

Official AE50 Entry Instructions and Guidelines

Entries Must be Submitted by September 13, 2012

This deadline will allow collaboration with the AG CONNECT Expo scheduled for January 2013. ASABE's annual Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference will be held in conjunction with the Expo, which is sponsored by the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM). This partnership provides exciting opportunities for the AE50 program. Please note that while the deadline for submissions is before the end of the calendar year, you can enter any product already introduced or planned for introduction to the market during the 2012 calendar year, as described below and on the entry form.

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AE50 Outstanding Innovations in Product or Systems Technology will be Selected Based on These Guidelines

- Each development must have been introduced and made commercially available no earlier than January 1, 2012 and no later than December 31, 2012. To qualify they must be advertised and available for sale by the end of this calendar year. Products still in the development stage at the end of 2012 do not qualify. Companies who are selected as winners will have an opportunity to withdraw their product before the winners are announced if there are unanticipated delays in the introduction. They would then be eligible for consideration next year.
- Each engineering development (component, machine, structure, system, end product, procedure) must embody the application of new technology or the innovative application of an older technology. The development must be new to the industry not just new to your company.
- Each development must be intended principally for use in the production, processing, research, storage, packaging or transportation of agricultural and food products.
- Each development must have the potential for broad impact on an application area or on the industries served by the engineering of food and agriculture.
- Each development must be deemed by the AE50 Selection Committee to be a worthwhile contribution to the advancing engineering in food and agriculture.
- Entries may be either an entire machine or system, OR the most innovative component of it - NOT BOTH. Only one component per machine may be submitted. Any attachment that is designed specifically for use with a machine and introduced with it is considered part of the basic machine system.
- Entries not meeting these guidelines will be disqualified.

There is no entry fee. Winning AE50 companies will receive:

- One personalized, engraved plaque presented at industry event
- An introduction of the product including a photo in the special 2013 AE50 issue of *Resource* magazine and ASABE Website
- Five complimentary copies of this special issue of *Resource*
- Winners may be asked to make a new product presentation at the conference

Entries must be submitted electronically

The Entry materials below can be submitted on a CD-Rom, DVD, Jump/Flash drive or emailed if under 7 MB.

- Entry form in MS Word, containing all the information described above
- Product literature or diagrams
- Color photographs (no video clips)
 - If using a digital camera (JPG), set file size to high
 - TIFF files should be at 300 dpi

If unable to submit in electronic format please contact Sandy for instructions.

All materials must be submitted by September 13, 2012 to:

Sandy Rutter
ASABE AE50 Coordinator
2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph MI 49085 USA
269-932-7004
rutter@asabe.org
or visit www.asabe.org for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: *Can I submit entries for both a component and a product containing the component?*

Answer: **No**, you must decide which to submit: the component as a stand-alone entry, or the complete machine. (Limit one component per machine.)

Question: *How do we decide whether to submit the complete machine or the most innovative new component?*

Answer: If the major innovation is the new component, you would normally increase the chances of winning by submitting the component, especially if it is also used on other machines. If there are multiple components or features of the machine that are new and innovative, the machine would be the logical choice.

Question: *We offer an add-on, optional product that is not an integral part of the machine. Can we also submit the add-on if we submit the machine?*

Answer: **Yes, but only** if the component/device is available as an **option** on multiple machines and is not an integral part of the machine (i.e. it is an add-on feature not needed for the machine to function). If the component/device/attachment is designed as an option for use **only** with the machine submitted, not for multiple machines, it cannot be submitted.

Question: *We have an innovative new component on a machine we are submitting to this year's competition. This component is also on other machines that we aren't submitting. Can the component be submitted in addition to the whole machine?*

Answer: **No**, unless it falls in the category of an add-on as described above.

Question: *What is meant by the date first available for purchase?*

Answer: Your product must have been offered for sale between January 1 and December 31, 2012. This means that by the end of the year the design of the product is completed, the product is currently in production or scheduled soon (if not already available), and it has been announced to the marketplace. An award may be withdrawn if the product has not been made available for purchase in the required timeframe. Prototypes that are still in the development stage do not qualify until they are ready for full production.

Question: *We have a new or improved machine series. Can we submit multiple machines from the series as separate entries?*

Answer: No. If a machine series shares common traits including the innovative new features but offers different options, transmissions, wheel-types, size of some parts, etc., the series should normally be submitted, not each of the machines in the series. If only one machine in the series represents significant innovation, that machine should be submitted either as a single machine or for one of the components.