

2026 INAVATION AWARDS

POWERED BY INAVATE AND ISE

Judging Criteria / Entry Guidelines

Eligible projects must have been completed between October 1, 2024 and October 1, 2025

An international panel of judges has been chosen to ensure scores are delivered from the viewpoints of a number of disciplines representative of the complete business cycle of any new build or AV technology upgrade.

Tip: Give your project an even greater chance of being recognised by supplying an informative and well-presented case study style document that demonstrates an attempt to satisfy all aspects of the required judging criteria.

To offer event organisers the optimum chance to show your project in the best light please provide professionally shot, high resolution images. Even better - please also provide a link to a video showcasing the project that - should organisers request it - can be provided as a high resolution MP4 file.

IN YOUR ENTRY DOCUMENT PLEASE WHERE POSSIBLE CLEARLY OUTLINE:

1. Category you are entering (see second and third pages for full list of categories).
2. Overall Summary - summarise the complete entry.
3. Name of Project - start date, completion date, approximate value, integrator, consultant/ project manager or other companies specifically involved.
4. Client brief & requirements.
5. Description of areas/systems (where applicable e.g. main boardroom, meeting room 1, 2 & 3, reception area etc).
6. Technology specification for system(s) installed in as much detail as possible - equipment manufacturers must be listed.
7. Entry statement and objectives- key elements, challenges, trouble shooting. Include any bespoke programming or customisation of product.
8. Include a section that outlines how the installation contributes to the ESG goals of the client.
9. Description of any service and ongoing support packages provided after the installation.
10. Client testimonial.

Smart Buildings Award

In addition to the vertical market category you enter, you can also be considered for the Smart Buildings Award. To be eligible you must answer some additional questions on the entry form and as part of your entry include a clearly headed area to outline why the project is a worthy winner. Judges will be looking for how AV systems installed integrate with wider building systems, as well as evidence of the nominated party taking on wider roles than AV installation to deliver advanced, automated and intelligent building technology systems.

The small print

All entries must be submitted online. The judges will be looking for a good story, well told, and backed up with solid metrics where applicable. You may enter as many categories as you wish, but you must complete a separate submission for each one.

If you are unsure which category to choose, please contact inavationawards@imlgroup.co.uk

Manufacturers can't win project awards with the exception of the Applied Technology category. Manufacturers wishing to enter any of the vertical market categories should work with a consultant or integration partner to submit an entry that offers an holistic view of the entire project. If you wish to be judged on the role of technology from a single manufacturer then please see details for the Applied Technology Award on the third page of this document.

The winners will be announced at a gala ceremony in Barcelona on the first evening of ISE - February 3, 2026

Documents should be in PDF or Word doc format. PowerPoint files will not be accepted. We encourage video however please provide a link to video hosted elsewhere rather than a video file. Any information submitted outside these guidelines will not be considered.

When you have completed your entry please fill in the required fields on the Inavation Awards project entry page and upload as a single PDF or Word document.

www.inavationawards.com

Entry Window: September 1, 2025 - November 1, 2025

Project Awards

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2026 Project Categories

Eligibility: Only open to integrators, consultants & end users. If you are a manufacturer please see Applied Technology Award on the third page.

These categories are free to enter.

Arts & Experience

Entries will show application of AV to deliver immersive, engaging or interactive experiences within visitor attraction, leisure and retail spaces. Eligible projects include projection mapping spectacles, immersive art galleries, interactive retail spaces, rides, and 4/5D theatres.

Connected Meeting Space

Entries will show set ups that facilitate local and remote participant collaboration in single spaces such as boardrooms or meeting rooms. It emphasises integrated videoconferencing and collaboration platforms and distinguishes itself from the corporate award, which covers entire office floors or buildings with multiple meeting, presentation and work spaces.

Corporate

Entries will detail a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within a business environment such as a corporate campus, an office building or floor, or shared workspace.

Education

Entries will detail a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within an educational facility, such as a school, higher education establishment or training centre.

Government or Public Sector

Entries will detail a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within a publicly owned site such as a library, local government facility or courtroom.

Note: Installations in public healthcare facilities should be entered into the healthcare category.

Healthcare

Entries will detail a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within a privately or publicly managed healthcare site such as a doctors' surgery, hospital or elderly care facility. Details of wider telemedicine deployments will also be considered legitimate entries.

Hospitality

Entries will show a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within a facility that entertains and accommodates guests such as a cruise ship, hotel, nightclub or restaurant. Details of temporary installations will also be considered.

House of Worship

Entries will show a fully integrated AV system successfully implemented within a place of worship such as mosque, church, synagogue or temple. Systems to capture and broadcast services and events to other places of worship, congregation members at home or saved as a resource for worshippers will also be considered.

Live Event

Entries will detail the use of AV technologies deployed in an event such as a shareholder or company meeting, product launch event or exhibition booth.

Museums & Heritage

Entries will showcase projects that show innovative application of technology in preserving, showcasing and providing education on cultural and historical assets. Eligible projects include museums and historical sites.

Venues & Events Spaces

Entries will showcase the application of technology within new venues or upgrades to parts of the whole of existing venues. This award encompasses convention centres, theatres, stadiums, and other events, conferencing and multipurpose venues.

Smart Building Award

Any entrant into any of the vertical market categories listed on this page can also put themselves forward for the Smart Building Award. More details on what is expected from entrants in to this award can be found on the first page of this document.

If you would only like to enter the Smart Building Award category, please contact inavationawards@imlgroup.co.uk

Enter Online at InavationAwards.com

Entry window: September 1, 2025 - November 1, 2025

Entry is free with the exception of the Applied Technology category for which a £350 entry fee applies.

Project Awards

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Applied Technology Category

Fee: There is a £350 entry fee for this category.

This category acknowledges projects that are dominated by technology from a single manufacturer.

Judges will be looking to see that the technology the entry is focused on formed a major or outstanding portion of the project and that the manufacturer offered support, guidance or hands on installation expertise in bringing the project to life.

If manufacturers don't feel they meet those criteria, as usual, we'd encourage them to support the integration partner or consultant on the project with an entry into any of the vertical market categories. This needs to provide a more holistic view of the project from project win, design, system integration of a range of technologies and end-client service and support.

We also welcome multiple entries where the consultant and/or integrator's work is entered into one of the vertical market categories, while the technology and effort of a single manufacturer is highlighted in the Applied Technology category.

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Project Awards