LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Innovation

Award Category Charter and Application Questions

2027 Business Achievement Awards

Award format

Two finalists will be selected.

Purpose

Recognizes an organization that has translated an idea, technology, process, service or business model into measurable and sustainable results.

Assessment principle

The Innovation Award recognizes achievements by organizations of different sizes, stages and resources. The significance and originality of an innovation are assessed in relation to the problem addressed, the applicant's capabilities and the results achieved. Large research budgets, advanced technology, patent portfolios or market size do not independently determine the marks awarded.

Eligibility

- The innovation must be in documented real-world use, with credible results. Concepts, laboratory prototypes and announcements without achieved outcomes are ineligible. Early-stage and pre-revenue applicants may qualify; grants, investment, patents, awards and regulatory approvals alone are insufficient.
- The applicant must have a substantive London connection through its operations, workforce, market activity, investment or contribution to the city.
- Chamber membership is not required and shall not influence eligibility, scoring or selection.
- The applicant must demonstrate financial viability appropriate to its stage and a credible business or operating model for sustaining the innovation. Revenue is not required, but financing raised is not itself evidence of customer demand or commercial success.
- An organization in which a Business Achievement Awards judge is materially involved is ineligible to apply during that judge's service and for the next two complete awards cycles following the end of that service.
- An applicant may apply in one Business of the Year category and one specialist category but may be named a finalist in only one competitive category in any awards cycle.
- Before applications are submitted to judges, the Chamber may recommend that an applicant move to another category. The applicant's consent is required for any transfer.
- An organization that receives a competitive Business Achievement Award is ineligible to apply for that same award during the next five complete awards cycles following the year of its win. It may apply again in that category after the restriction expires.
- An organization that receives a competitive Business Achievement Award is ineligible to apply for any other competitive Business Achievement Award during the next three complete awards cycles following the year of its win.
- Applications made during these exclusion periods will not be accepted. For 2027, the restrictions apply to wins in earlier award cycles as well as future wins. They also apply to rebranded, reorganized or successor applicants that the Chamber determines are substantially the same organization.

Criteria and marks (100 marks available)

Criterion	Maximum marks	Assessment focus
Significance and originality	25 marks	Distinctiveness of the idea or approach, the importance of the problem addressed, and value created for users, customers, operations or the market, relative to context.
Implementation and execution	20 marks	Documented real-world deployment and adoption, with credible evidence of use, testing, execution and resourcefulness.
Measurable results	20 marks	At least two verified outcomes from real-world use, such as productivity, quality, clinical or customer benefits, earned revenue, costs avoided or risk reduction.
Scalability and future application	15 marks	A credible commercialization or operating model, evidence of demand or continued adoption, and potential to sustain, adapt or extend benefits.
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Race Relations	20 marks	Actions and progress on equity, diversity, inclusion, positive race relations and accessibility, with accountability and relevant quantitative or qualitative evidence.

Achievement is assessed relative to the applicant's stage, resources and operating context. Implementation and demonstrated value matter more than the size of research budgets, investment raised or company valuation.

Key Results

These indicators are examples, not a mandatory checklist. Provide at least two measured outcomes linked to real-world use of the innovation, supported by appropriate comparisons. Show the stage of customer or user adoption and distinguish earned commercial revenue (if any) from grants, investment or other financing. Qualitative evidence may provide context.

Indicator	Current	Comparison	Change / context
Real-world adoption and deployment	Current users / sites / stage	First use / baseline	Dated evidence of deployment
Demonstrated outcome 1 (e.g., quality, clinical, user benefit)	Current	Baseline / target	Measured change
Demonstrated outcome 2 (e.g., productivity, cost, risk)	Current	Baseline / target	Measured change
Commercial position and demand (if relevant)	Revenue / pre-revenue	Earlier stage / target	Sales, adoption or licences; funding separate
Two EDIRR indicators or examples	Current evidence	Earlier context	Progress / learning

Use meaningful baselines or targets where practicable. Proportionate records are acceptable. Clearly identify pre-revenue status, where applicable. Exact commercial revenue figures are not required; percentages or reasonable ranges may be used when sensitive.

Application questions

1. Significance and Originality

Describe the implemented innovation, the problem it addresses and what makes the approach distinctive. Explain why the result matters to its users, customers, operations or market relative to your organization's size, stage and resources.

Maximum: 600 words.

2. Implementation and Execution

Explain how the innovation was developed, tested and introduced. Identify when and where it entered real-world use, the challenges overcome, and the evidence of customer, user, clinical or operational adoption.

Maximum: 600 words.

3. Measurable Results

Describe at least two measured outcomes attributable to the innovation, such as commercial, customer, employee, community, clinical or operational results. Provide a baseline, comparison or target and explain what has actually changed. Funding raised is not itself an outcome of the innovation.

Maximum: 600 words.

4. Scalability and Future Application

Explain how the innovation creates ongoing commercial, economic or organizational value and how it can be sustained or extended. Describe your revenue, licensing, procurement, adoption or operating model. Distinguish revenue earned from customers or licensing from grants, investment and other financing. If pre-revenue, say so and explain evidence of demand and the credible pathway to commercialization or continued deployment.

Maximum: 600 words.

5. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Race Relations

Describe how your organization advances equity, diversity, inclusion, positive race relations and accessibility. Identify the barriers you have addressed, the actions taken, who is accountable, and the progress made in areas such as your workplace, community experience, procurement or partnerships. Provide at least two indicators or examples of progress that are meaningful for your organization. These may include numbers, documented changes, feedback or impact storytelling.

Maximum: 600 words.

Additional Supporting Information

Organization Information

Company name, Address, Organization leader (name, title, phone & email), Primary application contact (name, title, phone & email), and number of employees

Organization Description (max 50-75 words)

Provide a brief 50–75 word description of your organization, outlining what you do and the products or services you offer. If selected as an award finalist, this description will be included in the gala program and media kit.

Company Logo

Please forward your high-resolution logo to julia@londonchamber.com

Release Statement

I agree to all terms of the Business Achievement Awards and confirm that the information provided in this application is true and accurate. I authorize the London Chamber of Commerce to share my company's contact information with the media for promotional purposes.

Designate Signature, Title, Date