

Innovations Design & Engineering Awards

Rules & Eligibility

Call for Entries Opens
Monday, August 28, 2006

Call for Entries Closes
Monday, October 2, 2006



Since 1989, the International CES, Innovations Design and Engineering Awards has annually recognized the newest CE products that exhibit excellence in design and engineering. The Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) endorses and acts as advisors to the program.

Q: Who is eligible to enter?

A: Anyone who manufactures, designs, engineers or promotes consumer electronics products marketed in the United States, or is an authorized agent of the organization or individual, is eligible to submit entries.

Q: What is eligible to be entered?

A: Any new products that are or will be in the marketplace and available to U.S. consumers no earlier than January 1, 2006 and no later than June 30, 2007. Selected products must also be available for display in the Innovations Showcase at Innovations Plus, located at the Sands Expo and Convention Center/The Venetian at the International CES, held January 8-11, 2007 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Q: Who evaluates the entries? And how?

A: Each product category has a three-member judging team comprised of an independent industrial designer, an independent engineer and a member of the trade press. Products with the highest score per category will be named Best of Innovations honorees. Judges will determine the relative importance/weight for each of the evaluation criteria, according to its relative importance in its product category. Since actual products will not be available, entries must be very detailed—and must include photos of the product—for the judges to make the best possible decisions. All award designations by our judges are final.

Q: Can an entry submitted last year be submitted again this year?

A: Probably not, since the competition is limited to new products that become available to consumers between January 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. However, if you have developed a new model of the product that you feel is innovative and enhances the original product; you may submit an entry for the new model.

Q: Must I include photos with my entry?

A: Yes! These photos are the only visual references the judges will have of the product. Your entry form will not be processed without a minimum two high resolution photos of your product. You may upload the same photo if you do not have two different views of the product. While two photos are required, you can upload up to five photos per entry.

Q: Do I have a word limit, per question, on the entry form?

A: Yes! The limit is up to 250 words per question. You may also upload the technical specification sheet for your product. If you do not have a specification sheet, you may provide the same data in your own words.

Q: What happens if my entry is not complete?

A: An entry is qualified for judging when all required sections are completed, images are included, and all entry fees have been paid. Additional fees will apply for entries received in paper form. While CEA is not responsible for the follow up of incomplete entries, we will endeavor to notify submitters of the status of their entry. Ultimately, it is the submitter's responsibility to ensure the entry is complete. Incomplete entries will be disqualified. Entry fees are non-refundable.

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Q: When will I find out if my entry received an award?

A: All applicants will be notified via e-mail October 23, 2006. If selected as an honoree, you are requested to confirm information included in your entry. It is essential that we receive this information for the announcement scheduled at the New York press event on November 8, 2006.

Q: What happens if I don't want to have my honored product announced at the New York Press Event on November 8 or at International CES?

A. If a company does not wish to have their product announced for any reason; CEA has the right to remove the award designation. The product will be considered as a non-entry, and entry fees will be returned. However, the company will have the right to submit the product as a new entry at the next year's Call for Entries, if it still meets the initial entry submission qualifications.

Q: What additional requirements will there be if I win?

A. Honoree products will be displayed in the Innovations Showcase at Innovations Plus at the Sands Expo and Convention Center/The Venetian at the 2007 International CES and will be obliged to comply with the following show-related requirements:

- Companies whose products will be displayed "live" must supply the necessary auxiliary equipment, including all cables, connectors, and program sources, along with copyright-cleared audio and video programs. (Note: The playback source of such programming will not be out for public display unless that product has been selected for an award.)
- Only International CES-supplied descriptive signage will be displayed in the Showcase.
- High Performance Audio honorees will be required to provide additional product for display in a showcase located in the HPA venue at the Venetian Hotel.
- Best of Innovations honoree will be required to provide two products. One will be displayed in the Showcase at the Sands Expo and Convention Center/The Venetian in Innovations Plus and the other will be displayed at Experience CEA in the Grand Lobby of the Las Vegas Convention Center.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Entries must be submitted via the web-based submission system no later than 12 midnight, EST on Monday, October 2, 2006. Entries may be submitted via e-mail to innovations@CE.org and via post. However, additional charges will apply and will be charged to the account on record. Payment by check must be FEDEX'ed within 48 hours after receipt of entries submitted via the online tool or e-mail.

Please keep a copy of all documents for your records.

Checks must be made payable to the Consumer Electronics Association – Innovations Awards and mailed to Innovations Awards, Consumer Electronics Association, 2500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201-3834, ATTN: Roz Graham

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CRUCIAL DATES

- Call for Entries Opens: August 28, 2006
- Early Bird Deadline: Midnight, September 15, 2006
- Call for Entries Closing: Midnight, October 2, 2006
- Innovations Judging: October 8-15, 2006
- All Submitters Notified: October 23, 2006
- Innovations Honorees Announced: November 8, 2006

Submit your entry before September 15 and save \$200

Entry Fees are non-refundable.

CEA Member Exhibitor	\$425
Non-Member Exhibitor	\$650
CEA Member Non-Exhibitor	\$800
Non-Member Non-Exhibitor	\$950
E-mailed or Hardcopy Submission	Additional \$500 per entry
Electronic Photo Conversion Fee	Additional \$100 per image

Entrants agree to these rules:

- Entries must include products that intend to be commercially available by June 30, 2007, or that have not been available in the United States via retail or online through the company website before January 1, 2006.
- If selected as an honoree, you will provide product for display in the Innovations Design and Engineering Showcase at International CES, January 8-11, 2007, in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- A product can be submitted into several categories; however, separate entry fees will apply.
- Entries submitted in previous Calls for Entries are not eligible for resubmission; however if significant improvements have been made to the original product and/or significant enhancements have been made that you feel the judges will find as truly innovative, then the new model would be eligible for submission.
- Submitters are encouraged to submit entries via the online submission process, however, you can download a PDF of the online form, complete it and e-mail it to innovations@CE.org or mail it to CEA, Innovations Design and Engineering Awards, 2500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201-3834. There will be an additional processing fee of \$500 per entry for those not submitted online.

At least one product photograph must accompany each entry, however two photos are required. These photos should be two different views of the product. You have the option of submitting up to five photos. Photos are to be submitted in 300 DPI, as a JPEG file in PC format; "3 X 3" in dimension and less than 1 MB file size. Photos should be uploaded through the online submission process, however photos can be sent via e-mail to innovations@CE.org. Photos sent via e-mail requiring conversion to JPEG format or sent via post will be converted for an additional processing fee of \$100. Photos can be e-mailed to innovations@CE.org or mailed to CEA, Innovations Design and Engineering Awards, 2500 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201-3834.

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- All entry forms are the property of CEA. We suggest you make a copy of the online Entry Summary Page for your records.
- An entry is qualified for judging when all required sections are completed, photos are included, and all entry fees have been paid.
- CEA is not responsible for follow-up of incomplete entries. Incomplete entries will be disqualified.
- Entry fees are non-refundable.
- CEA reserves the exclusive right to interpret all conditions regarding this competition without claim for damage or recourse of any kind.
- The judges may move a product to a different category at their discretion without consent from the submitter.
- The judges' decisions are final.
- By entering the competition, you grant CEA permission to use the entry and images of the entered product in any promotional material produced by CEA and its sponsors.
- One sample of all products (prototypes, mock ups or the final product) selected as Innovations honorees (two, if selected as Best of Innovations honorees) must be available for display in the Innovations Showcase in the Sands Expo and Convention Center/The Venetian at the 2007 International CES, January 8-11, in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Honored products will be announced at the International CES NYC Unveiled and the Innovations Honoree portion of CESweb.org on November 8, 2006. If a company does not wish to have their product announced for any reason, CEA has the right to remove the award designation, and the product will be considered as a non-entry and entry fees returned. However, the company will have the right to submit the product as a new entry at the next year's Call for Entries (if it still meets the initial entry submission qualifications).
- Nominated material must be readily available to the general public; material must meet CEA standards for taste and obscenity, etc.
- CEA reserves the exclusive right to interpret all conditions regarding this awards program without claim or damage or recourse of any kind.
- Each company selected as an honoree grants CEA permission, without compensation, to use its name and photograph/likeness and/or entry in promoting this or similar awards programs in the future.
- Any attempt by an entrant to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the Call for Entries may be in violation of criminal and civil laws and should such an attempt be made, CEA reserves the right to seek damages from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- In the event a virus compromises the competition, non-authorized human intervention, tampering or other causes beyond the reasonable control of CEA, which corrupts or impairs the administration, security, fairness, or proper operation of the Call for Entries, CEA reserves the right in its sole discretion to suspend, modify or terminate the Call for Entries. Should the Call for Entries be terminated prior to the stated closing date, CEA reserves the right to announce honorees based on the nominations received before the termination date.

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Choose from Three Submission Options:

1. Visit our website: www.CESweb.org/innovations. Complete and submit your entry form online. This is your simplest and cheapest option, and we strongly recommend it.
2. Download the PDF of the entry form from www.CESweb.org/innovations or write to innovations@ce.org to request a PDF of the entry form. Transfer information from the PDF to a word processing document and e-mail it back, as an attachment with images, to innovations@ce.org. **There is an additional processing fee of \$500 for using this option. An additional \$100 processing fee is also applied for each photo submitted via e-mail in a format other than JPEG.**
3. Download the PDF or request one to be sent to you via e-mail, complete and mail the printed form, or copies. **Paper entries require an additional processing fee of \$500. An additional \$100 processing fee is also applied for each photo submitted as hard copy or e-mailed in a format other than JPEG.** Entries and/or photos should be mailed to the address below.

Innovations Design and Engineering Awards
Consumer Electronics Association
2500 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201-2834
ATTN: Roz Graham

Remember:

Photos are an *absolute necessity*. You must provide a minimum of two high-resolution photos of your product in two different views. You are now able to provide up to five different views of your product. **Images must be 800 pixels (3 inches) wide at 300 dpi, not to exceed 1 Mb in JPEG format.** If you need to e-mail your images, send them to innovations@ce.org. If you submit your photo as hard copy or via e-mail in a format other than JPEG, an additional processing fee of \$100 per photo applies. Your entry form will not be processed without these photos and will automatically be disqualified.

Tips for Preparing Your Strongest Entry

- To ensure technical accuracy, have your technical staff review your responses to technical questions.
- Answer the questions as clearly as possible and provide straightforward, informative photographs or illustrations.
- When preparing your entry, focus on providing substantive information, not on creative formatting or typefaces. Entries will be given a standardized look before the judges see them.
- Don't submit an entry that will not be commercially available by June 30, 2007.
- Don't submit an entry that has been available in the United States at retail before January 1, 2006.
- You are now able to provide up to five different views of your product. Show off that awesome design! Take advantage of it!

REMEMBER: If you are selected as an honoree, you are required to make your product available for the Innovations Showcase during the 2007 International CES.