

## AE50 Entry Instructions and FAQs

[www.asabe.org/AE50](http://www.asabe.org/AE50)

AE50 outstanding innovations in product or systems technology will be selected based on these guidelines. Entries not meeting these guidelines will be disqualified. There is no entry fee.

- Entries must have been introduced for the first time and made commercially available no earlier than January 1 of the current year and no later than December 31 of the current year. 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 the current year do not qualify.
- Companies may withdraw before the winners are announced. They would then be eligible for consideration next year.
- Entries (component, machine, structure, system, end product, procedure) must embody the application of new technology or the innovative application of an older technology. The product must be new to the industry, not just new to your company.
- Entries must be intended principally for use in the production, processing, research, storage, packaging or transportation of agricultural and food products.
- Entries must have the potential for broad impact on an application area or on the industries served by the engineering of food and agriculture.
- Entries must be deemed by the AE50 Selection Committee to be a worthwhile contribution to the advancement of 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.
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- **Entries must be submitted electronically to <https://asabe.secure-platform.com/a/> by the deadline published at [www.asabe.org/ae50](http://www.asabe.org/ae50)**

### Entries will be refused if instructions are not followed.

- 1 - Entry form must be completed online.
- 2 - Product literature or diagrams. Supporting material is suggested for judging.
- 3 - Electronic image of product must be submitted with entry. Please submit photo(s) that are AT LEAST 300 dpi (high resolution)

Winning companies will receive:

- One personalized, engraved plaque presented at an industry event (AETC). Extra copies of the plaque can be purchased.
- An introduction of the product including a photo in the special upcoming AE50 issue of *Resource* magazine and on the ASABE website.
- Five complimentary copies of this special issue of *Resource*. Extra copies can be purchased.

Some winners will be requested to make a new product presentation at the AETC conference.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) *Can I submit entries for both a component and a product containing the component?*  
**No**, you must decide which to submit: the component as a stand-alone entry, or the complete machine. Limit one component per machine.
- 2) *How do we decide whether to submit the complete machine or the most innovative new component?*  
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.
- 3) *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?*  
**Yes, but only** if the component or 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 or device or attachment is designed as an option for use **only** with the machine submitted, not for multiple machines, it cannot be submitted.
- 4) *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?*  
**No**, unless it falls in the category of an add-on as described above.
- 5) *What is meant by the date first available for purchase?*  
Your product must have been offered for sale for the first time between January 1 and December 31, of the current year. 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.
- 6) *We have a new or improved machine series. Can we submit multiple machines from the series as separate entries?*  
**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.