



ENTRY CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

19. RUSHLIGHT ORGANIC RESOURCE AWARD

Award

Awarded to the most significant development that has furthered the use or increased the effectiveness of composting and anaerobic digestion and other forms of organic resource recycling, processing and economic exploitation.

Background

In the UK, around 30 million tonnes of domestic refuse is produced each year, which contains on average about 38% organic content. The organic materials within a landfill are the main source of methane, which is 23 times more potent than carbon dioxide, and they produce leachate, which may enter and contaminate water supplies. Whether it is the creation of compost from organic household waste, the deployment of anaerobic digestion for commercial quantities of organic waste for the generation of energy or the production of biogas to decarbonise the central gas system, organic resource can play a significant part in the decarbonisation of agriculture and energy.

Entrants

This award is designed to include all aspects of aerobic composting, anaerobic digestion and other recycling of organic material. Entrants can be involved with the technology and innovation behind the instrumentation, with setting up schemes and facilities for local residents or businesses, with developing systems for domestic or commercial use or with any other aspect of the organic waste recycling process, including biogas and biomethane production and treatment.

Purpose of the award

The award is designed to celebrate and publicise the significant achievements in the waste industry in developing ways to increase the recycling of organic matter and in this way to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and to exploit the value of organic resource. This award can inform the consumer what is happening and what options there are available. They can also highlight areas where further investment and process improvements can have a beneficial effect.

Specific criteria

The key criteria that the judges will be focusing on are:

1. The importance and novelty of the innovation in addressing a specific issue (/20)
2. The “cleverness” of the innovation, which may include either its simplicity or its complexity (/20)
3. The evaluation of the innovation: the bigger the problem that has been solved or the greater the technology advancement that has been made the better (/15)
4. Whether and how the innovation can be replicated, sold or multiplied to increase the beneficial effect for society (/15)
5. Evidence of the efficacy or effect of the innovation (/10)
6. The holistic impact of the innovation on the environment. (/20)

Entry form

The Entry Form has the following sections to be completed:

- **Summary:** This is where you set out a synopsis of what the process or technology is and does. This summary will be used as the descriptor should you be shortlisted
- **Project status:** This is where you explain the stage that the project, innovation or technology has reached.
- **Description:** Please set out under this heading as much detail as you can to make the technology development, innovation or process understood. You can include confidential and commercially sensitive information here and it will be treated as such, provided you mark it as being sensitive.
- **Innovative aspect:** This is where you explain the really clever bit. How have you addressed the problem or avoided the issue or organized the process? Again, please mark “commercially sensitive” or “confidential information” accordingly.
- **Benefits:** This is where the evaluation of the concept will be made. Please include in here as much evaluated detail of the benefits as possible. Examples include some sense of financial benefit, cost savings, price adjustments, expected or achieved sales effects, greenhouse gas emission reductions or other directly attributable benefits of the process or technology. Third party verified data is especially valuable.
- **IP ownership:** Set out here who owns what patents associated with the technology and clarify precisely the development that has been achieved by the applicant organization(s).
- **Additional information:** No form can cater for all eventualities and so this provides space for further explanation or details.

Lastly, if the form does not provide enough space or the questions are not directly relevant, then please send further material as an attachment to your entry email. Up to two attachments can be sent, each one no more than 5Mb in size.