THE ADHESIVE AND SEALANT COUNCIL, INC.

SECURING THE FUTURE®

2027 ASC INNOVATION AWARDS

Innovation Awards Program

This document is the nomination package explaining the award, its venue, rules and process.

2027 Innovation Award Sponsored by:

BOSTIK

ASC INNOVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

2027 Submission Guidelines

Celebrating Innovation in Adhesive & Sealant Technology

The ASC Innovation Awards Program recognizes innovative adhesive and sealant product developments that address unmet needs, advance technology, and create meaningful value for downstream industries.

The program is designed to foster and encourage innovation across the adhesive and sealant industry and academia by recognizing technologies that demonstrate **scientific merit, market impact, and the potential to scale.**

There is no entry fee.

2027 AWARD TIMELINE

MILESTONE	DATE
Call for Entries Opens	October 2026
Submission Deadline	January 31, 2027
Judging Completed	February 28, 2027
Winners Notified	March 12, 2027
Awards Ceremony	April 19–21, 2027

The 2027 ASC Innovation Award will be presented at the **ASC Annual Convention & Expo** in Tampa, Florida April 19-21, 2027.

WHO CAN SUBMIT?

Eligible entrants include:

- Adhesive and sealant manufacturers
- Raw material suppliers
- Academic institutions/researchers
- Joint teams consisting of:
  - Manufacturer + Raw Material Supplier
  - Manufacturer + Academia
  - Raw Material Supplier + Academia

Joint Submissions

For a joint submission, **one combined entry** should be submitted for the technology.

All parties should authorize the sharing of information included in the nomination. If authorization to share innovation information in the public domain has not been obtained, the submission may not be eligible for recognition until authorization is received.

WHAT QUALIFIES?

To be eligible, the submission will meet **requirements** in the following three areas:

1. **Technology**
   The submission shows clear differentiation from the State of the Art

2. **Market**
   The technology addresses a documented environmental or industry unmet need.

3. **Scaling**
   The technology demonstrates significant potential for scale and impact.

AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations meeting the scope of the program will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel of judges and will be scored using the following weighted criteria:

A. TECHNOLOGY — 45%

Judges will evaluate the innovation's technical and scientific merit, including:

- How innovative is the chemistry or technical approach?
- Does the submission clearly differentiate the technology from the current state of the art?
- Does it represent a new class of chemistry or technical approach, or a significant improvement to an existing solution?
- Is sufficient information provided to demonstrate performance?
- Does the technology demonstrate scientific merit?
- Has a patent application been submitted or issued, where applicable?

Tip: Explain the chemistry behind the innovation and what makes it technically different.

B. MARKET — 35%

Judges will evaluate the technology's market relevance and potential impact, including:

- Does the innovation address a real environmental or industry unmet need?
- Does the submission demonstrate an understanding of the relevant market?
- How does the technology compare with existing, competing, or emerging solutions?
- What makes the technology different from direct and indirect competitive solutions?
- Is there evidence of market interest, adoption, or potential?
- Does the submission demonstrate how the innovation is advancing in the marketplace?

Tip: Quantify benefits whenever possible and clearly demonstrate why the market needs this innovation.

C. SCALING — 20%

Judges will evaluate the technology's ability to move beyond development and achieve meaningful market impact, including:

- Does the submission demonstrate the potential impact of scaling the technology?
- Are appropriate systems, resources, or capabilities in place to support commercialization?
- Can the technology be produced or implemented at the scale required by the target market?
- Is there a realistic path and timeframe for realizing market potential?

Tip: Explain how technology can be successfully brought to market and scaled.

HOW TO SUBMIT

There is **no standard entry form**. However, all nominations must be submitted through the ASC online submission form and must include the required supporting documentation.

Each submission must include:

1. Completed Online Submission Form

The form will request:

- Primary contact information
- Entry title
- 300-word abstract
- Primary sponsor(s)
- Supporting documentation

2. Supporting Documentation

- Maximum of **8 pages, including the cover page**
- Accepted formats include PDF, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel
- The documentation should provide evidence supporting the 300-word abstract and demonstrate how the innovation meets the program scope and judging criteria.

Multiple Entries

Organizations may nominate more than one technology. Each technology must have its own **stand-alone submission**.

If multiple applications are based on the same underlying technology, consider combining them into a single nomination when doing so provides a stronger and more comprehensive representation of the innovation.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR SUBMISSION

Cover Page

Include:

- Technology/innovation title
- Primary sponsor(s)
- Significant development milestone
- Year of milestone

Only **one significant milestone and year** are required, and the milestone must fall **within the past five years**.

300-WORD ABSTRACT

The abstract should provide a concise overview of the innovation.

Include:

- Technology Title
- The problem or unmet need it addresses
- What makes the chemistry or technology innovative, unique or significant
- Key benefits and value to end users
- Degree of implementation or commercialization
- Quantitative benefits, where available
- Significant obstacles overcome

The abstract should give judges a clear understanding of why the technology deserves recognition.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The remaining pages should provide evidence demonstrating how the innovation meets the **program requirements and judging criteria**.

Supporting documentation may include:

- Chemical structures and reaction pathways
- Technical data
- Performance results
- Tables; Graphs; Charts
- Photographs or Diagrams
- Application examples
- Comparative data
- Market information
- Environmental benefits
- Patent information
- Published research
- Commercialization or implementation information

Technical Detail

Provide as much **non-proprietary technical information** as possible.
Explain:

- The chemistry behind the innovation
- What is novel about the chemistry
- How the technology differs from existing solutions
- Key technical challenges and how they were overcome
- Performance characteristics
- Validation results

Chemical structure diagrams and reaction pathways can be particularly helpful in communicating technical innovation.

Competitive Comparison

Where appropriate, compare innovation with other technologies that address the same problem. Consider providing relative comparisons of:

- Cost
- Performance
- Environmental profile
- Durability
- Efficiency
- Other relevant end-user benefits

Quantitative or relative data can help demonstrate the technology's broader applicability and impact.

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

You may include links or references to:

- Patents
- Patent applications
- Published articles
- Peer-reviewed research
- Other relevant publications

However, **do not rely on information contained only in external links.**

Judges may not follow external links, so all critical information supporting the nomination should be included within the eight-page submission.

FORMATTING GUIDELINES

- Maximum of **8 pages**, including the cover page
- Color may be used; however, judges may review printed copies in black and white.
- Graphics, charts, tables, and illustrations are encouraged when they strengthen the submission.
- Keep the submission concise and focused.
- Use clear headings and organize information around the judging criteria.
- PDF is recommended to minimize formatting or compatibility issues.

PRIMARY SPONSOR(S)

The primary sponsor is the individual or organization that owns or is responsible for the technology.

For academic submissions, this will typically be the principal investigator.

For industry submissions, the contact should generally be a project manager, technical representative, or other individual who can address technical questions regarding the innovation.

For joint submissions, each co-sponsor should have played a significant role in the research, development, or implementation of the technology.

CONFIDENTIALITY

ASC will treat nomination materials as confidential and will not share complete submission packages outside of ASC staff and the designated judges.

Please note:

- ASC will not return submitted materials.
- ASC is not responsible for lost or damaged entries.
- ASC will acknowledge receipt of the nomination by email to the designated contact. If encountering problems submitting your nomination electronically, email Myranda.Nickoloff@ascouncil.org

Publicity

Titles and summaries of nominated technologies may be used in ASC preliminary and on-site programs and other materials promoting the event.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Submitters must notify ASC of any actual or potential conflict of interest involving:

- A judge
- The award process
- Business relationships between participating organizations
- Disclosure or authorization concerns involving joint submissions

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JUDGING & SELECTION

ASC staff will review submissions for completeness and eligibility before forwarding qualifying nominations to the judging panel.

A judging panel of **three technical experts** will evaluate qualifying submissions. Judges may include members of the scientific, industrial, educational, or environmental communities.

The judges will score each entry using weighted selection criteria to determine the technology which best meets the program requirements.

WINNER RECOGNITION

ASC will notify winners prior to the official public announcement. The winner and runners-up must be present at the ASC Annual Convention & Expo to receive recognition.

Depending on the program schedule, recipients may also be invited to present their innovations during a dedicated session featuring the three recognized technologies.

- **Winner — 2027 ASC Innovation Award: Voted Best Innovation**
  The submission receiving the highest overall score will receive the **2027 ASC Innovation Award.**

- **First & Second Runners-Up**
  The first- and second-place runners-up will also be recognized and presented with commemorative plaques.

- **Innovation Video**
  Winners will have the opportunity to provide ASC with a brief (**1–2 minute) video** highlighting:

  - The innovation
  - The problem it solves
  - Its key benefits
  - Its value to the end-user community

  The video may be shown during the awards ceremony to convention attendees.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

All nominations must be received by January 31, 2027.
Late submissions may not be considered.

Submit your nomination through the ASC online submission form. For questions or assistance with the submission process, contact:

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Myranda Nickoloff	Myranda.Nickoloff@ascouncil.org	301-986-9767
