R&D 100

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

THE 2020 R&D 100 AWARDS

Submissions open:
March 2, 2020

Deadline for submissions ($450/entry):
May 1, 2020

Late deadline for submissions ($550/entry):
June 1, 2020

To be eligible for R&D 100 Awards consideration, your product or service must have been made available to the marketplace between **January 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020.**

What is the R&D 100 awards program?

Established in 1963, the R&D 100 Awards is the only S&T (science and technology) awards competition that recognizes new commercial products, technologies and materials for their technological significance that are available for sale or license.

There are six categories in the R&D 100, listed below. There are also four special recognition categories, which follow. A given innovation can be entered in both a regular category and any of the special recognition categories — but please note that a separate entry fee is required for each nomination. Special recognition categories are awarded separately from the 100 winners that comprise the R&D 100.

In addition, the judging panel will award finalist designations to selected top nominations. This announcement of finalists is made first, followed by the actual R&D 100 winners several weeks later. This allows all finalists and winners plenty of time to make arrangements to attend the awards banquet and/or conference.

Analytical/Test
- Analytical Instrumentation (chromatography, spectroscopy, analyzers, etc.)
- Electronic Instrumentation (oscilloscopes, VOMs, spectrum analyzers, digital multimeters, probes, etc.)
- Imaging Systems/Devices (microscopes, cameras, telescopes, binoculars, optics, etc.)
- Testing Systems (hardness, materials, tensile, physical, etc.)
- Laboratory Equipment (fume hoods, cabinets, casework, lab animals, lab automation, balances/scales, centrifuges, tubing/valves, mixers, etc.)
- Life Sciences (biopharmaceuticals, DNA/RNA systems, food & beverage, genomics, proteomics, GMO, medical devices, medicine, medical implants, etc.)

IT/Electrical
- Electrical Devices (motors, switches, lighting systems, etc.)
- Information Technologies (computers, cell phones, printers, storage systems, supercomputers, computer hardware, operating systems, cloud computing, big data, data mining, data security, etc.)
- Communication Systems/Devices (wireless, broadband, networking systems, routers, wearables, lidar/radar, space communications, etc.)
- Safety & Security (sensing, detecting, monitoring, alarm systems, access point/portals, isolation systems, barriers, etc.)
- Beam Instrumentation (x-ray, neutron, proton, gamma ray, etc.)
- Lasers & Photonics (CO2 lasers, solid-state lasers, LEDs, synchrotron items, etc.)

Mechanical/Materials
- Chemical & Gases (chemicals, powders, rare gases, reagents, etc.)
- Energy Systems/Components (energy modeling software, fuel cells,hybrid systems, IC engines, nuclear, PV, etc.)
- Environmental Systems/Instruments (carbon capture, filtering systems, mercury capture, pH meters, precipitators, etc.)
- Materials (adhesives, alloys, ceramics, composites, metals, paints, plastics, polymers, etc.)
- Mechanical Systems (air-handling systems, gears, heating and cooling systems, pumps robotics, structural components, thermal devices, transmissions, etc.)
- Thin Film & Vacuum (deposition systems, lithography, semiconductor processing, vacuum pumps/chambers, vacuum valves, etc.)

Process/Prototyping
- Process Systems (mixing, formulating, distilling, baking, coating, etc.)
- Additive Manufacturing (3-D printing, rapid prototyping)
- Supply Chain (management, operations, etc.)
- Process Improvement (design, production, distribution strategies)

Software/Services
- Military/Aerospace/Law Enforcement Devices (air traffic control tech, de-icing solutions, drones, flight simulators, forensic tools, weapons, etc.)
- Safety & Security (alarm systems, access point/portals, barriers, detecting, isolation systems, sensing, monitoring, etc.)
- Software (chemistry, process and analysis, reporting, simulation, visualization)

Other
- Any Products or Services that do NOT fall into the above stated categories. U.S. Universities / Medical Centers can apply under "Other."

Special Recognition: Corporate Social Responsibility

This award honors organizational efforts to be a greater corporate member of society, from a local to global level. Good works criteria may include, but isn't limited to, efforts to curb carbon footprint reduction, efforts in third-world countries, better prosthetics for wounded soldiers, LEED green building certification, local fundraising efforts, scholarship programs and involvement and/or contributions to the STEM community.

Special Recognition: Green Tech

From an engineering and societal perspective, efficiency and environmental factors play an increasingly important role in the world today. R&D World wants to recognize those innovations that help make our environment greener and our goal towards energy reduction closer.

Special Recognition: Market Disruptor – Products

This award is designed to highlight any product from any category as one that has changed the game in any industry. No matter what the specific product is, the focus should be on industry impact. Was your product a game changer in the last year?

Special Recognition: Market Disruptor – Services

This award is designed to highlight any service from any category as one that forever changed the R&D industry or a particular vertical within the industry. No matter what the specific service is, the focus should be on industry impact.

What does the submission form ask for?

The online submission form asks for a variety of information, and the submitter can upload supporting documents, images, videos, and more. The basic information asked for includes:

- Category selected
- Name of the primary submitting organization
- Name(s) of co-developing organization(s), if applicable
- Product/service brand name
- When product was introduced to the market
- If subject to regulatory approval, has it been approved?
- Short product description
- Type of submitting institution
- Photo(s), up to six
- Video(s), up to six
- What does the product or technology do?
- How does the product operate?
- How does it improve upon competitive products or technologies?
- Optional: matrix or table of how key features compare to existing products
- Limitations of your product

- Summary of your entry
- Support letters from other organizations that verify the product's successful use in the field
- Principal investigator(s) from each of the submitting organizations
- Full list of development team
- Organization's logo and social media handles

Other frequently asked questions

Interested in submitting an exceptional product or process to the R&D 100 Awards but aren't sure how to get started?

Why should I enter?
Since 1963, the R&D 100 Awards program has identified and celebrated the top 100 revolutionary technologies of the past year. Submitting your product or process to be considered by our panel of expert judges could earn it a place among an amazing group of finalists and winners from the last 57 years. Past R&D 100 Awards recipients include established Fortune 500 companies and federally funded research institutions, as well as academic and government labs and smaller companies. Their leading products, technologies and services will make a difference in a wide range of industries and together represent a bright future for science and innovation in the years to come. Current and past winners share in the pride of achievement and global recognition that an R&D 100 Award offers. Submit your entry online at *https://rd100.secure-platform.com/a*.

How many entries do you typically get?
While the R&D World team keeps the information about the exact number of entries confidential, we can share that the number of entries is well into the hundreds and increases significantly each year.

Do labs and big companies have an advantage?
Upon first glance at our list of R&D 100 Award recipients from previous years, it might seem that federally funded research facilities and large corporations have an advantage when it comes to winning an R&D 100 Award. We're happy to share that in this case looks are deceiving — some of our most interesting and surprising breakthrough innovations have come from smaller, newer companies that have shown the ability to innovate independently.

The R&D 100 Awards were created to level the playing field and honor the greatest inventions of the year, regardless of their origins. We ensure that the group of judges who participate come from all walks of R&D life, from small businesses and universities to major laboratories and firms. One of the most important aspects of the R&D 100 Awards is the diversity and expertise of its judges, which ensures a balanced and fair judging process. We do not allow anyone who may have a conflict of interest with any given entry to participate as a judge on that submission.

Does anyone have access to my submission materials besides the editors and the judges?
We take pride in the fact that any materials submitted with an entry to the R&D 100 Awards are for the judges' eyes only. Any exceptions are noted on the submission form, such as short descriptions of the products and photos that may be used in R&D World magazine, website or newsletters.

Why do I have to pay an entry fee?
There are two reasons why we charge an entry fee for submissions to the R&D 100 Awards:
To help to ensure the integrity of the pool of entrants. And to cover the internal production costs of putting on such an amazing black-tie event.

Can I submit a product in multiple product categories?

Yes. You can submit a single product in as many categories as you would like. However, it is important to note that the mission of the R&D 100 Awards is to identify and honor the top 100 new technologies of the year. Therefore, your product can only win in a single product category. However, a single entry can win in both a standard category and a Special Recognition Category.

Please also note that the entry fee applies for each award category in which a single product is entered.

I entered my product last year but did not win. Can I enter again?

Yes. You can enter your product again if it is still eligible. However, we recommend that you only opt to do so if you have made improvements to your product. If you have questions about resubmitting your product for the 2020 R&D 100 Awards, please contact the team at *pheney@wtwhmedia.com*.

How can I be sure that my submission is in line with what the judges are looking for?

Nobody knows your innovation as well as you. It is all about how you present your invention and ensuring that you have a completed submission that fits the stated guidelines for each category entered. If you have any other questions about your submission, please feel free to email us at *pheney@wtwhmedia.com*.

Who are the "principal investigators" and "development team" members? Why do you need their information?

The principal investigators should include those who led the project/product development. Think of it as synonymous with team leader/leaders. The development team should include anyone that was involved in the development of the project/product that you'd like to make sure receives recognition. This information is for the judges use and will not be published. Team members also will not be contacted- this is purely for the use of the judges. Once your entry is recognized your team can celebrate.

What do the judges say about my entry?

We have a simple rule when it comes to the independent experts that we ask to contribute their opinions on the entries. What's said in the R&D 100 judging room stays in the R&D 100 judging room. This is an important rule that helps ensure the impartiality and confidentiality of our awards process.

Can I win first place?

One of the things that makes the R&D 100 Awards so unique is that there is no "first place winner" or rankings. The R&D 100 Awards is a place where the R&D community can come together to celebrate and recognize the top 100 innovations of the past year. Winning an R&D 100 Award places you into an elite group of innovators that all share the same winner's title.

When do we find out if we won?

Finalists for the 2019 R&D 100 Awards will be announced on or about September 1, 2020. The top 100 R&D 100 Award winners will be announced on or about September 15, 2020. The awards banquet and conference will take place in November 2020; to keep up with the latest details, please follow the R&D World Twitter account at *@RandDWorld* or visit the conference website, *www.rd100conference.com*.

What is the dress code for the awards and conference?

The R&D 100 Conference is business causal and the R&D 100 Awards Gala is a black-tie event.