An Invitation to Innovators

Enter your new Florida-developed product, machine, process, or material in the annual Florida Professional Engineers in Industry (FPEI) New Product Award competition. It’s an opportunity to win public recognition for your innovations.

Award Charter

New and improved products stimulate the life and growth of Florida. These benefits result from research and development to which engineers make a unique contribution. This competition recognizes the results of those efforts and the foresight of the companies whose support bring new products to the marketplace. The purpose of the FPEI New Product Award is to recognize the full spectrum of benefits that come from the research and engineering of new products in our state.

Judging Criteria

Innovative Use of Engineering Principles (40%)

- Creativity—Describe how this product is unique from other products providing similar functions.
- Technology—Describe how new or current technology is used in the manufacture or production of this product and/or what novel engineering principles are incorporated into its design.
- Quality—Describe how this product is superior in reliability, maintainability, and construction.
- PE Contribution—Describe any professional engineer(s) involvement in the planning/design/production of this product. Provide a description of involvement, name(s), registration number(s)/states(s).

Improved Function (40%)

- Savings—Savings in final cost of product, savings to user of product, savings to environment in its production of use, or savings over previous product performing the same function.
- Productivity—Efficiency in design and/or production or in ease of use of product, or increased efficiency, or ease of use resulting from additional functions over that of a previous product.
- Energy—Savings in use of energy during production or in use (measured in kwh, btu, etc.).
- Safety—Improved safety in the production process or to consumer in use of product.

Sales and Economic Impact (20%)

- Marketing—Describe the success of any marketing efforts to date.
- Economic Impact—Describe the product’s impact or anticipated impact on the economy. Discuss the use of raw materials, jobs, and/or positions created, market share, exports, etc.

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Eligibility

Any new product, machine, process or material that has been developed totally or in part in Florida may be entered. The product must have been introduced to the market between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2019. Entries may be resubmitted as long as they continue to meet the program’s requirements, rules, and judging criteria.

Categories

Entries will be divided into categories of small (50 or fewer employees), medium (51-200 employees), large (201-2000), and very large (2001+) companies. Awards will be presented in each category that judges find meritorious applicants.

Recognition

Winners will receive the right to use “Winner of the 2020 FPEI New Product Award” in association with the awarded products in marketing, social media, packaging, etc. The awardees will be announced in FES publications, social media, and press release. The FPEI New Product Awards will be announced in January of the following year and presented at the next FES/ACEC-FL Annual Conference.

Rules

Entries must be emailed by April 23, 2021 to mglass@fleng.org. As many as three entries may be submitted for any individual or organization located in Florida. The decision of the judges is final. Entries may be resubmitted as long as they meet the time criterion. A product entry should have been first placed on the market between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2019.

The entry should be separated into sections for each of the Judging Criteria listed on the previous page. All materials should be submitted electronically (PDF’s preferred).

Please be sure to cover questions five through seven as thoroughly as possible. For example, do not expect the judges to analyze the annual report and balance sheet for the information in question five. Because of limited time, it will not be possible to ask for additional information or clarification.

Two photos of your product/process in electronic format must be submitted as part of your application.

Fee

A non-refundable $125 submission fee is required for each product entry submittal. Checks should be made payable to the Florida Professional Engineers in Industry. Materials/information submitted become the property of the Florida Professional Engineers in Industry and will not be returned.

Questions

For further information and submission of entries, contact Meridith Glass, FPEI Staff Liaison, at 850-224-7121 or by email at mglass@fleng.org.
Product Entry Form

Provide the information requested below with supporting documents, photos, and a $125 submission fee. You do not have to use or submit this form; however, you must include the same information or it will not be judged. All entries must be emailed to mglass@fleng.org and checks postmarked by April 23, 2021. Application file name format preferred “Product Name_Submitter Last Name.pdf”.

Product Name / Producing Company / Address:

Contact Person / Title / Phone Number / Email:

Signature: Submittal Date:

Please answer the following questions completely.

1) Describe the product entered and its use.
2) On what date (month and year) was the product formally entered on the market?
3) Briefly describe the company and its product lines.
4) List company locations, leadership, and number of employees in Florida directly associated with entry submitted.
5) Include any relevant advertising, other awards received, and supporting documents of benefits to the Florida economy due to the product.

Please answer the following questions completely, keeping in mind that they are weighted according to the judging criteria and will serve as the basis for the judges’ scoring.

6) How is your product innovative in the use of engineering principles? (40%)
7) Describe your product’s improved savings, productivity, energy, and/or safety. (40%)
8) Describe the product’s sales and economic impact in Florida. (20%)

Please check that the following are enclosed with your entry:

• $125 submission fee for each product entry submittal by credit card or check (checks should be made payable to the Florida Engineering Society). For credit cards please include:
  o Name on Card: Card Type:
  o Card Number: Security Code: Expiration Date:
  o Billing Address:

• Two photos of your product/process in electronic format.

Mail checks to:
Florida Professional Engineers in Industry, Attn: Meridith Glass
125 South Gadsden Street, Suite #100
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Questions? 850-224-7121 or email mglass@fleng.org