



Australian Business Events Awards

Impact and Excellence

2026

Entry Kit

abea.org.au

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About the Awards

The Australian Business Events Awards honour outstanding achievement across Australia's business events industry. They recognise the exceptional work of members and highlight the events, products, services, initiatives and people that set the benchmark for the sector.

ABEA's awards program celebrates the breadth and depth of our industry — from the organisers and venues that bring events to life to the suppliers, destinations and individuals who drive the sector forward. Winning an ABEA Award is recognition by your peers and a marker of genuine industry excellence.

We invite you to participate in the 2026 Australian Business Events Awards. This is an important opportunity to be recognised, to share your achievements, and to benchmark your work against the best in the country.

The awards will be celebrated on 2 December 2026 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Further information is available at abea.org.au.

Purpose of the Awards

- Recognise excellence in the organisation, planning and delivery of business events across the full breadth of the industry.
- Reward individuals who excel in event delivery, operations, sales, marketing, leadership and innovation.
- Identify excellence in venues, destinations and suppliers that demonstrate leadership and deliver exceptional client and delegate experiences.
- Reinforce the value of the business events industry and promote greater recognition for the sector within the wider business community.

Thank you to our partners



Who Can Enter

The Australian Business Events Awards are open to current financial members of the Australian Business Events Association (ABEA) working across every part of the industry, including:

- event organisers, producers and professional conference organisers (PCOs)
- in-house event teams within associations, corporates and government
- convention and exhibition centres, hotels, unique venues and function spaces
- destination marketing bureaux and organisations
- audiovisual, staging, production, exhibition services and build companies
- hire companies and equipment suppliers
- event technology platforms, software and registration providers
- caterers, theming, styling and entertainment suppliers
- speakers, facilitators, freelance event professionals and consultants, other agencies
- emerging leaders, event managers, operations specialists and sales, marketing or business development professionals

Entrants may submit entries into multiple award categories, provided each entry meets the eligibility requirements of the relevant category.

Important Dates

1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026	Eligibility period — events, activities, products, services and initiatives must have occurred within this window.
Now	Entries open.
5:00 pm AEST, Monday 20 October 2026	Entries close.
21 October 2026	Judging commences.
8 November 2026	Judging concludes.
2 December 2026	Awards ceremony and winners announced, Adelaide Convention Centre.

Award Categories

The 2026 program comprises 24 awards across six groups. Click any award title below to jump to its detailed criteria.

Best Business Event

- [Award 1: Best Consumer Show](#)
- [Award 2: Best Trade Show](#)
- [Award 3: Best Conference](#)
- [Award 4: Best Corporate Event](#)
- [Award 5: Best Incentive Event](#)

Best Product or Initiative

- [Award 6: Best Stand or Show Feature](#)
- [Award 7: Best Show or Event Build](#)
- [Award 8: Best New Product or Service](#)
- [Award 9: Best Technology Innovation](#)
- [Award 10: Sustainability Initiative Award – Climate & Environment](#)
- [Award 11: Sustainability Initiative Award – Social & Cultural](#)
- [Award 12: Most Outstanding Marketing Campaign](#)

Best Team of the Year

- [Award 13: Organiser / PCO Team of the Year](#)
- [Award 14: Venue Team of the Year](#)
- [Award 15: Non-Hire Service / Supplier Team of the Year](#)
- [Award 16: Hire Company Team of the Year](#)
- [Award 17: Bureau Destination Marketing Team of the Year](#)

Individual Awards

- [Award 18: Future Leaders Award](#)
- [Award 19: Event Manager of the Year](#)
- [Award 20: Operations Person of the Year](#)
- [Award 21: Sales, Marketing or Business Development Person of the Year](#)

Venue Awards

- [Award 22: Convention / Exhibition Centre of the Year](#)
- [Award 23: Business Event Venue \(Non-Convention Centre\) of the Year](#)

Industry Recognition

- [Award 24: Contribution to Industry Award](#)

How Scoring Works

Each entry is scored out of a total of 100 points against the published criteria for the relevant category.

- Every submission is independently scored by a panel of judges drawn from the broader business events community.
- Judges declare any conflict of interest in advance of, or as it arises during, the judging process.
- An independent third-party scrutineer oversees the judging process and ratifies final scores.
- The entry with the highest total score in each category is deemed the winner.
- Entries are judged on the evidence presented. Substantiated claims should be supported by measurable outcomes where available, together with testimonials, data or other third-party evidence.
- All decisions are final.

What Judges Look For

Across all categories, judges look for evidence that:

- the entry directly addresses the published criteria
- claims are substantiated with measurable outcomes, data, testimonials or third-party evidence
- the work is well planned, well managed and delivered to a high standard
- innovation, creativity and continuous improvement are demonstrated
- environmentally and socially responsible practices are embedded where relevant
- the entry reflects genuine excellence and contribution to the business events industry.

Entry Requirements

General

- Awards may be entered for events, activities, products, services or initiatives delivered between 1 October 2025 and 30 September 2026.
- Entries are open from now until 5:00 pm AEST, Monday 20 October 2026.
- All entries must be submitted via the official ABEA Awards entry portal.
- A fee of \$450.00 + GST applies to each entry submitted. Except for the Contribution to Industry award which is free to enter.
- Each submission is scored against the published criteria for that category, with a total maximum score of 100 points.
- Word limits for each question are set out in the criteria for each category and must not be exceeded.

Supporting Material

- Supporting material must be directly linked to the relevant criteria questions and is limited to a maximum of 4 x A4 pages.
- Entrants may also include one video link of up to 3 minutes.
- For event, venue and team awards, a client or key supplier testimonial is a mandatory component of the submission, uploaded as a single PDF via the portal.
- For the Contribution to Industry Award, 3–5 supporting letters from individuals or organisations endorsing the nomination are required.

Supporting material may include:

- third-party audits
- research findings
- financial results, which may be presented as percentages where actual figures are confidential
- testimonials
- photographs
- one video link of up to 3 minutes
- graphs, charts and tables
- other relevant illustrative documents.

Eligibility

To be eligible, all entries must:

- relate to an event, activity, product, service or initiative delivered between 1 October 2025 and 30 September 2026
- be submitted by a current financial ABEA member
- be submitted by an organisation based in Australia which holds a valid Australian Business Number (ABN) where applicable
- be submitted by the event owner, organiser, producer, supplier, venue, bureau, individual, or an authorised delivery partner, as relevant to the category
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission.

Nominations

- Self-nominations are permitted across all categories, with the exception of the Contribution to Industry Award.
- The Contribution to Industry Award must be submitted by an employer, peer or authorised nominator; self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years.

Multi-Party Submissions

- Where an entry relates to work delivered by more than one organisation (for example, an event delivered jointly by a PCO, venue and AV supplier), the entrant must hold written permission from each named party to include them in the submission.

Confidentiality

All submissions are treated as commercial-in-confidence. Judges and the independent scrutineer are bound by confidentiality obligations and will not disclose submission content outside the judging process.

How to Submit an Award Entry

1. Create Your Account

- Go to the ABEA Awards submission portal.
- Create a New Account using your email and a password.

2. Set Up Contact Information

- Navigate to Update Contact Information tab.
- Click Create Contact.
- Enter your details as the nominator and submit.

3. Start Your Submission

- Select the Award Submission tab.
- Review this Entry Kit carefully before beginning.

4. Complete the Submission Form

- Nominee Name: enter the full name of the nominee, event, product or team.
- Award Category: select the correct category for your submission.
- Submission Entry: enter the answer for each criteria in the given boxes. If your chosen category only has 4 criteria, leave criteria 5 empty and move forward.
- Supporting Documents: upload up to 4 x A4 pages of supporting evidence and, where relevant, a client or supplier testimonial as a separate PDF. Include one video link of up to 3 minutes if applicable.

5. Review & Submit

- Carefully review all sections of your submission. If there are any outstanding items, the review page will outline the areas still required. If all required sections are completed, you will see a ready to submit in green.
- On the Submit page, agree to the terms and conditions.
- Click Pay and Submit.
- Enter your payment details and click Pay.
- Your entry is submitted. You will receive an email confirmation.

Helpful Tips

- Save as Draft: use the button at the bottom right of the portal to save your progress at any time.
- Edit Later: to revise or complete a saved draft, go to Edit Drafts/Submissions and click the edit button next to your entry.
- If you do not receive a confirmation email after submitting, contact ABEA on 02 9413 9520 or memberservices@abea.org.au immediately.

Acknowledgement and Media Use

To help us recognise and promote your entry, selected submissions may be featured across our social media channels. If your entry is named a National Finalist or Winner, it may also be promoted on our website, through media partners and via public relations activity. Promotional materials are requested at the time of entry and will only be used where permission is granted.

Event Summary for Media Use

Please provide one or two paragraphs about your event written in media-release style if you are happy for your entry to be considered for promotional use. This content may be used to:

- showcase your achievement
- support promotion of your Finalist status
- be used during and after the Awards Ceremony
- be shared with media outlets.

Images or Video for Promotion

To support social media and promotional activity, entrants may submit either a high-resolution image or a short video. These materials will only be used for entries where promotional permission has been granted and may be used across social media, during the Awards Ceremony, after the event, and may be supplied to media outlets.

Please submit one of the following:

Option 1: Image

- One high-resolution photograph.

Option 2: Video

- File format: MP4
- Maximum file size: 5MB
- Accepted dimensions: Square 1080 x 1080px, Horizontal 1080 x 608px, Vertical 1080 x 1350px

Your video may feature a moment from the event, an innovation or product in use, a short piece to camera, your team in action, or another visual that helps tell your story.

Supporting Information

Please also provide:

- **Caption and description:** a caption for the image or video, including the names of any people featured, along with a short description.
- **Team acknowledgements and social handles:** the names of team members you would like acknowledged, along with up to three Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn handles. These may be used when promoting and recognising your entry and may also be shared with media outlets.
- **Opt-out option:** if you do not want your entry featured or promoted on social media, please indicate this here.

Award 1: Best Consumer Show

The Best Consumer Show Award celebrates an outstanding consumer-facing event that brings brands, products or services to life for a public audience. It recognises excellence in audience engagement, commercial performance, event delivery and overall visitor experience.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a consumer show open to the public
- be staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What made your consumer show stand out? Describe the concept, design or delivery elements that made the event unique.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage exhibitors and help them connect effectively with consumers? Provide supporting evidence.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage visitors and deliver a memorable experience? Explain what you wanted visitors to feel, discover or take away, and how you achieved it.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible consumer show? Address design, materials, energy, waste management and legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you meet or exceed your objectives? Provide measurable results including exhibitor outcomes, visitor feedback and commercial performance.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of event purpose, target audience and overall approach.
- Audience engagement and experience - quality of programming, visitor journey, activation and attendee satisfaction.
- Commercial outcomes - results for exhibitors, sponsors, ticket sales and other revenue streams.
- Innovation and creativity - originality of concept, design, marketing or delivery.
- Operational excellence - planning, logistics, stakeholder management and execution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, industry value and overall success.

Award 2: Best Trade Show

The Best Trade Show Award celebrates an outstanding trade-focused event that delivers business value for buyers, sellers, suppliers and industry professionals. It recognises excellence in industry engagement, commercial performance and delegate and exhibitor experience.

Note: where a conference includes an exhibition floor, judges will determine category fit based on the primary purpose, audience and commercial model of the event.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a trade show designed primarily for business, industry or professional audiences
- be staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What made your trade show stand out within its market or sector? Describe what set it apart in concept, format or delivery.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage exhibitors and support strong business outcomes for them? Provide supporting evidence.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage trade visitors, buyers and industry attendees? Explain the experience you created and how you delivered it.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible trade show? Address design, materials, energy, waste management and legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you meet or exceed your objectives? Provide measurable results including exhibitor outcomes, visitor feedback and business generated.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of event purpose, target market and overall approach.
- Industry and exhibitor engagement - quality of exhibitor experience, buyer connections and business opportunities created.
- Visitor experience - programming, networking, education and attendee value.
- Innovation and creativity - originality of concept, format, activation, marketing or delivery.
- Operational excellence - planning, logistics, stakeholder management and execution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, commercial performance, industry value and overall success.

Award 3: Best Conference

The Best Conference Award celebrates an outstanding conference that brings people together to share knowledge, ideas and insights. It recognises excellence in content, delegate engagement, event delivery and overall experience.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a conference designed to inform, connect, educate or inspire delegates
- be staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What made your conference stand out? Describe what was distinctive about the concept, program or delivery.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you develop and deliver a compelling conference program? Explain how the content, speakers and format met the needs of your target audience.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage delegates and deliver a valuable experience? Describe what you wanted them to learn or take away, and how you achieved it.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible conference? Address design, materials, energy, waste management and legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you meet or exceed your objectives? Provide measurable results including delegate feedback and stakeholder outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of event purpose, audience needs and overall approach.
- Program quality and relevance - strength of content, speaker selection and alignment with objectives.
- Delegate engagement and experience - attendee journey, networking, learning and satisfaction.
- Innovation and creativity - originality of concept, format, content design, activation or delivery.
- Operational excellence - planning, logistics, stakeholder management and execution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, stakeholder value and overall success.

Award 4: Best Corporate Event

The Best Corporate Event Award celebrates an outstanding corporate event that successfully communicates a message, strengthens relationships or inspires an audience for a business, brand or organisation. This award is not intended for conferences, incentives, exhibitions or trade shows.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a corporate event created for a business, brand or organisation
- not primarily be a conference, exhibition, trade show or incentive program
- be staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What made your corporate event stand out? Describe what was unique about the concept, design or delivery.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver an event that met the client or organisation's objectives? Explain how format, content and experience aligned with the brief.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you engage attendees and create an impactful experience? Describe what you wanted attendees to feel or take away, and how you achieved it.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible corporate event? Address design, materials, energy, waste management and legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you meet or exceed your objectives? Provide measurable results including attendee feedback and stakeholder outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of event purpose, audience needs and overall approach.
- Audience engagement and experience - quality of the attendee journey and overall satisfaction.
- Creativity and innovation - originality of concept, format, design, activation or delivery.
- Operational excellence - planning, logistics, stakeholder management and execution.
- Environmental and social responsibility - sustainable and responsible event practices.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, stakeholder value and overall success.

Award 5: Best Incentive Event

The Best Incentive Event Award recognises an outstanding incentive event, incentive travel program or reward-based event experience that motivates, rewards and inspires participants.

An incentive program is a performance enhancement tool used to encourage outstanding workplace behaviours against clearly defined goals, as part of an organisation's reward and recognition approach.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be an incentive event, incentive travel program or reward-based experience
- be managed by an Australian-based organisation and delivered globally
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

How did your program meet the brief? Provide an overview of the incentive event, describe the client's objectives, brand identity and intended audience, and explain how the program was designed to achieve the intended outcomes. How was success defined and measured? *[20 points · 300 words]*

What made your incentive event stand out? Describe what was unique about the concept, design or delivery, and explain how your creative approach contributed directly to the program's success. *[20 points · 300 words]*

How did you create a memorable and rewarding experience for participants? Explain what you wanted participants to feel or take away, and how you delivered those moments. *[20 points · 300 words]*

How did you plan, resource and deliver the program? Describe your team, supplier and stakeholder management, any logistical challenges and how you overcame them. Explain how you managed the budget and maximised value within your resources. *[20 points · 300 words]*

How did your program make a positive difference? Address the sustainable and socially responsible measures implemented across design, materials, energy, waste management, local engagement and legacy, and explain how impact was measured. *[20 points · 300 words]*

Entries will be judged on:

- Client alignment and strategy - clarity of objectives, audience fit and measurable outcomes
- Creativity and innovation - originality of concept, destination use, programming or delivery.
- Participant experience - attendee journey, emotional impact and reward value
- Operational excellence - planning, logistics, budget management and execution
- Social impact - sustainability measures, community engagement and legacy.

Award 6: Best Stand or Show Feature

The Best Stand or Show Feature Award celebrates an outstanding stand, activation or show feature that captures attention, enhances the event experience and delivers strong outcomes for exhibitors, sponsors, attendees and the broader industry. This category is primarily for entries judged on attendee engagement, brand presence or the experience created by the feature itself.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a stand, exhibit, activation or show feature delivered within a business event environment
- be presented as part of an event staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, exhibitor, designer, producer or an authorised delivery partner
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the stand or show feature you delivered. Summarise the brief, objectives and what made your approach distinctive.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the stand or show feature engage attendees and enhance the event experience? Provide supporting evidence.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you balance creativity, functionality, budget and execution? Outline any challenges and how you addressed them.

[20 points · 300 words]

What were the innovative elements of the stand or show feature? Explain how they supported the desired outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible outcome, and meet or exceed objectives? Address design, materials, reuse and measurable results.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of purpose, intended audience and overall approach.
- Design and creativity - originality, visual impact, functionality and innovation.
- Audience engagement - how effectively the feature attracted, involved and connected with attendees.
- Brand or event alignment - fit with exhibitor, sponsor or event objectives.
- Operational excellence - planning, build, delivery and on-site execution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, attendee response and overall success.

Award 7: Best Show or Event Build

The Best Show or Event Build Award celebrates an outstanding temporary event environment, structure or built solution that brings an event concept to life and enhances the attendee experience. This category is primarily for entries judged on the built environment, structural execution or technical delivery of the solution.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a temporary show or event build - including custom structures, environments, staging, floorplans, feature areas or infrastructure
- be presented as part of an event staged in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the event owner, organiser, builder, contractor, producer, designer or an authorised delivery partner
- be delivered within the eligibility period (1 October 2025 – 30 September 2026)
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key supplier testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the show or event build you delivered. Summarise the brief, design intent and what made the build distinctive.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the build support the event experience and functional requirements? Explain how design, layout and flow contributed to event success.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you balance creativity, practicality, budget and build complexity? Outline any challenges, technical requirements or constraints and how you addressed them.

[20 points · 300 words]

What innovative elements were incorporated into the build? Explain how they enhanced the client, exhibitor or attendee experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did you deliver a more environmentally and socially responsible build, and meet or exceed objectives? Address materials, waste, reusability, energy, legacy and measurable results.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Objectives and strategy - clarity of brief, purpose and alignment with event requirements.
- Design and functionality - quality of design, usability, attendee flow and integration.
- Innovation and creativity - originality, technical thinking and problem-solving.
- Delivery and execution - construction, installation, logistics and on-site performance.
- Sustainability and responsibility - responsible design, materials and delivery practices.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, stakeholder value and overall success.

Award 8: Best New Product or Service

The Best New Product or Service Award celebrates an outstanding new product, service or solution that responds to an industry need and enhances the delivery or experience of business events. This category is intended for new offerings that are not primarily technology-led.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a product or service that supports, enhances or services the business events industry
- have been launched, introduced or made commercially available within the eligibility period
- be offered in Australia or by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the product owner, service provider, developer, creator or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or customer testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the new product or service. Summarise the need it addresses and what makes it distinctive.

[20 points · 300 words]

What problem does it solve, and for whom? Explain its relevance to the business events industry and the value it delivers to users.

[20 points · 300 words]

What are the innovative elements of the product or service? Explain what is new, different or improved and how this enhances the user experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

How is the product or service designed to be more environmentally and socially responsible?

Address design, materials, delivery, accessibility, community benefit or legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How has the product or service met or exceeded its objectives since launch? Provide measurable evidence including uptake, client feedback and commercial performance.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Market need and relevance - clarity of the problem addressed and value to the industry.
- Innovation and originality - how new, different or improved the offering is.
- User and client value - benefits to customers, clients, attendees or stakeholders.
- Sustainability and responsibility - environmentally and socially responsible design and delivery.
- Commercial and operational viability - readiness, adoption potential and practical application.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, market response and overall success.

Award 9: Best Technology Innovation

The Best Technology Innovation Award celebrates an outstanding technology solution, platform or advancement that improves the planning, delivery, experience or outcomes of business events. This category is intended for technology-led solutions, platforms or digital capabilities.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be a technology innovation that supports, enhances or services the business events industry
- have been launched, introduced, significantly upgraded or implemented within the eligibility period
- be available in Australia or delivered by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the technology owner, developer, provider, creator or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or customer testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the technology innovation. Summarise the challenge or industry need it addresses and what makes the solution distinctive.

[20 points · 300 words]

What problem does the innovation solve, and for whom? Explain its relevance and value to organisers, venues, exhibitors, attendees or other stakeholders.

[20 points · 300 words]

What is new, different or improved about the technology? Explain how it enhances the planning, delivery or experience of business events.

[20 points · 300 words]

How has sustainability, accessibility or inclusion been considered in the design or deployment? Provide supporting evidence.

[20 points · 300 words]

How has the innovation met or exceeded its objectives since launch? Provide measurable evidence including adoption, user feedback and performance.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Market need and relevance - clarity of the problem addressed and value to the industry.
- Innovation and originality - how new, different or improved the technology is.
- User and stakeholder value - benefits to customers, clients, attendees or the broader industry.
- Sustainability, accessibility and responsibility - ethical and inclusive design and deployment.
- Commercial and operational viability - readiness, adoption potential and scalability.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, market response and overall success.

Award 10: Sustainability Initiative Award - Climate & Environment

The Sustainability Initiative Award - Climate & Environment recognises an outstanding initiative, program or project that delivers measurable positive environmental outcomes within the business events industry. This award celebrates leadership in reducing impact, improving efficiency and driving sustainable practice.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- relate to a climate or environmental sustainability initiative connected to the business events industry
- have been implemented, delivered or achieved within the eligibility period
- be undertaken in Australia or by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the organisation, event owner, venue, supplier, organiser or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client, partner or stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the environmental initiative. Summarise the issue, objective and what made the initiative significant.

[20 points · 300 words]

What actions were implemented to reduce environmental impact or improve sustainability?

Detail the steps taken in areas such as emissions, energy, waste, materials, supply chain or circularity.

[20 points · 300 words]

What was innovative or distinctive about the initiative? Explain any new ideas, partnerships or approaches that strengthened the outcome.

[20 points · 300 words]

How was the initiative embedded, adopted or supported within your organisation and stakeholders? Explain how you brought people along and sustained the change.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the initiative meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable environmental outcomes, stakeholder feedback, legacy or industry impact.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Environmental need and relevance - clarity of the issue addressed and importance to the industry.
- Action and implementation - quality, depth and practicality of measures introduced.
- Innovation and leadership - originality of approach and potential to influence industry practice.
- Stakeholder engagement - effectiveness in embedding the initiative.
- Measurable outcomes - evidence of environmental improvement, efficiency gains or reduced impact.
- Legacy and industry impact - longer-term value, scalability and sector-wide contribution.

Award 11: Sustainability Initiative Award - Social & Cultural

The Sustainability Initiative Award - Social & Cultural recognises an outstanding initiative, program or project that delivers positive social or cultural outcomes within the business events industry. This award celebrates actions that support people, strengthen communities, promote inclusion and celebrate culture.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- relate to a social or cultural sustainability initiative connected to the business events industry
- have been implemented, delivered or achieved within the eligibility period
- be undertaken in Australia or by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the organisation, event owner, venue, supplier, organiser or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a community, partner or stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the social or cultural initiative. Summarise the opportunity, challenge or objective it addresses and what made it significant.

[20 points · 300 words]

What actions were implemented to create positive social or cultural outcomes? Detail steps taken in areas such as inclusion, accessibility, wellbeing, community engagement, cultural representation, First Nations engagement or workforce development.

[20 points · 300 words]

What was innovative or distinctive about the initiative? Explain any new ideas, partnerships or approaches that strengthened the outcome.

[20 points · 300 words]

How was the initiative embedded, adopted or supported within your organisation and community? Explain how you engaged staff, suppliers, clients, attendees, communities or partners.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the initiative meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable social or cultural outcomes, stakeholder feedback, legacy or industry impact.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Social and cultural relevance - clarity of the issue addressed and importance to the industry.
- Action and implementation - quality, depth and practicality of measures introduced.
- Innovation and leadership - originality of approach and potential to influence industry practice.
- Stakeholder and community engagement - effectiveness in embedding the initiative.
- Measurable outcomes - evidence of positive impact for people, communities or culture.
- Legacy and industry impact - longer-term value, scalability and sector-wide contribution.

Award 12: Most Outstanding Marketing Campaign

The Most Outstanding Marketing Campaign Award celebrates an exceptional marketing campaign that builds awareness, drives engagement and delivers measurable results for an event, product, service, organisation or destination within the business events industry. Famil programs are eligible for this category.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- relate to a marketing campaign connected to the business events industry
- have been delivered within the eligibility period
- be undertaken in Australia or by an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the campaign owner, agency, organiser, venue, supplier, destination, marketer or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe the marketing campaign. Summarise the brief, objectives, target audience and overall strategy, and explain what made it distinctive.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the campaign engage its target audience? Explain the channels, messaging, creative approach and tactics used.

[20 points · 300 words]

What was innovative or unique about the campaign? Describe the creative ideas, partnerships or delivery methods that helped the campaign stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How was sustainability, accessibility or inclusion considered in the campaign? Address production, channel selection, community benefit or legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did the campaign meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including reach, engagement, conversion, attendance or lead generation.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Strategy and objectives - clarity of purpose, target audience and campaign approach.
- Audience insight and engagement - relevance of messaging and effectiveness in reaching the audience.
- Creativity and innovation - originality of concept, content and execution.
- Delivery and responsibility - quality of implementation and responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, return on investment and overall success.

Award 13: Organiser / PCO Team of the Year

The Organiser / PCO Team of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding organiser or professional conference organiser team that has delivered excellence in events, client service, teamwork and business performance.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered work within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia or form part of an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the team itself, its organisation or an authorised representative
- relate specifically to an organiser or PCO team working within the business events industry
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe your team and the work it delivered during the eligibility period. Summarise structure, role, clients, achievements and what made the team stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team demonstrate excellence in event delivery and client service? Explain how you managed projects, supported clients and delivered successful outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team foster a strong culture and work effectively together? Describe your approach to collaboration, leadership, professional development and continuous improvement.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team deliver more environmentally and socially responsible outcomes? Include initiatives relating to sustainability, inclusion, accessibility, community impact or legacy.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including client feedback, event outcomes, business growth or retention.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Team performance and capability - quality of team structure, expertise and contribution.
- Event delivery and client service - excellence in project delivery, stakeholder management and client outcomes.
- Team culture and collaboration - strength of teamwork, leadership and continuous improvement.
- Responsibility and leadership - environmentally and socially responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and business performance.

Award 14: Venue Team of the Year

The Venue Team of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding venue team that has delivered excellence in event operations, client service, teamwork and venue performance.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered work within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia or form part of an Australian-based venue
- be entered by the team itself, its organisation or an authorised representative
- relate specifically to a venue team working within the business events industry
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe your team and the work it delivered during the eligibility period. Summarise structure, role, events supported and what made the team stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team demonstrate excellence in venue operations, event delivery and client service? Explain how you supported organisers, exhibitors, speakers and delegates.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team foster a strong culture and work effectively together? Describe your approach to collaboration, leadership, professional development and continuous improvement.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team deliver more environmentally and socially responsible outcomes? Include venue operations, event delivery and community impact.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including client feedback, repeat business, operational improvements and event outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Team performance and capability - quality of team structure, expertise and contribution.
- Venue operations and client service - excellence in operational delivery, stakeholder support and event outcomes.
- Team culture and collaboration - strength of teamwork, leadership and continuous improvement.
- Responsibility and leadership - environmentally and socially responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and operational performance.

Award 15: Non-Hire Service / Supplier Team of the Year

The Non-Hire Service / Supplier Team of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding service-based supplier team that provides specialist services supporting the success of business events.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered work within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia or form part of an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the team itself, its organisation or an authorised representative
- relate specifically to a non-hire service or supplier team working within the business events industry
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe your team and the services it delivered during the eligibility period. Summarise structure, role, clients and what made the team stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team demonstrate excellence in service delivery and client support? Explain how you worked with clients and stakeholders to achieve successful event outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team foster a strong culture and work effectively together? Describe your approach to collaboration, leadership, professional development and continuous improvement.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team deliver more environmentally and socially responsible outcomes? Include initiatives across service delivery, supply chain, inclusion or community impact.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including client feedback, retention, innovation or business growth.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Team performance and capability - quality of team structure, expertise and contribution.
- Service delivery and client support - excellence in delivery, responsiveness and stakeholder outcomes.
- Team culture and collaboration - strength of teamwork, leadership and continuous improvement.
- Responsibility and leadership - environmentally and socially responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and business performance.

Award 16: Hire Company Team of the Year

The Hire Company Team of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding hire company team that consistently delivers high-quality hire solutions and supports successful event outcomes.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered work within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia or form part of an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the team itself, its organisation or an authorised representative
- relate specifically to a hire company team working within the business events industry
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe your team and the work it delivered during the eligibility period. Summarise structure, role, clients and what made the team stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team demonstrate excellence in service delivery, logistics and client support?

Explain how you supported organisers, venues and delivery partners.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team foster a strong culture and work effectively together? Describe your approach to collaboration, leadership, professional development and continuous improvement.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team deliver more environmentally and socially responsible outcomes? Include initiatives across equipment lifecycle, logistics, inclusion or community impact.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including client feedback, on-time delivery, innovation or business performance.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Team performance and capability - quality of team structure, expertise and contribution.
- Service delivery and logistics - excellence in hire solutions, reliability and stakeholder outcomes.
- Team culture and collaboration - strength of teamwork, leadership and continuous improvement.
- Responsibility and leadership - environmentally and socially responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and business performance.

Award 17: Bureau Destination Marketing Team of the Year

The Bureau Destination Marketing Team of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding bureau or destination marketing team that has excelled in destination promotion, business development, stakeholder engagement and event attraction. This award is focused on activities relating to the business events sector, not general tourism.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered work within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia or form part of an Australian-based organisation
- be entered by the team itself, its organisation or an authorised representative
- relate specifically to a bureau or destination marketing team working within the business events industry
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Describe your team and the work it delivered during the eligibility period. Summarise structure, role, clients, bids supported and what made the team stand out.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team demonstrate excellence in destination marketing, business development and stakeholder engagement? Explain how you promoted your destination, supported clients and contributed to successful event or bid outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team foster a strong culture and work effectively together? Describe your approach to collaboration, leadership, professional development and continuous improvement.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team deliver more environmentally and socially responsible outcomes? Include initiatives across destination marketing, partnerships and event attraction.

[20 points · 300 words]

How did your team meet or exceed its objectives? Provide measurable results including successful bids, business wins, economic impact and stakeholder feedback.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Team performance and capability - quality of team structure, expertise and contribution.
- Destination marketing and stakeholder engagement - excellence in promotion, partnership development and client support.
- Team culture and collaboration - strength of teamwork, leadership and continuous improvement.
- Responsibility and leadership - environmentally and socially responsible practices.
- Results and impact - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and destination value.

Award 18: Future Leaders Award

The Future Leaders Award celebrates an emerging professional who has demonstrated outstanding potential, strong performance and clear commitment to the future of the business events industry.

Emerging Leaders are 35 years of age or younger or have been in the industry for less than 10 years collectively, and are seen by organisations as future leaders within our industry. Emerging Leaders who already hold Management and Leadership positions within a business are eligible for this program.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be for an individual working within the business events industry in Australia
- relate to achievements demonstrated within the eligibility period
- be submitted by the individual, their employer or an authorised nominator (self-nominations permitted)
- recognise a professional at an early to mid-stage of their career who demonstrates future leadership potential
- include measurable examples and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a written reference from a manager, mentor or client, uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Why is the candidate nominated? Outline their most outstanding qualities, strengths and attributes that mark them as a future leader.

[25 points · 300 words]

What are the candidate's key achievements during the eligibility period? Describe what they accomplished and the impact they had within their role, organisation or the wider industry.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated leadership potential, initiative and professional growth? Provide examples of how they have taken ownership, influenced others or contributed beyond their responsibilities.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated commitment to their employer, their industry and responsible practice? Include contribution, learning, advocacy, industry engagement and any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

[25 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Individual qualities and leadership potential - professionalism, initiative, attitude and future promise.
- Achievement and impact - quality of contribution and measurable results.
- Growth and development - evidence of learning, ambition and progression.
- Commitment to employer, industry and responsible practice - contribution beyond day-to-day responsibilities including any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

Award 19: Event Manager of the Year

The Event Manager of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding event professional who has demonstrated excellence in event delivery, leadership, stakeholder management and industry contribution.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be for an individual working within the business events industry in Australia
- relate to achievements demonstrated within the eligibility period
- be submitted by the individual, their employer or an authorised nominator (self-nominations permitted)
- recognise a professional whose primary role includes the planning, management and delivery of business events
- include measurable examples and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a written reference from a manager, mentor or client, uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Why is the candidate nominated? Outline the qualities and strengths that distinguish them as an exceptional event manager.

[25 points · 300 words]

What are the candidate's key achievements during the eligibility period? Describe the events, projects or outcomes they delivered and the impact on clients, attendees or their organisation.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated excellence in event management practice? Provide examples of leadership, planning, stakeholder management, problem-solving or innovation.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated commitment to their employer, their industry and responsible practice? Include mentorship, collaboration, professional development, advocacy, and any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

[25 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Professional capability and leadership - strength of event management skills, judgement, initiative and professionalism.
- Achievement and impact - quality of delivery and measurable results across events or projects.
- Excellence in practice - ability to manage complexity, stakeholders and execution to a high standard.
- Commitment to employer, industry and responsible practice - contribution beyond day-to-day responsibilities including any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

Award 20: Operations Person of the Year

The Operations Person of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding operations professional who has demonstrated excellence in planning, systems, logistics, problem-solving and organisational support within the business events industry.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be for an individual working within the business events industry in Australia
- relate to achievements demonstrated within the eligibility period
- be submitted by the individual, their employer or an authorised nominator (self-nominations permitted)
- recognise a professional whose primary role includes operations, logistics, administration, systems, process management or event support functions
- include measurable examples and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a written reference from a manager, mentor or client, uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Why is the candidate nominated? Outline the qualities and strengths that distinguish them as an exceptional operations professional.

[25 points · 300 words]

What are the candidate's key achievements during the eligibility period? Describe the operational improvements, systems or event outcomes they contributed to and the impact on their organisation or team.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated excellence in operations practice? Provide examples of planning, logistics, process improvement, problem-solving or delivery under pressure.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated commitment to their employer, their industry and responsible practice? Include teamwork, leadership, professional development, mentoring, and any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

[25 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Professional capability and reliability - strength of operational skills, judgement, organisation and professionalism.
- Achievement and impact - quality of contribution and measurable results across systems, projects or event support.
- Excellence in practice - ability to improve processes, manage complexity and support successful delivery.
- Commitment to employer, industry and responsible practice - contribution beyond day-to-day responsibilities including any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

Award 21: Sales, Marketing or Business Development Person of the Year

The Sales, Marketing or Business Development Person of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding professional who has demonstrated excellence in generating business opportunities, building strong relationships, driving growth and contributing to the success of the business events industry.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- be for an individual working within the business events industry in Australia
- relate to achievements demonstrated within the eligibility period
- be submitted by the individual, their employer or an authorised nominator (self-nominations permitted)
- recognise a professional whose primary role includes sales, marketing, business development or a combination of these functions
- include measurable examples and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a written reference from a manager, mentor or client, uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

Why is the candidate nominated? Outline the qualities and strengths that distinguish them as an exceptional sales, marketing or business development professional.

[25 points · 300 words]

What are the candidate's key achievements during the eligibility period? Describe the business opportunities, campaigns, partnerships or growth outcomes they generated or influenced.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated excellence in sales, marketing or business development practice? Provide examples of strategic thinking, relationship management, market insight or conversion of opportunities into outcomes.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated commitment to their employer, their industry and responsible practice? Include leadership, professional development, mentoring, advocacy, and any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

[25 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Professional capability and commercial acumen - strength of skills, judgement, initiative and professionalism.
- Achievement and impact - quality of contribution and measurable business results.
- Excellence in practice - ability to build relationships, identify opportunities and deliver growth outcomes.
- Commitment to employer, industry and responsible practice - contribution beyond day-to-day responsibilities including any leadership in sustainability, inclusion or community impact.

Award 22: Convention / Exhibition Centre of the Year

The Convention / Exhibition Centre of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding convention or exhibition centre that has delivered excellence in facilities, client service, innovation, operational performance and industry contribution.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered services within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia and operate as a convention centre, exhibition centre or integrated convention and exhibition venue
- be entered by the venue or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What makes your venue stand out in the business events market? Include capacity, flexibility, accessibility, infrastructure and how you meet the needs of organisers, exhibitors and delegates.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue collaborate with clients and stakeholders to deliver exceptional events?

Share examples of service standards, partnerships and client satisfaction outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue support the successful delivery of business events operationally and strategically? Outline your approach to event planning support, logistics, technology, exhibitor needs and delegate experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

What new initiatives, upgrades or innovations did you implement during the eligibility period?

Describe improvements to service delivery, operational efficiency, commercial performance or the client and delegate experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue demonstrate commitment to environmental sustainability and social responsibility, and meet or exceed its objectives? Include energy, waste, accessibility, inclusion, community impact, legacy and measurable outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Venue capability and market relevance - quality of facilities, flexibility, accessibility and alignment with business event's needs.
- Client service and stakeholder support - excellence in collaboration, responsiveness and event partnership.
- Operational performance - effectiveness in delivery, logistics, exhibitor support, technology and attendee experience.
- Innovation and improvement - commitment to continuous improvement, upgrades and new initiatives.
- Sustainability and responsibility - environmentally and socially responsible practices and positive community contribution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and venue performance.

Award 23: Business Event Venue (Non-Convention Centre) of the Year

The Business Event Venue (Non-Convention Centre) of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding venue - including hotels, stadiums, unique venues, function venues, cultural venues and other dedicated event spaces - that has delivered excellence in client service, innovation, operational performance and industry contribution.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- have operated and delivered services within the eligibility period
- be based in Australia and operate as a business event venue other than a convention or exhibition centre (including hotels, stadiums, unique venues, function venues, cultural venues or other dedicated event spaces)
- be entered by the venue or an authorised representative
- include measurable outcomes and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include a client or key stakeholder testimonial uploaded as a PDF to the submission portal

Criteria

What makes your venue stand out in the business events market? Include details such as capacity, flexibility, accessibility, atmosphere and how you meet the needs of organisers, clients and delegates.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue collaborate with clients and stakeholders to deliver exceptional events?

Share examples of service standards, customisation, partnerships and client satisfaction outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue support the successful delivery of business events operationally and strategically? Outline your approach to planning support, logistics, technology, food and beverage and delegate experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

What new initiatives, upgrades or innovations did you implement during the eligibility period?

Describe improvements to service delivery, operational efficiency, commercial performance or the client and delegate experience.

[20 points · 300 words]

How does your venue demonstrate commitment to environmental sustainability and social responsibility, and meet or exceed its objectives? Include energy, waste, accessibility, inclusion, community impact, legacy and measurable outcomes.

[20 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Venue capability and market relevance - quality of facilities, flexibility, accessibility and alignment with business events needs.
- Client service and stakeholder support - excellence in collaboration, responsiveness and event partnership.
- Operational performance - effectiveness in delivery, logistics, venue experience and stakeholder support.
- Innovation and improvement - commitment to continuous improvement, upgrades and new initiatives.
- Sustainability and responsibility - environmentally and socially responsible practices and positive community contribution.
- Impact and results - measurable outcomes, client satisfaction and venue performance.

Award 24: Contribution to Industry Award

The Contribution to Industry Award is ABEA's highest individual honour. It recognises an outstanding individual who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the business events industry through leadership, innovation, advocacy, service, collaboration or professional influence.

It celebrates those who have gone beyond their immediate role to strengthen the industry, support its people, advance its reputation and create meaningful impact across the broader sector.

To be eligible, the entry must:

- recognise an individual working in, or making a significant contribution to, the business events industry in Australia
- relate to contributions demonstrated within the eligibility period, noting that judges may also consider broader context and sustained impact where relevant
- be submitted by the individual's employer, a peer or an authorised nominator - self-nominations will not be accepted
- recognise a professional whose contribution goes beyond the usual expectations of their role
- include clear examples and evidence to support the claims made in the submission
- include 3-5 supporting letters from individuals or organisations who endorse the nomination, with full contact details for each referee

Criteria

Why is the candidate nominated? Outline the qualities, strengths and attributes that distinguish them as someone who has made a significant contribution to the industry.

[25 points · 300 words]

What are the candidate's key contributions during the eligibility period? Describe what they have done to support, strengthen or advance the business events industry and the impact of this work.

[25 points · 300 words]

How has the candidate demonstrated leadership, service or influence beyond their immediate role? Provide examples of advocacy, mentoring, collaboration, representation, thought leadership or volunteer contribution.

[25 points · 300 words]

What lasting impact has the candidate had on their organisation and the broader industry?

Provide evidence of outcomes, recognition, stakeholder feedback and examples of legacy and influence.

[25 points · 300 words]

Entries will be judged on:

- Significance of contribution - depth, relevance and value of the individual's contribution to the industry.
- Leadership and influence - ability to lead, advocate, support others and shape positive outcomes.
- Breadth of impact - contribution beyond their immediate role, organisation or responsibilities.
- Legacy and industry value - measurable outcomes, lasting influence and overall contribution to the sector.

Contact

Australian Business Events Association Ltd

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Phone: 02 9413 9520

Web: abea.org.au

ABN 40 666 322 103

We sincerely thank our valued partners for their ongoing support of the ABEA Awards Program. Their contribution plays an important role in helping us recognise and celebrate excellence across the business events industry. If your organisation would like to explore sponsorship opportunities, please contact Hayley on hayley.beveridge@abea.org.au