

## Future Textiles Awards 2017

Future Textiles Awards reflect on-going innovation in technical textiles industry, ensuring we recognise and celebrate excellence and the achievements of the very best companies and individuals.

The Future Textiles Awards are open to all the end-use sectors for technical textiles as well as materials experts, product developers and designers.

### Why Should I Enter?

Here are the reasons why you should enter:

- *Industry recognition* - Winners will be announced on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at an Awards dinner ceremony in Frankfurt. This is your opportunity for some prime time exposure and recognition.
- *Energise your team* - Being nominated positively affects the team involved. Endorsement of innovation and hard work is key to driving personal success. Acknowledge the excellence of your teams and colleagues and invigorate them.
- *Marketing advantage* - evidence that you've been judged as one of the best within the industry. You can make full use of the Awards Finalist or Winner branding on all future marketing, and online promotions.
- *Networking* - The ceremony is attended by key players and decision makers from the technical textiles industry. Join them to share ideas, catch up and have fun.
- *Benchmarking* - The application process for entering an award can often force you to look at your business from a different perspective and compare yourself to your competitors.

### Key dates:

*Entry deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016*

*Finalist announcement: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017*

*Awards ceremony: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017*

## Award categories

### 1. Best Product - agrotextiles\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of agrotextiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes used in agriculture, forestry, horticulture and landscape gardening applications.

### 2. Best Product – textiles for building and agriculture\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of building and construction. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes used in membrane construction, lightweight and solid structures, earthworks, hydraulic engineering and road construction.

### 3. Best Product – clothing textiles\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of clothing. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in shoe and clothing manufacture.

### 4. Best Product – geotextiles\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of geotextiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in road construction, civil engineering, dam and waste site construction.

### 5. Best Product – home textiles\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of home textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in the manufacture of furniture, upholstery, floor coverings and carpets.

### 6. Best Product – industrial textiles\*

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of industrial textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in mechanical engineering and for the chemical and electrical industries.

**7. Best Product – medical textiles\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of medical textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in manufacture of medical and hygiene products.

**8. Best Product – mobile textiles (automotive, aerospace and other transport)\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of mobile textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in ship and aircraft construction, as well as in all aspects of automobile, railway and space travel.

**9. Best Product – packaging textiles\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of packaging textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in the packaging, covering and transportation of goods.

**10. Best Product – protective textiles\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of protective textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and processes, used in the personal and property protection.

**11. Best Product – sportswear and outdoor\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of sports and outdoor apparel textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabric, and processes, used in the sport, leisure and outdoor apparel industries.

**12. Best Process / Product – sustainable textiles\***

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry in the area of sustainable textiles. The category covers fibres, yarns, knitted, woven and nonwoven fabrics, and innovation, as well as processes used in environmental protection, waste disposal and recycling.

**13. Most innovative company – small**

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry. This award will be open to any small business connected to technical textiles which had a turnover in its last financial year of less than £2 million.

**14. Most innovative company – medium**

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry. This award will be open to any medium-sized business connected to technical textiles which had a turnover in its last financial year of less than £40 million.

**15. Most innovative company – large**

This is a broad category designed to reward outstanding innovation in the technical textiles industry. This award will be open to any large-sized business connected to technical textiles which had a turnover in its last financial year of less than £100 million.

**16. Groundbreaking partnership development**

The judges will be looking partnerships which create meaningful value for both parties operating in technical textiles industry. They will take into account both the size of the deal but the degree of integration and partnership activation. Entrants should demonstrate clear ROI for the business and the partner and creative thinking. The category can be entered by companies, associations and research institutions.

**17. Best start-up company**

This award is open to businesses that have started within the last two years. The winner will have displayed a strategic approach to business, successful implementation of a business strategy and will have good prospects for the future.

**18. Innovator of the year**

This award is open to an individual whose research and development work has made a significant difference to a company or organisation over the last year. The judges will be looking for individuals who propose highly innovative projects that have the potential for unusually high impact. Entries will be assessed for the individual's creativity, the innovativeness of the research approach, and the potential of the project to have a significant impact on an important area in the technical textiles industry.

**19. Launch of the year**

This award will be given to a product that breaks new ground and will have a significant impact in the technical textiles market. It may not yet be proven in the marketplace but an understanding of the potential market must be demonstrated. This award may also consist of a unique combination of technologies that have been combined for the first time, or a product that has been launched to an entirely new customer base.

\*Fibre, yarn, fabric, process, technology or equipment

## Entry Guidelines and Rules:

**Objective:** Describe the objectives and goals that lead to the implementation of your initiative - *up to 200 words*.

**Strategy:** Describe your entry's strategy, implementation and key features - *up to 500 words*.

**Results:** Lay out the results of your work and how it successfully met your objectives - *up to 300 words*.

**Additional information:** You may include any additional information that will help judges evaluate innovation and success of product, including research details, sales results, client testimonials, videos, etc. Images must be .jpg or .png, 2MB max size.

**Team recognition:** Give credit to all the people who contributed to your entry's success!

Entrants should read the following guidelines and rules before submitting their entry:

- All entries must be submitted online via this website. No hardcopy entries will be accepted.
- Entries exceeding 1000 words will be automatically marked down by the judges.
- Only fully completed entry forms will be accepted. Word limits are to be strictly observed. Judges will only receive the exact number of words requested.
- The standard entry fee is EUR 250 + VAT per entry.

All entries must be submitted by 5:00pm (GMT) on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016

- On receipt of your entry, the awards administrator will confirm it via email. If you do not obtain such a receipt within three days, please contact us to confirm your entry.
- Finalists will be announced on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- Winners will be announced during the Awards dinner in Frankfurt on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

All entrants reaching the provisional shortlist will be contacted upon announcement of the provisional shortlist to discuss their attendance and promotional options.

**ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE:** <https://www.futuretextilesawards.com/enter/>

For more details, please feel free to contact:

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