

SP AWARDS PROGRAM

Suppliers Partnership for the Environment (SP) has opened the call for nominations for its 2026 Awards Program. The Awards are designed to recognize and raise awareness of environmental sustainability successes within the automotive value chain, while promoting knowledge sharing and transfer of proven solutions across the industry.

Awards applications may be completed [via an online application form](#) and will be accepted until **August 21, 2026**. A selection committee of industry environmental sustainability leaders will review qualified applications and select the winning entries for presentation in an SP Awards Ceremony scheduled for October 28 in Indianapolis.



2025 SP Award Winners

Company-Level Award Categories & Criteria

Our company-level awards are intended to recognize the successes of suppliers to the automotive industry; as such, a supplier should be the main point of contact for the application. OEMs may be recognized as partners together with their suppliers where applicable. To be eligible for consideration, submitted projects should have been implemented with measurable results to report within the past 24-month period.

- **Demonstrating Environmental Innovation in the Manufacturing Process (Company)**. This award recognizes companies that demonstrate outstanding innovation in an advanced manufacturing process or technology leading to significant environmental and economic impact within the automotive supply chain. Criteria to be considered include,
 - Environmental Impact. What were the environmental impacts of this project?
 - Economic Impact. What was the economic impact of this project?
 - Other Positive Impacts. Did this project positively impact other aspects relevant to industry or global sustainability goals?
 - Transferability. Is this project potentially applicable to other organizations in the automotive industry and / or supply chain?
- **Creativity in Implementing Sustainable Practices (Company)**. This award recognizes companies that demonstrate remarkable creativity in implementing environmental sustainability programs and practices within the automotive supply chain. Criteria to be considered include,
 - Systems Thinking / Net-Benefit. How did the project team consider potential impacts on different environmental, economic and community aspects, and strive to optimize the project's total positive impact on environmental sustainability?
 - Creativity & Innovation. How many new innovations, technologies, ideas or practices were piloted and demonstrated through this project?
 - Environmental Sustainability Impacts. Which environmental sustainability aspects did this project address and what measurable benefits were achieved in those areas?
- **Community Impact (Company)**. This award recognizes companies who strive to extend the positive impacts of their sustainability efforts to local communities and organizations outside the automotive industry through outreach and education. Criteria to be considered include,
 - Positive Impact. What were the positive environmental sustainability impacts of this project, including any measurable benefits related to biodiversity conservation, community engagement or environmental justice? What change can be observed in the current state, as compared to the prior state, as a result of this project?
 - Education & Outreach. How were positive impacts extended to local communities and/or other organizations outside the automotive industry through outreach and/or education?
 - Magnitude. What was the magnitude of impact for this project, such as the number of people, organizations or communities impacted?

Steve Hellem Lighthouse Award (Individual)

In addition to our company-level awards, SP's Awards program also recognizes the contributions of individual environmental sustainability leaders.

The Steve Hellem Lighthouse Award recognizes remarkable individuals helping to guide the next generation of business sustainability leadership forward.

Named in memory of SP's founding executive director, Steve Hellem, this award celebrates people who bring creativity and commitment to advancing sustainable practices in ways that create value for both business and the environment.

This award is intended to recognize unique individual contributors, including those whose work may not always be highly visible, but whose ideas, collaboration, persistence, or leadership have helped move sustainability progress forward.

Nominees may represent any type of company or organization connected to the automotive value chain and may be at any stage of their career. Nominees should clearly demonstrate characteristics such as:

- **Leadership in advancing sustainability:** Shows leadership in helping move environmental sustainability efforts forward within their company, organization, community, or the broader automotive value chain.
- **Creativity and problem-solving:** Brings fresh thinking, bold ideas, or new approaches to addressing sustainability challenges.
- **Building business value:** Helps translate sustainability opportunities into tangible business value.
- **Collaboration and influence:** Brings in others to build understanding, share knowledge, encourage engagement, and support broader progress.
- **Commitment and impact:** Demonstrates passion, persistence, and a meaningful contribution to advancing sustainability.

Apply for the Lighthouse Award at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Lighthouse26>

How to Apply

To submit an application for one or more Awards, please complete the appropriate online application form at: <https://www.supplierspartnership.org/sp-awards-program/>

All applications must be submitted no later than EOD August 21, 2026 to be considered for an award.

Disclaimers & Eligibility Information

To be eligible for consideration, submitted projects should have been implemented with measurable results to report from within the past 24-month period. Certain information submitted to SP regarding a prospective award may be used in marketing and communications related to the SP awards program. SP will consider all application form entries as public information. SP reserves the right not to issue an award if certain thresholds are not met, including receipt of a sufficient number of qualified applications for a particular award category.

Questions

Please contact info@supplierspartnership.org with any questions on the SP Awards program.

Demonstrating Environmental Innovation in the Manufacturing Process Application Details

Contact Information

Main point of contact for this award submission (should be a supplier)

Project Information

Please briefly summarize the project being submitted for consideration.

- **Project Title** (15-word limit)
- **Project Overview.** Provide a concise description of the project being submitted for consideration. (250 words max)

Project Objectives, Strategies & Actions

Please provide a clear and concise narrative detailing the objectives, strategies and actions of this project.

Address the following key points:

- **Objective:**
 - What specific problem did this project aim to solve?
 - What was the primary goal of this effort?
- **Strategy & Actions:**
 - What strategies were used to achieve the project objective?
 - What key actions were taken to implement these strategies?
- **Team:**
 - Who were the key team members and partners for this project (internal and external)?
 - What roles did they play and how did their contributions support the project?
- **Implementation:**
 - When and where was this project implemented?

Project Outcomes & Impacts

Please describe the measurable outcomes and impacts of this project in relation to automotive industry environmental sustainability goals, using quantifiable data wherever possible.

The narrative should clearly and concisely explain how this project "demonstrates outstanding innovation in an advanced manufacturing process or technology leading to significant environmental and economic impact within the automotive supply chain" and include consideration of the following criteria.

- **Environmental Impact:**
 - What were the environmental impacts of this project?
 - Provide specific data where possible (e.g., reductions in carbon emissions, energy consumption, water usage, waste, etc.)
- **Economic Impact:**
 - What was the economic impact of this project?
 - What was the level of investment, and what cost savings or efficiencies were achieved? (if able to share).
- **Other Positive Impacts:**
 - How does this project align with industry or global sustainability goals (e.g., UN Sustainable Development Goals)?
- **Transferability:**
 - Is this project potentially applicable to other organizations in the automotive industry and / or supply chain? If so, how?

Apply Today! Complete the online application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Inno26>

Creativity in Implementing Sustainable Practices Application Form Details

Contact Information

Main point of contact for this award submission (should be a supplier)

Project Information

Please briefly summarize the project being submitted for consideration.

- **Project Title** (15-word limit)
- **Project Overview.** Provide a concise description of the project being submitted for consideration. (250 words max)

Project Objectives, Strategies & Actions

Please provide a clear and concise narrative detailing the objectives, strategies and actions of this project.

Address the following key points:

- **Objective:**
 - What specific problem did this project aim to solve?
 - What was the primary goal of this effort?
- **Strategy & Actions:**
 - What strategies were used to achieve the project objective?
 - What key actions were taken to implement these strategies?
- **Team:**
 - Who were the key team members and partners for this project (internal and external)?
 - What roles did they play and how did their contributions support the project?
- **Implementation:**
 - When and where was this project implemented?

Project Outcomes & Impacts

Please describe the measurable outcomes and impacts of this project in relation to automotive industry environmental sustainability goals, using quantifiable data wherever possible

The narrative should clearly and concisely explain how this project "demonstrates remarkable creativity in implementing environmental sustainability programs and practices within the automotive supply chain" and include consideration of the following criteria.

- **Systems Thinking / Net-Benefit:**
 - How did the project team evaluate the potential impacts across environmental, economic and community factors?
 - What steps were taken to maximize the project's overall positive impact on environmental sustainability?
- **Creativity & Innovation:**
 - What new ideas, technologies, or sustainability practices were piloted or implemented through this project?
- **Environmental Sustainability Impacts:**
 - What specific environmental sustainability areas did this project address (e.g., carbon reduction, energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction)?
 - What measurable improvements or benefits were achieved in those areas? (Provide data where possible)

Apply Today! Complete the online application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPCreative26>

Community Impact Application Form Details

Contact Information

Main point of contact for this award submission. (should be a supplier)

Project Information

Please briefly summarize the project being submitted for consideration.

- **Project Title** (15-word limit)
- **Project Overview.** Provide a concise description of the project being submitted for consideration. (250 words max)

Project Objectives, Strategies & Actions

Please provide a clear and concise narrative detailing the objectives, strategies and actions of this project.

Address the following key points:

- **Objective:**
 - What specific problem did this project aim to solve?
 - What was the primary goal of this effort?
- **Strategy & Actions:**
 - What strategies were used to achieve the project objective?
 - What key actions were taken to implement these strategies?
- **Team:**
 - Who were the key team members and partners for this project (internal and external)?
 - What roles did they play and how did their contributions support the project?
- **Implementation:**
 - When and where was this project implemented?

Project Outcomes & Impacts

Please provide a detailed narrative describing the outcomes and impacts of this project in relation to automotive industry environmental sustainability goals, using quantifiable data wherever possible.

Your response should clearly explain how this project "extended the positive impacts of environmental sustainability beyond the automotive industry, benefiting local communities and other organizations through outreach and education. Consider the following criteria in your response:

- **Positive Impact:**
 - What measurable positive environmental sustainability impacts were achieved through this project, including any measurable benefits related to biodiversity conservation, community engagement or other topics?
 - What improvements can be observed in the current state compared to the prior state, as a result of this project?
- **Education & Outreach:**
 - How were sustainability efforts shared with local communities or organizations outside the automotive industry?
 - What specific outreach or educational activities were conducted?
- **Magnitude:**
 - What was the magnitude of impact for this project, such as the number of people, organizations or communities impacted?

Apply Today! Complete the online application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPCommunity26>