**LESI INNOVATION AWARD**

**New in 2021-2022**

Awarded to the most innovative deal from bench to market, for practices in innovations and licensing. Specific criteria include:

1. **The value created by the innovation** -- Solid invention value creation process – preference is given to more collaboration in the ideation of the IP and multiple IPR and human actor competency assessments;
2. **The Market Value of the Innovation** -- Teamwork and partnerships, beyond R&D, market value and IP – more credit is given to anticipatory planning and activation;
3. **Conduct of Contractual Arrangements** – a comprehensive value chain analysis (from raw materials to consumers) is given more points; and
4. **Alignment with Trends / Focus Areas Identified by LESI** - the more factors of change affected (New Tech, New Actors, New Context, New Products, EEAM, Trade Secrets), the more points given.

Please carefully review the criteria and the detailed guidelines and consider submitting a nomination.

All nominations must be submitted by 31 December 2021 to: innovationawards@lesi.org

Award Selection Committee:

André Gorius  
(LES France)

Tanja Sovic  
(LES Austria)

Bayani Loste  
(LES Thailand)
1. The value created by the innovation

Please describe:
- How did the idea leading to the invention emerge? (e.g. was it the result of one person’s ideas, or a more collective effort)
- How did the team conduct the IP environment assessment? (e.g. prior art search, securing an initial freedom-to-operate opinion, competitive intelligence, ...) With which type of actors?
- How an assessment of the critical competencies needed for the success of the project was made? How the team made sure they would be available?
- Were open innovation arrangements, licensing-in options considered before entering in the operational phase?
- In the case where partnerships were created, how it was done? (e.g. benchmarking for best potential partners, using pre-existing networks, ...)

2. The market value of the innovation

For all the following items, please describe in general:
- How you conducted these steps?
- How and why you focused on the ones you consider the most important for the projects’ success?
- How the market value of the innovation was assessed and secured? (e.g. which organizations/functions among General Management, R&D, IP, Sales and Marketing, Manufacturing & Supply Chain, Others were involved in the market potential assessment)
  - In the initial phases (Research)
  - After Proof of Concept (Development)
- What business models were studied, and how was the final business model chosen? (e.g. for manufacturing did you consider/use licensing-out, contract manufacturing, ...)

3. The way you decided and conducted the contractual arrangements

- How did the team assess the business impact of the project/innovation on the overall value chain?
- Did you conduct a value chain analysis to position licensing options? If yes, please describe how this was achieved.

4. How the innovation aligns with the long-term innovation trends and focus areas identified by the LESI Innovation Trends Task Force.

- What is the assessed time-to-market of the innovation, and what measures did you put in place to manage / shorten / optimize it?
- The impact of the innovation: Which of the following categories identified by the task force does your innovation fall in and why? (You may select more than one)
  1. New Technologies (e.g. IoT, AI, Robotics, Blockchain)
  2. SMEs and IP
  3. New Context (e.g., open science, sustainable development goals)
  4. New Production of innovation (e.g., data, software)
  5. Energy, Environment and Advanced Materials
  6. Trade Secrets