



Noah's new ark: Floating city that could make weather devastation a thing of the past

It looks like something from a sci-fi film, but this bizarre floating metropolis may be the solution for cities devastated by extreme weather.

The incredible structure measures a staggering 1,200ft high, covers 30 million square feet and is designed to house up to 40,000 residents.

It comes with everything you would expect to find in a normal city - from hotels to shops, casinos and schools.

The Space Age design is even equipped with gardens, special express elevators for 'vertical commuting' and moving walkways for pedestrians.

The bizarre plans were inspired by the devastation caused when the American city of New Orleans was ravaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005

The damage was so extensive, the community is still in the process of rebuilding.

Now a group of designers, based in Boston, has put together a proposal for a new floating city that will sit on the bank of the Mississippi and could help prevent a similar tragedy.

Called the New Orleans Arcology Habitat, or NOAH, the sturdy triangular creation dissipates strong weather by allowing it to blow through.

Fitted with hurricane panels, the structure can take the blast of a storm with little impact on the community inside.

[...]

The super city is designed to float in a fixed position, within a water-filled basin measuring 1,200ft across and 250ft deep.

This would be partially carved out of existing land on the banks of the Mississippi and extend out on to the river. Although based on New Orleans, the design team believes their structure could be used in any coastal urban area.

(Source : March 3, 2011. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1362216/Floating-cities-make-devastation-caused-climate-changes->