't follow these colors to prevent causing confusion. However, using unjudgmental color like acceptable white color may lead to disregard the base colors of landscape in the port. Therefore, the approach based on making an interpretation of environmental color which each site has its unique features will be a significant design process.