

The NMI Electronic Systems Awards

ENTRY KIT



WOW THE JUDGES

NMI presents awards to recognise the achievements and behaviours that are conducive to a healthy and vibrant industry in the UK and Ireland. The awards showcase excellence within the industry rewarding the innovation, expertise and ambition of businesses

Maximise your chances of winning an NMI Award by considering how you can best wow our judges and make your application stand out.

APPLICATION TIPS

- Be clear and concise
- Make sure your entry is eligible - check your category's specific entry criteria to make sure your entry fits
- Think about your audience – consider what a judging panel of industry experts would want to see
- Keep it simple - focus on what the judges are actually asking for in the category criteria
- Applications should be supported with verifiable evidence or references
- Make your entry stand out from the rest
- Don't leave it to the last minute! Ensure you have enough time to consider and develop your entry

GOOD LUCK!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: **30 SEPTEMBER**

ENTER ONLINE: nmiawards.uk

AWARDS CEREMONY: **17 NOVEMBER**

The NMI Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony is being held at the Hilton London Bankside, 2-8 Great Suffolk Street, London, SE1 0UG

Additional Information

How many awards can I enter?

There is no limit as to how many awards a company can apply for.

How much does it cost?

The NMI Awards are free to enter.

How do I enter?

Application forms for all awards are available online. It is a very simple procedure.

Do I need to be an NMI member to apply for an award?

No the awards are open to all organisations active within the Electronic Systems Community within the UK and Ireland.

Are only UK companies eligible to apply?

No, anyone can apply but the operations must have originated from the UK.

Is there a word limit?

There is no word limit for award applications—however—applications should be concise and clear.

Supporting materials

You may wish to send us supporting materials with your entry. This may include images, videos, client testimonials and any other relevant materials. Each application form accepts up to 6 files of supporting materials, with a maximum of 20MB submitted at one time.

CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

INDIVIDUAL

The Young Engineer of the Year Award

The Young Engineer Award publically celebrates and promotes the efforts of young professionals at the early stages of their careers. Applicants are invited to demonstrate exemplary service to the advancement in one or more areas of:

1. The electronic engineering profession
2. Employers business success/competitiveness or improvement
3. Personal achievement

Criteria

The criteria for applicants are outlined below:

- Domiciled in the UK or Ireland
- A practicing engineer in the electronic systems community
- Aged 30 or under on the closing date for applications

Demonstrates technical competence and high levels of professional integrity in areas such as (but not limited to):

- Hardware or software design and development
- Research
- Process development or improvement
- Novel engineering solutions
- Systems Engineering
- Product ideas and creation
- Product or customer support

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/4Gj2YG>

BUSINESS SUCCESS

The Emerging Technology Company of the Year Award

This award honours a growing company showing excellent progress – demonstrating impressive growth in areas such as revenue, headcount, innovation, investment and/or market traction as success indicators.

Who Can Apply?

To qualify, the company will be seen to be emerging in the technology space – it may be a start-up or more established company that is making a noteworthy change in business model or direction in pursuit of growth ambitions. The company will be an SME (likely with less than 100 employees) and/or demonstrate exceptional growth from their existing position helping the UK to be seen as a global technology leader.

The winner should demonstrate an outstanding and/or innovative product or service, company financial strength, and overall success. Key considerations are positive financial performance, sustainability, impact on the industry and market, and ground breaking technology.

The following criteria will be considered in determining the winner: Why does the company itself believe it deserves recognition as the emerging technology company?

- Is the company thinking big? Do they have real growth ambition? Strength of leadership – the team, their vision and how are they are driving the company's success?
- How has the company demonstrated positive financial growth and has the company's value increased as a result of its market performance?
- Has the company grown, or is it growing its employee base?
- Has the company global appeal for its product/service?
- What characteristics of the company's strategy support a strong, and unique position in the marketplace (for example, novel/valuable expertise, barriers to entry, speed to market, life expectancy, technical prowess, validated solution to a major commercial opportunity or technical hurdle, etc.)?

Applications should be concise and supported with verifiable evidence or references. The judges are looking for quality of evidence – do not confuse this with quantity, ensure your application effectively communicates the strength of your assertion.

Apply Online: <http://goo.gl/m11zs1>

INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Manufacturing Site of the Year Award

The Manufacturing Site of the Year Award recognises organisations who have achieved significant business improvement through introduction of new products, new processes, operational efficiencies, cost reductions or a combination of all of these. We will want to know how your manufacturing process has excelled, the measures you've applied and the key factors driving improvement.

Criteria:

- Resilience against economic conditions
- Clear Objectives
- Defined measures of success
- Innovation
- Financial performance
- Managing people
- Evidence of success

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/1cSjVI>

The Innovation Award

This award will be given to the company that can demonstrate a significant business impact through innovation. This can cover any aspects of innovation whether in business process, manufacturing, service provision or product development.

Criteria will include:

- Business impact
- Novel idea / technology
- Extent of exploitation

While this award could encompass a new product that has developed a new market, it could equally apply to an existing product deployed in a new way; a new manufacturing process technology or the development of a new business model. The common theme running through all of this is an innovative idea or technology that's been applied to derive real business benefit.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/Zwqd1H>

The Silicon to Software Design Award

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To recognise innovative and novel semiconductor systems (integrating SoC, IP and software) designs that deliver right-first-time functionality across the hardware and software whilst accelerating time to market via virtual and rapid prototyping HW/SW co-design and co-verification. The scope includes all integrated hardware and software systems.

The system should be contemporary (carried out in the past two years) and released (available for purchase/being shipped within product).

Designs with a "holistic" approach – which have considered and adopted a range of approaches to achieve functionality and hit market windows – are likely to be rated more highly than those which use a single approach.

Benchmark information should be included to illustrate the following points:

- how the system design improves on previous best practice.
- the market pressures that required new design approaches to be used.
- the Defect and/or TTM savings resulting from the design approach.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/2c1WOH>

INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENTS cont.

The More than Moore Award

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For 50 years Moore's Law has been the bell-weather of the semiconductor industry doubling the number of transistors in any given area every 18 months. With state-of-the-art dimensions now measured in nanometres and the cost of production plant now measured in \$Billions, Moore's law scaling is largely predicted to be nearing its limits.

More-than-Moore technologies cover a wide range of fields. For example, MEMS applications include sensors, actuators and ink jet printers. RF CMOS applications include Bluetooth, GPS and Wi-Fi. CMOS image sensors are found in most digital cameras. High voltage drivers are used to power LED lights. These applications add value to computing and memory devices that are made from the traditional Moore's Law technology.

Criteria:

The Award is open to companies from the UK & Ireland who can demonstrate the use of MtM integration in product development.

Excellent applications will include:

- Evidence of assessment of the market-opportunity
- Identification of a solution
- Integration of hardware and software co-design
- Use of design and physical processes to produce an outstanding and highly innovative new product
- Evidence of traction in the market-place is supportive but not an absolute requirement for new products.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/Xzmf2e>

The Product of the Year Award

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MASER
ENGINEERING

In today's intensely competitive markets for electronics products, it is absolutely essential that new products enable exciting capabilities within a tight window of market opportunity while meeting exceptionally high quality and reliability standards. This Award recognises new and innovative thinking and demonstrable success in:

- Understanding the quality and reliability requirements of a given market sector
- Translating these requirements into a Product Qualification Plan
- Liaison with internal and external (where applicable) business functions and service providers
- Delivery of the product to the market to the expected quality levels including a plan to tackle yield, quality or reliability issues.

The Award will therefore recognise the development of a product delivering the highest levels of customer satisfaction, quality and reliability through clear demonstration of best practice in product creation and qualification. Supportive information should illustrate the following key points:

- Defined approach to understanding the market requirements
- Evidence of integration of quality & reliability into the product development cycle
- Evidence of effective cross-functional team-work – where applicable including the customer, external partners etc.
- Evidence of outstanding performance and reliability

Open to any electronics systems company which is based in and/or operates from UK/Ireland.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/jgNNSz>

The Automotive Electronics Innovation & Excellence Award

In today's intensely competitive Automotive market, it is absolutely essential that new innovative products enable end user requirements of functionality and safety within a tight window of market opportunity while meeting exceptionally high quality and reliability standards.

Award Criteria

This Award recognises new and innovative thinking and demonstrable success in:

- Exploiting a new and innovative technology
- Building strong links and approach to understand how the innovation meets the end user and market requirement
- Understanding the quality and reliability requirements and translating these into a robust qualification plan
- Delivery of the product on time achieving the expected field quality levels.

The Award will therefore recognise the development of a product delivering the highest levels of customer satisfaction, quality and reliability through clear demonstration of best practice in product creation / innovation and qualification.

Supportive information should illustrate the following key points:

- Technology innovation summary.
- Defined approach to understanding the market / user requirements
- Evidence of integration of quality & reliability into the product development cycle

Evidence of outstanding delivery, performance and reliability in the field.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/6pHYvd>

The Research Collaboration Award

This Award will celebrate innovative R&D activity involving strong Industry and Academic collaboration and completed within the last two years. It should ideally demonstrate “World beating” technology development with very high potential of being adopted by industry. However, the judges will recognise the R&D life-cycle and appreciate the time from discovery to implementation of new technology.

- We would therefore look for evidence of the following points:
- Genuine collaboration – evidence of a well-balanced and functional team
- Differentiating / novel technology developed (e.g. patent / novel application....etc.)
- Linkage to gaps in the market (opportunity)
- Continuity Plan to take the research forward to commercialisation

The collaboration may be between UK organisations or, providing there is UK industrial participation, European or International Projects could qualify. The technical span of the Award is open to relevant research for the electronics industry spanning everything from equipment, materials or transistor development to architectures to systems engineering.

Supportive information should illustrate the following key points:

- Importance and relevance of the research to Smart Electronic Systems
- Strong Industry-Academic Collaboration
- Exceptional Project Management and progress towards stated outcomes
- Evidence of commercialisation potential

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The University Research Group of the Year Award

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The logo for THALES, featuring the word "THALES" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is stylized with a teal dot above it.

This award is focused on university research groups that demonstrate excellent liaison & partnership with industry.

Judges will consider applications from University Departments have an electronics systems research programme that can demonstrate:

- World-Class Electronics Systems research that shows strength in depth.
- A successful research collaboration and partnership portfolio with industry
- Evidence of a strong skills and knowledge transfer record with industry, turning ideas into economic benefit.
- Evidence of helping the Electronics Systems skills pipeline through the training and development of industry-aware researchers.

The scope is limited to university groups that work within the field of Electronic Systems.

Apply online: <http://goo.gl/gG8z46>

www.nmiawards.uk