INTERSEC AWARDS 2026

INFOPACK

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INTRODUCTION

Intersec Awards is the region's premier award show that celebrates groundbreaking technologies, impactful projects, and extraordinary individuals within the fire, safety and security industries. Scheduled to be held on 13th January 2026, the Intersec Awards 2026 marks the fifth edition. The awards provide an invaluable platform to acknowledge and promote best practices, technological advancements, and industry leadership.

This document is designed to guide potential entrants through the submission process and requirements. It will help you choose the right category for your nomination and guide you through the nomination process. It outlines the steps to ensure a seamless nomination form completion, details the evaluation process, and presents the submission, evaluation, and timeline requirements.

Please read this carefully before submitting your nominations.

Entries will be submitted via our online portal, where you can complete your entry online and update it right up until the entry deadline.

TIMELINE

Awards Entry Open

Judging Review Round 1

Round 2 Judging

15 Sep 2025

20 Oct 2025

13 Jan 2026

30 May 2025

26 Sep – 10 Oct 2025

11 – 13 Nov 2025

Awards Deadline

Shortlist Announced

Awards Gala Dinner

ENTRY GUIDELINES

Answers should be in bullet point format only

Entries must be clear, concise, and avoid sales-oriented, brochure-like content

Video submission for your respective product or project is **mandatory**

Self-nominations are not permitted for Individual award categories; Messe Frankfurt Middle East/Intersec reserves the right to reject such entries

The entrant should submit valid email ids and operational mobile numbers only
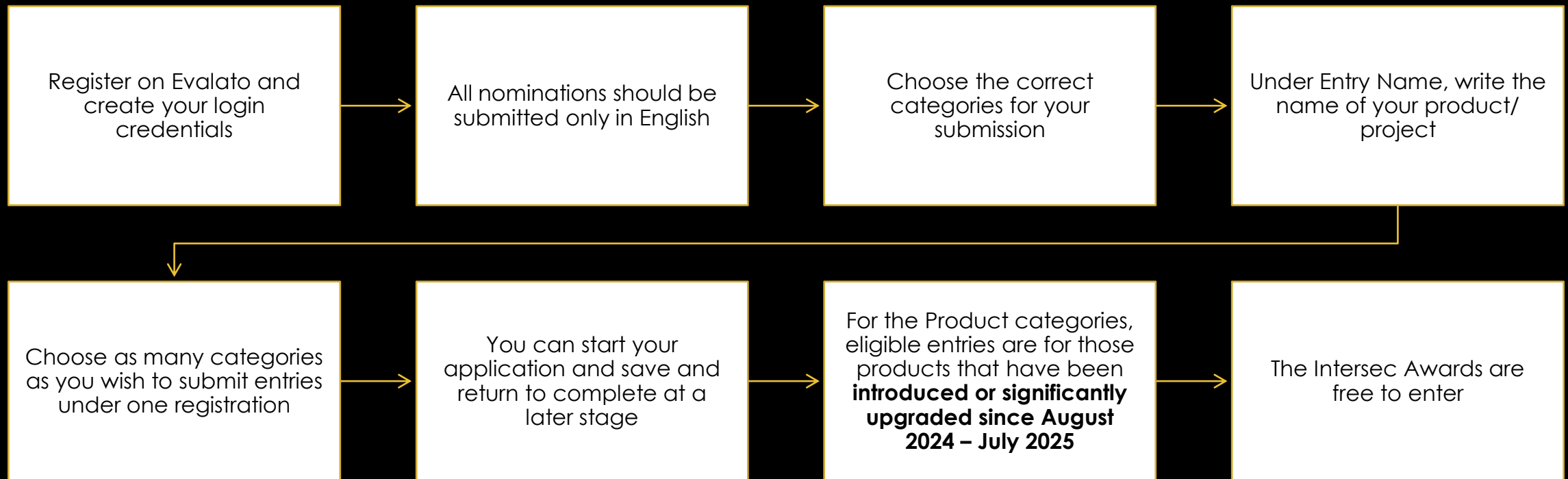
Any entry submitted in monosyllables or an incomplete entry will be rejected.

Highlight what has been done differently. The judges are keen to hear about innovation and new approaches

Submit entries only if authorized; Messe Frankfurt Middle East/Intersec may reject unauthorized submissions by representatives from the company

Companies may submit unlimited entries across categories, but each product/service can appear in only one category. If duplicated, judges will score only the most relevant submission

ENTRY PROCESS

Register on Evalato and create your login credentials

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All nominations should be submitted only in English

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Choose the correct categories for your submission

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Under Entry Name, write the name of your product/project

Choose as many categories as you wish to submit entries under one registration

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You can start your application and save and return to complete at a later stage

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For the Product categories, eligible entries are for those products that have been **introduced or significantly upgraded since August 2024 – July 2025**

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The Intersec Awards are free to enter

AWARD CATEGORIES – FIRE & SAFETY

Best Active Fire Safety Product (NEW)

Best Passive Fire Safety Product (NEW)

Best Safety Protection Solution

Best Fire Safety Project – Middle East & Africa

Impact Makers (Testing, Evaluation, Certification and Associations)

AWARD CATEGORIES - SECURITY

Best Homeland Security Solution

Best Commercial Security Solution

Best Perimeter Security Solution

Best Cybersecurity Solution of the Year

Best Security Project of the Year – Middle East & Africa

AWARD CATEGORIES - INDUSTRY

Best HSE Team

Best Security Team

Rising Star Award for Emirati Talent

CISO of the Year – MEA

Strategy in Consultancy in Fire Safety / Security / Cyber Security

Women Trailblazers in Security/ Fire Safety/ HSE

Industry Leader of the Year (NEW)

AWARD CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY – FIRE & SAFETY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best Active Fire Safety Product	This category aims to recognize exceptional **active fire safety products or services that significantly enhance fire detection, suppression, or control of fire-related incidents.**	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission Mandatory • **Proof of third party certification or approvals mandatory** • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	This category is for OEMs only. Please refer to the product groups. Eligible entries must fall within the scope of active fire protection. The eligible entries must specifically **address fire safety, including but not limited to fire detection, fire suppression and first response.** The products should have been introduced or significantly upgraded since August 2024 – July 2025
Best Passive Fire Safety Product	This category aims to recognize exceptional passive fire safety products or services that significantly **enhance fire prevention.**		This category is for OEMs only. Please refer to the product groups. Eligible entries must fall within the scope of passive fire safety products. The eligible entries must specifically **address fire safety, including but not limited to fire prevention and public fire safety education.** The solution can be a product, a technology, a service, or an educational program that has had a demonstrable impact on improving fire safety The products should have been introduced or significantly upgraded since August 2024 – July 2025
Best Safety Protection Solution	This category honors exceptional products or services that prioritize the **protection and well-being of individuals in various settings, promoting overall safety and minimizing risks**		This category is for OEMs only. Please refer to the product groups. The nominations must support solutions that address specific safety challenges and can include products, technologies, programs, or integrated systems. Entries must demonstrate a novel approach to safety, offering advancements over traditional methods or technologies. The products should have been introduced or significantly upgraded in the region since August 2024 – July 2025

AWARD CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY – FIRE & SAFETY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best Fire Safety Project – Middle East & Africa	This award is dedicated to projects in the Middle East and Africa region that have demonstrated significant innovation in planning, implementing, and enhancing fire safety measures, thereby positively impacting communities within these regions.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission Mandatory • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	The project must be located within the Middle East or Africa regions. The project must showcase innovative approaches to fire safety, which could include the use of new technologies, materials, or methodologies. Innovations should lead to significant improvements in prevention, detection, response, or fire safety education. If an OEM is submitting an entry, they need to give credit to the end user
Impact Makers (Testing, Evaluation, Certification and Associations)	This award highlights organizations that provide crucial services such as system testing, safety evaluations, compliance inspections, and performance certifications, contributing significantly to the enhancement of fire safety and security in various environments.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission Mandatory • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	**This category is open to testing laboratories, evaluation bodies, certification entities, associations, and code and standards developers.** The entries must provide evidence of the significant impact their services have had on improving safety and security outcomes, such as enhancing system reliability, ensuring regulatory compliance, or identifying and mitigating potential risks.

AWARD CATEGORIES - SECURITY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best Homeland Security Solution	This category recognizes outstanding products or services specifically designed for addressing and mitigating threats to national security, ensuring the safety of a country and its citizens/residents.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 words • **Video Submission Mandatory** • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	This category is for OEMs only. Please refer to the product groups. The eligible solutions must be designed specifically for homeland security purposes, including but not limited to border security, cyber defense, public safety communications, critical infrastructure protection, and emergency management. The products should have **been implemented or launched within Aug 2024 – July 2025**
Best Commercial Security Solution	This award honors solutions that significantly enhance the security posture of commercial entities, safeguarding them from risks, threats, and unauthorized intrusions.		This category is for OEMs only. Please refer to the product groups. The entries must be specifically tailored for commercial use and **have been implemented or launched within Aug 2024 – July 2025**

AWARD CATEGORIES - SECURITY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best Perimeter Security Solution	Recognizes outstanding products that are specifically designed to secure and monitor the boundaries of critical infrastructure, facilities, or restricted areas. This award honors solutions that provide robust and reliable perimeter protection, ensuring the integrity and security of vital assets.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 words • **Video Submission Mandatory** • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	The entry must feature innovative use of technology that improves perimeter security. Innovations should offer significant improvements over traditional perimeter security solutions in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, or cost. The products should **have been implemented or launched within Aug 2024 – July 2025**
Best Cybersecurity Solution of the Year	Celebrates pioneering products or services that excel in protecting digital systems, networks, and data from cyber threats. This award is dedicated to recognizing solutions that provide comprehensive and robust cybersecurity defenses, ensuring enhanced safety for users and organizations		The eligible entries must be cybersecurity products or technologies such as software solutions, hardware devices, or integrated systems designed to address specific cybersecurity challenges. entry must showcase significant technological innovation or advancement in the cybersecurity field. Entry representing startups will gain more points for innovation. The product/ solution should have **been implemented or launched within Aug 2024 – July 2025**

AWARD CATEGORIES - SECURITY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best Security Project of the Year – Middle East & Africa	Recognizes exceptional security projects implemented in the Middle East and Africa region, showcasing innovative and effective security measures that enhance safety, protect assets, and mitigate risks.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 words • **Video Submission Mandatory** • The project submitted must be a completed project • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary	The project must be located within Middle East & Africa. **The project should have been completed or reached a significant operational milestone prior to the submission deadline.** The projects should set new standards in effectiveness, innovation, and efficiency in addressing security challenges. The project should have been implemented or launched within Aug 2024 – July 2025. If an OEM is submitting an entry, they need to give credit to the end user.

AWARD CATEGORIES - INDUSTRY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Best HSE Team	Celebrates the exceptional teamwork, dedication, and expertise of a HSE team that consistently demonstrates outstanding performance in protecting people, property and the environment.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission is mandatory • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary The team demonstrating exceptional accomplishments are encouraged to apply. Along with your application, please be sure to submit support for your submission in the form of media coverage, awards or recognitions, client or team testimonials, etc.	Only submissions accepted will be that as a team. **No individual contribution will be considered. All team members must be employed by the same company. Any HSE team that highlights the initiatives undertaken internally or at a client's that has enhanced the HSE standards.** Practitioners only – end users
Best Security Team	Recognizes the exemplary collaborative efforts, professionalism, and expertise of a security team that consistently ensures the safety, protection, and smooth operation of the assigned premises or assets		Only submissions accepted will be that as a team. No individual contribution will be considered. All team members must be employed by the same company. Any security team that can detail specific innovations or improvements in their security practices and its measurable impact. Practitioners only – end users

AWARD CATEGORIES - INDUSTRY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Women Trailblazers in Security/ Fire Safety/ HSE	Celebrates the remarkable achievements, leadership, and contributions of women in the fields of security, fire safety and HSE	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission is optional • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary • Self-nominations are not permitted for Individual award categories; Messe Frankfurt Middle East/Intersec reserves the right to reject such entries The individual demonstrating exceptional accomplishments are encouraged to apply. Along with your application, please be sure to submit support for your submission in the form of media coverage, awards or recognitions, client or team testimonials, etc.	Women who have played pivotal roles in shaping, advancing, and innovating within fire safety, security and HSE industries, highlighting their influence and dedication

AWARD CATEGORIES - INDUSTRY

Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Rising Star Award for Emirati Talent	Recognizes and celebrates the exceptional accomplishments, leadership, and contributions of young Emirati individuals who have made a significant impact in this chosen field	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission is Optional • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary • Self-nominations are not permitted for Individual award categories; Messe Frankfurt Middle East/Intersec reserves the right to reject such entries	Young Emirati Nationals within the field fire, safety and security must have demonstrated notable achievements
CISO of the Year- MEA	Recognizes the outstanding achievements and leadership of a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) who has demonstrated exceptional skill in managing cybersecurity within MEA region	The individual demonstrating exceptional accomplishments are encouraged to apply. Along with your application, please be sure to submit support for your submission in the form of media coverage, awards or recognitions, client or team testimonials, etc.	Nominees must currently hold the position of **Chief Information Security Officer role within their organization and should be based in the MEA region**

AWARD CATEGORIES - INDUSTRY

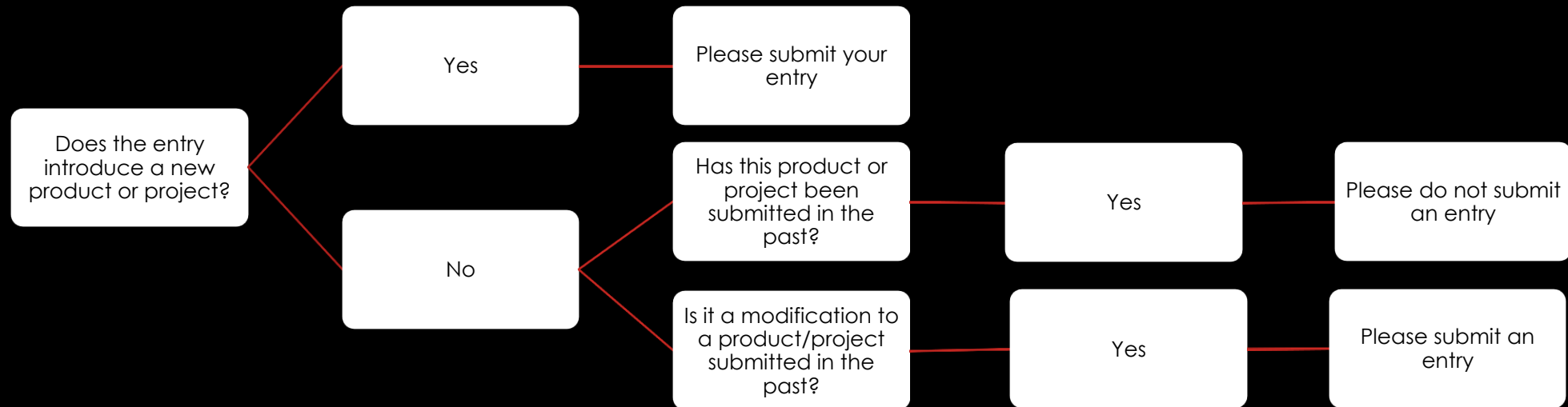| Categories	Purpose	Criteria	Eligibility
Strategy in Consultancy in Fire Safety / Security / Cyber Security	This award celebrates consultancies that demonstrate excellence in providing innovative, effective, and comprehensive fire safety, security, risk management solutions to their clients. It aims to highlight firms that not only meet but exceed industry standards, driving improvements in risk assessment, crisis management, and emergency response planning.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission Mandatory • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary Highlight your company's specific area of expertise and outline a significant project undertaken between Aug 2024 – July 2025	The consultancies eligible for this award must specialize in fire safety or security services, or a combination of both. **The consultancy should have a proven track record of assisting clients in significantly improving their fire safety, risk management or security measures.**
Industry Leader of the Year	Recognizes an individual's exceptional and sustained contribution to the fields of security, safety, or fire protection. The award recognizes visionary leadership, dedication and highlighting a legacy that has significantly influenced industry standards, practices over the course of a career.	• Answers should be in bullet points only • Word limit – 150 to 200 characters • Video Submission is Optional • Please provide support for your submission in the form of media coverage, client testimonials, marketing materials, and anything else you feel is necessary • Self-nominations are not permitted for Individual award categories; Messe Frankfurt Middle East/Intersec reserves the right to reject such entries	**Open to senior professionals with a minimum of 20 years' experience in the security, safety, or fire protection industry**. Nominees must have a distinguished career demonstrating consistent excellence, measurable impact, and lasting influence. Nominations should ideally be made by industry peers, associations, or recognized organizations.

JUDGING PANEL

The Intersec Awards judging panel features senior industry professionals with extensive knowledge and expertise and have been appointed to carefully evaluate each entry within the Fire & Safety/ Security/ Industry categories.

Prior to judging, panel members must disclose any affiliations or conflicts of interest related to competing entries. Judges with declared affiliations will abstain from scoring entries in the respective category, ensuring a fair and unbiased evaluation process.
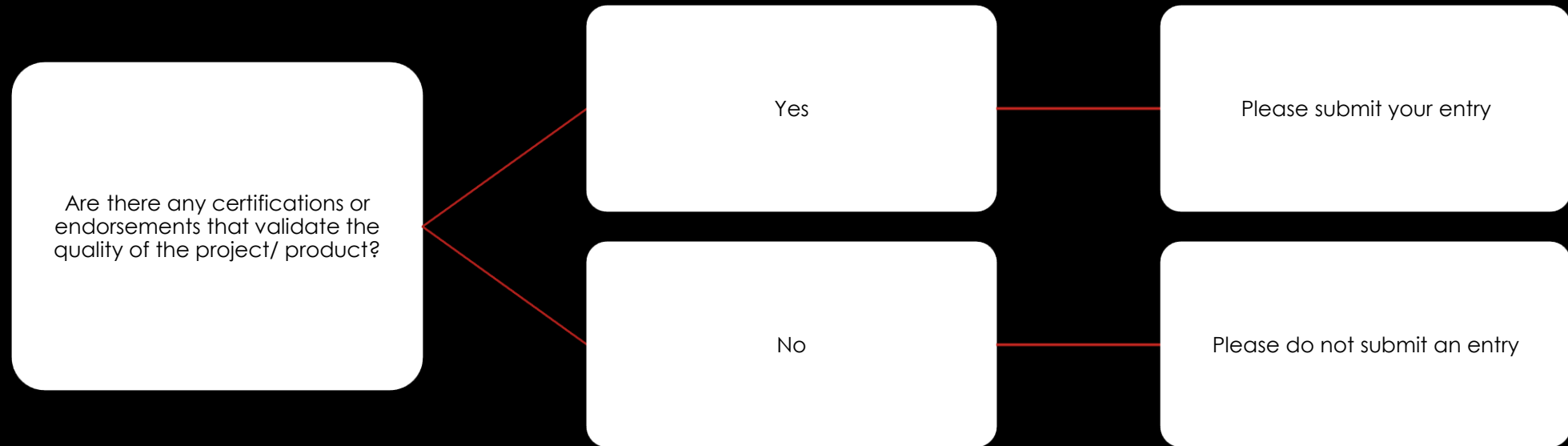
JUDGING CRITERIA

Innovation and Creativity

JUDGING CRITERIA

Adherence to Industry Standards

Are there any certifications or endorsements that validate the quality of the project/ product?

Yes — Please submit your entry

No — Please do not submit an entry

JUDGING PROCESS

A team of 2-3 judges will work together as a pair to lead evaluations for two categories and will have the opportunity to review the entries in those specific categories

The top-scoring entries from each category advance to Round 2 via the online voting process

VIDEO GUIDELINES

- Maximum length – 5 to 6 minutes long
- Keep it concise, share insights into why your product/ project stands out
- Apart from product showcases, videos could/should also be interviews, spoken third party testimonials, 'Behind the scenes' or 'day in the life' footage, event footage from speaking at conferences or accepting awards, etc. especially in the Industry categories.
- Accepted format – MP4, MOV, AVI
- Recommended resolution - 1920x1080 (Full HD) or higher
- Ensure good lighting
- All videos must be in English. Ensure clear audio narration
- Content Structure reference – Introduction, highlight the product/ project/ team's achievement, challenges addressed, USPs etc..
- Use real footage of product/ project wherever possible
- Avoid promotional, sales or marketing heavy language

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Companies can submit entries in multiple categories, please select all the award categories that you wish to nominate in one go for an easier nomination process.

- Nominating the same product across categories is not allowed– Refer to the product groups, and submit your entry in the most relevant application.

- All the products/ projects/ solutions should have been implemented or launched within August 2024 – July 2025

- All nominations must be submitted online.

- All completed nominations must be in English and received by 15 September 2025 to be considered for judges' evaluation.

- Nominations must be clearly written and remain within the submission guidelines

- Messe Frankfurt Middle East / Intersec shall have the right to verify the information provided in each submission, if required

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Messe Frankfurt Middle East / Intersec and the judges reserve the right to alter the categories or re-allocate entries between categories, as they see fit.

- In addition, if no entry is received in any category, or if the Judging Panel considers that no entry provides sufficient evidence of outstanding performance, no award will be given in that category.

- Nominations will be accepted in good faith and, notwithstanding any attempts to verify claims made in nominations, will be treated as true and accurate.

- Submission of entries indicates acceptance of the conditions of entry. In the event of any disputes or issues the decision made by the judges shall be deemed final. The organizers will not be obliged to justify their decisions or enter into any correspondence.

- All nominations and supporting information submitted will be treated as confidential and are only available for the Judging Panel whose members are bound by a Confidentiality Agreement.

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