

Peter Seale Food Industry Innovation Award 2024

BACKGROUND

This award acknowledges a significant new development in a process, product, ingredient, equipment, or packaging which achieved successful commercial application in any sector of the Australian food industry.

The award is given in honour of AIFST Past President, Peter Seale who held the role from 1973-75.

The Food Industry Innovation Award will be made annually at the discretion of AIFST to recognise such development or innovation.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

1. The nomination must be made by an AIFST member who must be a current financial member of the Institute and have held membership for at least 2 consecutive years prior to the year of the Award.
2. The Award shall be made to the Company or Organisation responsible for the innovation and not individual employees. All nominations are required to be accompanied by a statement of willingness from the Company or Organisation to accept nomination and to comply with the obligations of the Award.
3. The innovation must have been commercially applied in Australia for not less than six months and not more than five years prior to the closing date for entries for the year in which the Award is to be made.
4. Unsuccessful nominations from previous years are eligible to resubmit their nomination in following year(s) of the Award, provided all criteria for nomination are met. The nominee may resubmit the unsuccessful innovation in its original or modified form if so desired.

NOMINATION PROCESS

- a) AIFST shall call for nominations for the Award via channels deemed appropriate and aligned with the overall AIFST awards program. The call for nominations shall outline the closing date of entries; provide the award guidelines and nomination form; and details for return nominations.
- b) Nominations are to be completed via the AIFST Nomination Form which includes a statement, not exceeding 1000 words, together with adequate supporting documentation, detailing the title of the innovation, its significant technical merit, the name of the organisation(s) responsible, individuals responsible and the specific nature of their contribution, and the duration and extent of the commercial application.
- c) No late submissions shall be accepted, although AIFST reserves the right to extend, or change the closing dates for entries at its discretion and without prior notice.

- d) Each entrant shall give an undertaking to attend at the time and place designated by AIFST to receive the award.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The basis for the Award recipient shall be determined by a judging panel assessed against the award judging guidelines and includes:

- i. technical merit
- ii. economic significance
- iii. successful application
- iv. overall significance in the food industry
- v. company (and personnel) commitment to the project, and
- vi. enhancement of food standards.

JUDGING PROCESS

- a) AIFST shall invite three (3) Judges who are appropriate members of the food industry to act as the Award Judging Panel. The members of such Judging Panel shall not be members of the AIFST Board, and shall not be professional or personal associates of the nominee/s. In addition, AIFST shall act as Convener of the Award Panel. However, AIFST shall have no primary voting rights and in the case that the Judging Panel cannot reach a majority decision, the AIFST CEO or nominated delegate shall have the casting vote.
- b) Should a Judging Panel member withdraw at any stage, the AIFST CEO or nominated delegate shall appoint a substitute panelist.
- c) AIFST shall notify the Judging Panel of their appointments. AIFST shall acknowledge each nominee with receipt of the nomination.
- d) AIFST shall provide the Judging Panel copies of each nomination, together with the judging guidelines which outline the points system for assessing nominations. The Judging Panel shall read the submission(s) entered for the award and select the nomination of greatest merit on the basis of the judging guidelines.
- e) If the Judging Panel determines there are no nominations of sufficient merit, the Judging Panel shall recommend to AIFST that no award be made that year. AIFST's decision on whether an award shall be made is final.
- f) AIFST shall notify the successful nomination(s) as determined by the Judging Panel in line with the award timelines. AIFST shall also notify non-successful nominees at this time.

AWARD PRIZE

A representative of the Company or Organisation that is the winner of the Award will be awarded a plaque and invited to provide a five (5) minute address (or via a pre-filmed video in conjunction with AIFST) at the Annual AIFST Convention Awards Session which details and relates to the nature of the innovation for which the Award is made.

AWARD DATES

| Date | Action | Responsible |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 25 March 2024 | Call for nominations | AIFST |
| 20 May 2024 | Close of nominations | AIFST |
| 21 May - 7 June 2024 | Judging of awards | Judging panel |
| 17 June 2024 | Nominees advised of outcome | AIFST |
| 6 August 2024 | Awards Ceremony @ AIFST24 | AIFST |

ATTACHMENT 1

AIFST Food Innovation Award – Judging Panel Assessment Form

1. Each judge is to allocate points among the nominees against the submission criteria in the table below.
2. Judges may choose to include a statement against the criteria to justify the point's allocation (maximum twenty-five (25) words).
3. If a judge allocates one nominee with a mark more than 30% higher than other nominees, they shall include a statement of at least twenty-five (25) words to justify the point's allocation.

| | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Company/Organisation | | | | |
| Product/Process | | | | |
| Meets Criteria (Y or N) | | | | |
| Technical Merit (20 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the nomination demonstrate a technical innovation? • Is the innovation unique or a significant improvement over existing products/process? | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ |
| | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ |
| Successful application (20 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the nominee clearly described how the innovation was developed and how it works? • Has the innovation been commercially applied? • Proportion of innovation carried out in Australia 1 point all development overseas 10 points all development in Australia | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ |
| | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ |
| Economic significance (20 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has/will the innovation provide significant economic contribution to the Australian economy? • Does/will it support the long-term utilisation of Australian resources (e.g., food resources or provide employment opportunities) | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ |
| | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ |
| Overall significance in the food industry (20 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has/will the innovation offer significant technical improvements to the target area of the food industry? • Will the innovation enhance/improve food safety standards? | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ | Points allocated: _____ |
| | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ | Comment: _____ |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Company (and personnel) commitment to the project (10 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the company/organisation demonstrated commitment to the project through allocation of resources (e.g., applications for grants/funding, employment of food technologists/scientists)? | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> |
| <p>Enhancement of food standards (10 points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has/will the innovation contribute to the enhancement of Australian or International food standards? | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> | <p>Points allocated:</p> <p>Comment:</p> |
| <p>Total points</p> | | | | |
| <p>Further comments (see point 3 above)</p> | | | | |