



KEN ERICKSON INNOVATION AWARD 2020

Information Q&A Session

Q: General information

A: Awards are now open for submission. Submission date – 18th Sep 2020 and Evaluation – 25th Sep.

Q: Who can participate in this award?

A: Individuals or teams who has completed an innovation in the last 12 months can submit their projects in the award.

Q: Can railway projects other than permanent way / track focused work can apply?

A: Yes, the PWI committee has agreed to encourage other railway disciplines to apply for these awards. It is also mentioned in the advertisement that “The field is open to all relevant disciplines within the rail industry, including permanent way, stations, systems, management, design, electrical and signalling. Eligible entries should focus on areas such as design, componentry, techniques, construction, maintenance, mechanisation, or automation.”

Q: what is classified as innovation?

A: Innovation, in general, is sometimes a very simple piece of work and sometimes extremely complex. The degree of scale and complexity determine the level of innovation. For the Committee’s consideration of innovation, seven elements are listed in the innovation award criteria. It is expected that submissions provide a clear description supported by evidence to demonstrate that the criteria are addressed during the development and application of the innovation.



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| Difficulties overcome | 10 |
| Contribution / Impact to Rail | 20 |
| Technical Input | 20 |
| Degree of innovation in Rail aspects | 20 |
| Contribution to Safety | 10 |
| Systems Assurance | 10 |
| Commercial benefits | 10 |

Q: Can innovations made outside NSW be submitted for awards?

A: Innovations made within NSW infrastructure will be eligible for award.

Q: what are the specific requirements of submission formats?

A:

- A short 2-3 paragraph summary of the entry, including 1 or 2 photographs. This information will be used to introduce the entry at the Annual Convention.
- Entry Submission, clearly addressing the selection criteria. Approximate length of 6-10 pages.
- Journal version of submission. Maximum 2 pages suitable for inclusion in the conference journal. – it was agreed in the Q&A session that this journal version can be submitted after the due date.
- Optional – other relevant supporting documentation e.g. video, technical paper etc.

Q: can we submit a prototype, photo or video with then ward submission?

A: yes, you can supplement the award submission with additional media. However, a mandatory paper submission addressing nominate criteria must be submitted.

Q: Is there any fee for award submission?



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A: No

Q: can a non-member of the PWI nominate an individual or team for the award?

A: no

Q: can an individual or team nominate other individual or team for the award ?

A: yes

Q: can an individual or team be nominated for more than one PWI award ?

A: yes, however, the submission for the innovation award should align with innovation context and clearly fulfill innovation criteria. We have had submissions which were drafted in a PWI Steve Maxwell Platelaying award style which addressed the wrong criteria. In summary, you can have one project nominated for multiple awards, but the same submission will not be suitable for the different awards.

Q: can an individual or team already nominated for other awards qualify to be nominated for PWI awards?

A: yes, however, we expect a declaration note stating this fact.

Q: can a submission be withdrawn? If yes, is there any withdrawal fee?

A: yes a submission can be withdrawn. There is no withdrawal fee.

Q: do you have example of a winning submission?

A: example submission can be viewed at the following link:

https://pwinsw.org.au/pdf/awards/PWINSW_KenErickson_WinningSubmissionExample.pdf