



## LES INNOVATION AWARD 2024-2025

The **LES Innovation Award** honors those who find and put in place new solutions to transform a raw idea into a successful product. The Award is not about a product, but the organizational, legal, and economic process from idea exploitation to product realization.

By getting nominated for the Award - and even more by obtaining it - your company has the opportunity to showcase its creative pathways to real-world solutions, highlighting its ability to turn raw concepts into tangible impacts.

### Criteria for nomination

Innovation goes beyond just inventing and applying new technologies or products, it also includes creating new processes and business models. It takes fresh ideas and turns them into solutions that benefit society. Innovation also involves using existing resources in smart ways and improving on what already exists.

Specific criteria include:

1. Value creation process – cross-functional collaboration in the ideation;
2. Teamwork and partnerships, beyond R&D, market value and IP – anticipatory planning and activation;
3. Adoption of a market value-chain analysis – comprehensive analysis (from raw materials to consumers);
4. Use of existing resources – management and use of existing resources to support innovation;
5. Legal solutions - effective protection of ideas by IP registrations, new contract agreements, new licensing methods , new methods to safeguard implementation of and compliance with agreements and to protect ideas and products against infringements

Nomination deadline: **Tuesday, December 31, 2024**

Submission to: [innovationawards@lesi.org](mailto:innovationawards@lesi.org)

### Award Selection Committee:



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## LESI INNOVATION AWARD 2024-2025 Detailed Nomination Guidelines

Nominator	Approval
LES Innovation Trends Committee LESI President or LESI Board Members or LESI International Delegates or LESI Member Societies Licensing Professionals (LES Members and non-members)	LESI Board of Directors, and LESI Board of Delegates

### Please, elaborate your answer to the following questions:

- How was the idea generated and converted into innovation? (*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, etc.*) With which type of actors or stakeholders?
- How were the necessary critical competencies assessed? How did the team make sure they would be available?
- Were open innovation arrangements, licensing-in options considered before entering in the operational phase?
- Were partnerships created? If so, how was it done? (*e.g., benchmarking for best potential partners, using pre-existing networks, etc.*)
- How was the market value of the product innovation 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, etc.*). How did you conduct these steps, and why did you consider them the most important for the projects' success?
- 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.
- What is the assessed time-to-market of the innovation, and what measures did you put in place to manage / shorten / optimize it?
- Did new processes follow from a product innovation? In particular, in case you are active in an innovative product field like IoT, AI or Circular Economy or set traditional technologies into a new context: did your product innovation lead to the development of new processes, including updated methods for contract agreements and licensing?