



## PLASTIC SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATION AWARDS

### OFFICIAL RULES

This Award competition (“Competition”) is sponsored by the Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS), members of the Plastics Industry Association, 1425 K Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

1. **Eligibility:** This Competition is open to any corporation, partnership, or other business entity located within or outside of the United States. Exceptions include companies whose employees, officers, or directors are Competition judges, or are or were involved in the organization and development of this Competition or provision of the Award, and any of their affiliates or subsidiaries. These exceptions are not eligible to enter. You must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and an authorized representative of the company identified in your entry form to submit an entry.
2. **Competition Period:** The Competition begins at 12:01 a.m. October 1, 2024 and ends at 11:59 p.m. ET on January 17, 2025 (the “Competition Period”). The entry form will be available at the Sponsors website beginning on October 1, 2024.
3. **How to Enter:** During the Competition Period, complete the awards entry form and submit it through Microsoft Forms. Entries sent via e-mail must be transmitted by 11:59 E.T. on January 17, 2024. A company may submit one application for each category, in which case a separate entry form must be submitted. The odds of winning will depend on number of eligible entries received during the Competition Period.
4. **Entry Requirements:** The Plastic Sustainability Innovation Awards will recognize outstanding innovation in plastics manufacturing that advance environmental advantages in design, materials, and end of life management. All applicants must complete and submit the entry form as described in Section 3 above. All entries must address the Entry Details described in the entry form. All entries must be original, must not have previously won, must not contain any confidential or proprietary business information, and must not violate the rights (including intellectual property rights) of any third party.

Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to make determinations of eligibility and disqualify any entries that are incomplete, illegible, or do not comply with the Entry Details and/or these Official Rules.

5. **Judging Criteria:** Award submissions will be judged on the following three criteria.
  - Innovation: How revolutionary is the concept, and does it push the boundaries of what's possible in plastics?
  - Environmental Impact: What measurable benefits does this innovation offer for the environment?
  - Market Impact: How scalable and influential could this innovation become in the marketplace?
6. **Award Selection:** A panel of judges composed of authoritative sources in plastics manufacturing, materials, and recycling who are qualified to determine what truly represents the state-of-the-art innovation will select one Award winner for each of the three categories, including the following Decisions of the judges are final and binding in all matters related to this Competition.

- a. Sustainable Innovation in Design – awards an innovation in product, equipment, or process design that appeals to recyclability, anti-litter, compostability, innovation in equipment allowing for new product design, etc.
- b. Sustainable Innovation in Materials – awards an innovation in or use of bioplastics, recycled content, additives for upcycling, etc.
- c. Sustainable Innovation in End of Life – awards an innovation in recycling or composting process or equipment.

The Leadership in Sustainable Innovation Award will be awarded to the “front runner” in all areas of judging criteria. This winner can be an applicant of any of the three categories. The People’s Choice Award will be voted by the people of the industry.

**Award:** The category winners will receive a physical “Plastic Sustainability Innovation” award, press coverage to various media outlets, and permission to use a “2025 Plastic Sustainability Innovation Award Winner” image or logo (“PLASTICS Marks”) subject to any limitations herein. Any Award details not specified herein (including, without limitation, the extent and amount of press coverage) will be determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion and provided on such additional terms and conditions as Sponsor may impose. No part of the Award may be substituted, transferred, or redeemed for cash by the winner. If Sponsor cannot provide any part of the Award for any reason, the remaining elements shall constitute full satisfaction of Sponsor’s obligation to the winner, if sponsor reserves the right to substitute all or any part of the Award with another award of comparable or greater value, in its sole discretion. Winner is solely responsible for any and all applicable federal, state and local taxes, and all other costs and expenses associated with acceptance of the Award not explicitly described herein.

**Winner Verification.** The selected winner will be required to confirm acceptance of the award, provide product imaging of their product (as approved solely by PLASTICS), and be available to coordinate with PLASTICS for Winner Announcement (as defined below) within forty-eight (48) hours of being notified as the winner. Failure to provide the items herein in the specified time will result in disqualification of the Award and a new winner shall be selected.

**Winner Notification:** Awards subject to verification. Potential winner will be notified by e-mail or phone using the address or phone number provided on the entry form. The Awards may be provided to an alternate if the winner fails to respond within two (2) business days, or if Sponsor cannot contact any potential winner for any reason after making a reasonable attempt. Sponsor reserves the right to make the first public announcement of the winner.

**Winner Announcement:** The winner will be announced on or after May 22, 2025. Sponsor will coordinate the communication with the winner to allow enough time for quotes or additional photos, samples to be made available, if necessary.

**Use of Entries:** Each entrant hereby grants to Sponsor, PLASTICS, and their employees and agents a royalty-free, irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide license to use, reproduce, modify, edit, adapt, publish, display, and post, in whole or in part, the company’s name, address (city/state), and entry, including any photographs submitted with an entry, in any form, media or technology now known or later developed, and for any commercial or non-commercial purpose, including promotional or marketing purposes, without compensation (unless prohibited by law) or additional consent from or notice to entrant.

**License.** For one (1) year after entrant is notified as being the winner, PLASTICS grants the winning entrant a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable, non-sub-licensable, royalty-free, worldwide license to use, reproduce, perform and display Sustainability Innovation Award logo solely in connection with the entrant’s product and performance under this agreement in support of their product.

**General:** All entries become the property of Sponsor and none will be returned. By participating, each entrant assumes sole responsibility for— and agrees to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Sponsor, PLASTICS, and any of their members, officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives (collectively, “Indemnified



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AWARD

Parties”) from and against— any and all injuries, liabilities, claims, losses, damages, costs and expenses of any kind to persons, including death, or damage to property resulting, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from (a) entrant’s participation in this Competition or any related activity, (b) entrant’s acceptance, possession, use or misuse of any Award (including any travel or related activity), or (c) use of an entry by the Indemnified Parties in accordance with the license granted in these Official Rules.

Entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules. Sponsor reserves the right to cancel or modify the Competition if, in Sponsor’s sole determination, they believe that the integrity of the Competition has been or could be compromised or that the Competition is not capable of running as planned for any reason. Sponsor also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entrant from the Competition or any other promotion conducted now or in the future by PLASTICS if the entrant attempts (i) to enter the Competition through any means other than as described in these Official Rules; or (ii) provides information that is inaccurate or fraudulent; or (iii) attempts to disrupt the Competition or circumvent these Official Rules.

The Indemnified Parties will not be responsible for: (i) any late, lost, misrouted, delayed, undeliverable, illegible, incomplete, garbled or distorted or damaged e-mail transmissions or mail; (ii) any errors, malfunctions, or failures of any kind, whether telephone, electronic, hardware, software, network, Internet, or other computer- or communications-related , mechanical, printing typographical, human, or technical which may occur in connection with this Competition including, without limitation, those relating to the processing of entries, any promotional or marketing materials, or the announcement of the winner which may damage an entrant’s system or limit an entrant’s ability to participate in this Competition; or (iii) any Competition disruptions, injuries, losses or damages caused by events beyond the control of Sponsor. ANY ATTEMPT TO DELIBERATELY UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THIS COMPETITION IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS. SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSOR RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES FROM ANY SUCH INDIVIDUAL TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW. Void where prohibited, restricted or limited. Subject to all Federal, State and Local laws and regulations.

**You acknowledge that you have read the Official Rules and agree to be bound by them. You represent that you are at least of eighteen (18) years of age and have the power and authority to act on behalf of the company identified in your entry form and submit this entry. The company represents and warrants that it owns or has the necessary licenses, rights, and permissions to use the material, product, or process identified.**