2025 Award Criteria & Questions

Award for Product, Program or Service Innovation

Award Criteria

This Award recognises an innovative element that creates significant advancement and improvement within the property industry including but not limited to design, build and development, property management, asset management, facilities management, financial and back-office systems, smart buildings and cities, and consumer/customer service.

The innovative element should be related to a single product, program or service.

The innovation must be replicable and of broad benefit to the property industry and or the community.

The innovation activities go beyond what is usual, regular, customary, or merely incremental in their approach.

The award is open to members of the Property Council of Australia only and the innovation element has not previously won the Award.

Tips for a good & compelling submission

* Judges read a lot of submissions, think about what makes your submission stand out from the rest, and how best to present your submission accordingly.
* Less is more. Avoid fluff. Make every word count. Avoid repetition.
* Word count is NOT a reliable indicator of effort required – and you don’t need to go to the exact word limit!
* Dot points can be used when writing the submission.
* Innovation in your responses should be clearly expressed. Claims such as “Australian first” should be substantiated.
* Don’t repeat content across criteria questions (but you can cross reference)
* Provide good quality testimonials (not just project team), including pre-post statistics monitoring satisfaction.
* Please be clear in your submission. Any post-submission dialogue in relation to the nomination will solely be undertaken at the discretion of the judges’ panel.

Nomination Form Questions (final entries must be submitted using the online nomination form)

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| NOMINATOR / CONTACT PERSON | |
| Company |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Contact Name |  |
| Contact Number |  |
| Contact Email |  |
| Property Council Member?  Yes or No?  Company name the membership is under? |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| OWNER DETAILS | |
| Company |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Contact Name |  |
| Contact Email |  |
| Contact Number |  |
| Property Council Member? Yes or No? Company name the membership is under? |  |

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| --- | --- |
| INNOVATION DETAILS | |
| Name of innovative element  *(This is the name your submission will be listed and referred as)* |  |
| Innovation type  *(e.g. Product, program, service and/or other initiative)* |  |

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| PROJECT SYNOPSIS |

To assist judges in assessing your entry against the judging criteria, please outline why you believe this innovative element should win the award. Judges are looking for a maximum of five key dot points totalling no more than 300 words.

*The purpose of this to highlight why your innovative element is worthy of winning this award.*

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| MARKETING SYNOPSIS |

To assist the organiser in promoting your entry within marketing material, please provide a summary about your entry of no more than 50 words.

*(These words will be used to create your winner video if you are successful - video example* [*here*](https://youtu.be/5LY1B7ic-B4)*)*

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| OBSTACLES OVERCOME |

To assist the judges in assessing your entry against the judging criteria, please provide a description of any conceptual or practical problems your project or programme had to overcome, and the way(s) in which these were solved totalling no more than 200 words.

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| WHY SHOULD YOUR PROJECT RECEIVE AN AWARD? |

In bullet format, list up to five special, innovative, and/or distinguishing reasons why the project should receive an award. Describe each reason very briefly on one line.

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| ATTACHMENTS |

**PROJECT IMAGES**

* Please upload a maximum of 6 images (minimum of 4 images is mandatory)
* Images are to be in a JPG or png format
* Images should be in landscape where possible
* Images should be of a high resolution
  + Minimum image size 1920x1080 – ratio of 16:9
  + Maximum file size of 10MB each image
* **Hero Image** – If you have an image you would prefer to be used as the main image to represent your nomination submission throughout the Awards Program, please label this as “Hero Image” before uploading. The Hero Image should be landscape if possible.

**OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

* Video links are optional and can be added **using the “Add link or Video” button** at the end of the page. They may be hosted on a video site such as YouTube or Vimeo. Ensure you provide any passwords if your videos are private to ensure our judges can view them.
* Should you wish to upload any supporting material for your submission, please upload as an attachment using the **“Add attachments”** button. Please note: The written component of your entry should be fully explained within the provided form fields, not relied upon within an attachment.

Judging Criteria

**VISION AND INNOVATION – 25% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe the product, program, or service and why it is considered unique and innovative in addressing the identified problem or need. How and why was it created and implemented. How will it benefit significant advancement and improvement within the property industry and or community.

**OUTCOMES ACHIEVED – 20% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe the outcomes achieved using this innovative element i.e. environmental benefits, financial benefits, increased productivity, risk reduction etc.

What were the risk, challenges and barriers to adopting this innovation and how were they managed and overcome?

Describe if the contribution/project has achieved outcomes beyond what was expected.

**ECONOMIC BENEFITS – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Explain how the innovative element demonstrates the ability to produce financial outcomes that met or exceeded the project’s planned objectives. Please discuss how the project's financial outcomes were achieved relative to the risk taken in developing this innovation.

**USER SATISFACTION – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe, using testimonials from a variety of stakeholders, the extent to which the innovative element has a proven high satisfaction level (ease of use, cost of implementation, outcomes generated) of all users due to this innovative function.

**INDUSTRY PERCEPTION – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe, using testimonials from a variety of stakeholders, the extent to which the initiative is considered a success within the property industry and or community.

**FUTURE LEGACY – 25% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe how this innovation is replicable and can provide a future benchmark for the property industry.

Conditions of Entry

* Entry in the Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation & Excellence Awards costs $1,400 (including GST) per nomination.
* Nominated companies must be a Property Council of Australia member.
* We welcome both self-nomination and third party nominations.
* Before you submit your nomination, ensure you have permission from the owner, your client or your contractor to do so.
* All entries must be submitted via the online Nomination form.
* Entries must stick to the word limit on the online nomination form. Nominees are reminded that judges will not consider formatting or presentation of entries.
* Nominees must include 4-6 images to support their submission. Other material relevant to support the application may also be uploaded as an Appendix.
* All nominees should be prepared to attend a site inspection with a judge, should it be deemed necessary.
* All nominations and contents will remain the property of the Property Council of Australia.
* Please note entries are exclusive to the Property Council of Australia Innovation & Excellence Awards and no details private or professional will be distributed to outside contacts.
* The judge’s decision is final and no communication will be entered into concerning the final decision.
* The Property Council of Australia reserves the right to publish the results and winner details.
* The finalists should be available to attend the Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation & Excellence Awards Gala Dinner to be held in Sydney at the ICC on Thursday 25 September 2025.
* All entries must be received and paid by 5:00 pm (AEDT) on Wednesday 13 March 2024.