

# EUROPEAN INVENTOR AWARD 2016

ENTRY FORM

SUBMISSION

DEADLINE:

14 OCTOBER 2015



## FAQs

### 1. Conditions for proposing an inventor or entering yourself

#### 1.1 What kind of inventions will be considered?

Inventors proposed for the European Inventor Award must have been granted at least one valid European patent for the invention.

#### 1.2 What are the requirements for inventors?

Any inventor of any nationality who has at least one valid European patent can be nominated. Inventors with a European nationality are eligible for the Industry, Research, SMEs and Lifetime Achievement categories, even if they are currently living outside Europe. Other nationals can only be nominated for the Non-European Countries category.

#### 1.3 What if more than one inventor worked on an invention?

You can nominate a team of inventors. Several teams have won the award in the past.

#### 1.4 Why might an inventor be excluded?

An inventor may NOT be entered for the competition if:

- the patent has not yet been granted by the EPO
- the relevant patent is subject to pending opposition or appeal proceedings
- the relevant patent is within a nine-month notice of opposition period
- the patent has been revoked
- the patent has lapsed or expired in all EPO member states
- they have already been finalists or winners in previous European Inventor Award competitions (please see the list of past finalists and winners on the EPO website).

#### 1.5 What are the five award categories?

The European Inventor Award is presented in five categories:

- **Industry:** The Industry Award is presented in recognition of inventors of outstanding and commercially successful technologies patented by large European companies. These are companies that have more than 250 employees and an annual turnover of more than EUR 50 million.
- **Research:** This Award honours inventors working at universities or research institutions. Inventions presented in this category will often have led to major technological progress and enhanced the reputation of the inventor's institution.
- **SMEs:** This Award is presented to the people behind inventions at small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). SMEs are companies that had fewer than 250 employees and an annual turnover of less than EUR 50 million when the patent was granted. Ideally, the invention will have been a commercial success and helped the SME to expand its business.
- **Non-European Countries:** This category is open to all inventors who are not European nationals, regardless of the size or turnover of the company applying their patented invention. However, the invention or related products must be available and enjoy considerable commercial success in Europe.
- **Lifetime Achievement:** This category honours the long-term contribution of an individual European inventor whose dedication and tireless efforts – and patented landmark inventions – have had a major impact on his/her field of technology and society at large.

#### 1.6 Are any areas of technology excluded?

No, all technologies for which a European patent can be granted will be considered.

### 2. Formal criteria for proposing an inventor or entering yourself

#### 2.1 What documents do I have to submit?

Complete the mandatory part of the entry form, and as much of the optional parts as you are able. Inventors nominating themselves must also submit their current CV and contact details.

#### 2.2 What languages can I use on the form?

English, French or German

#### 2.3 How do I submit the entry?

You can submit your entry in three ways:

- by filling in the entry form online
- by e-mail with a scan of the completed entry form to:  
european-inventor@epo.org
- by post in an envelope addressed to:  
European Inventor Award  
c/o European Patent Office  
80298 Munich, Germany

#### 2.4 What is the final deadline for entries?

Entries for the European Inventor Award 2016 must be submitted by 14 October 2015. The finalists will be announced in April 2016. The winners will be announced at the Award ceremony in June 2016 in Lisbon.

Please visit [www.epo.org/european-inventor](http://www.epo.org/european-inventor) for updates.

# NOMINATE AN INVENTOR

**Deadline: 14 October 2015**

Please fill in this form to the best of your knowledge and submit your completed documents by e-mail to:

**europaean-inventor@epo.org**

or by post to the following address:

European Inventor Award

c/o European Patent Office

80298 Munich, Germany

Download this form at [www.epo.org/european-inventor](http://www.epo.org/european-inventor)

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE INVENTOR AND THE INVENTION

Name of the inventor
Name of the invention
Brief description of the invention (1-2 sentences)
Area of technology (e.g. medical technology, telecommunications, automotive, green technology etc.)
Category proposed (for detailed description of the categories, please check the FAQ section) <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> SMEs <input type="checkbox"/> Non-European Countries <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Achievement
Inventor's nationality
Inventor's contact details
Publication number of the relevant European patents (EP B1 numbers only, for example "EP 0 925 570 B1", maximum three patents; national patents or PCT application numbers will not be considered)
<small>Note: If the proposer does not identify a European patent in relation to the proposed inventor, and none is later identified by the EPO, the proposal will be excluded from further consideration.</small>
Patent applicant

## INFORMATION ABOUT YOU

Most of this section is optional – you are free to submit your proposal anonymously.

However, you might like us to let you know if your entry is selected for consideration by the jury. Equally, if we need additional information about your entry, it would be good to be able to contact you. That is why we do require you to enter an e-mail address.

Your personal details will not be communicated to third parties or used by the EPO for purposes other than the European Inventor Award.

Title and surname	
First name (s)	
Company or organisation (or enter "Private individual")	
Position (or enter "Private individual")	
Address (street, city, postcode, country)	
Telephone	Fax
E-mail address	

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

If you have entered yourself for this competition, kindly also submit your current CV with your contact details.

**To further enhance your application, please also feel free to submit the following additional documents:**

- media coverage documents about the invention and/or inventor(s)
- written statement explaining the invention clearly and concisely in terms understandable to non-experts, why the proposed invention is innovative and deserves the Award, what impact it has had on the economy and/or society, and how it has improved quality of the life and/or benefits the environment (max. 400 words)
- any other supporting material about the invention and/or inventor(s) describing the invention, its practical applications and impact.

### Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information given in the entry form and attachments is true and complete.

### Additional declaration for self-nominees:

If I am selected as a finalist and nominated for an EIA, I consent to my name and, where appropriate, the name of my company/employer, and photographs and video/audio recordings of me, being used for the purposes of the selection procedure and presentations of the awards. I confirm that I will not seek any financial compensation whatsoever for this use and acknowledge that there is no right of recourse.

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Date

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Place

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Signature