

# 2025 Manufacturing Leadership Awards



## SAMPLE PROJECT NOMINATION FORM

### FOR NONCORPORATE ORGANIZATIONS/INSTITUTIONS NOMINATING A PROJECT ON BEHALF OF A MANUFACTURING PARTNER

This sample nomination form for the Manufacturing Leadership Awards can be used as a reference for gathering required information to complete an entry. This form is for noncorporate organizations/institutions that are submitting an entry on behalf of or in conjunction with a manufacturing partner. If the project is selected as a finalist in one of the project categories, the institution will be recognized with a Partner in Collaborative Innovation Award. **All nominations must be created and submitted through the online awards portal at <https://manufacturingleadership.awardsplatform.com>.**

While noncorporate organizations are not limited on the number of external partner nominations that they can submit overall, an organization may submit no more than one (1) project per manufacturing enterprise. Note that any single manufacturing enterprise may have no more than five (5) project nominations per year and can be a finalist for no more than three (3) awards per year in total. If the number of overall entries received for a single enterprise exceeds the nomination limit, all parties will be contacted as a group with the manufacturer having the final say in which projects will be presented to the judging panel. Refunds will be issued for any nominations that are withdrawn.

Note that the Manufacturing Leadership Council will contact ALL nominated manufacturing companies to verify consent and awareness of any awards entry submitted on another company's behalf. If the MLC cannot make direct contact with the manufacturer, or if the manufacturing project contact listed on this form did not provide consent for the entry, the nomination will be automatically disqualified with no refund for entry fees. Please review complete program rules [here](#).

Manufacturer and noncorporate organization/institution names and the project title are included in public awards announcements and on award trophies; each project nomination form must include a project title that is approved for public release. **All other information submitted on this nomination form is strictly confidential.**

**Select the category for which you are submitting this nomination:** Please select one. See page 6 of this application for [category descriptions](#). Note that the MLC editorial team has final decision on the appropriate category for each nomination.

- Artificial Intelligence Vision and Strategy
- Business Model Transformation
- Collaborative Ecosystems
- Digital Supply Chains
- Engineering and Production Processes
- Enterprise Integration and Technology
- Operational Excellence
- Sustainability and the Circular Economy
- Transformational Business Cultures

## Section 1: Manufacturing Company Information

### Verification Statement

I verify that I am providing direct contact information for the nominated manufacturing company and that the manufacturing company has consented to this nomination. (Notice: A YES statement is required for this entry to meet eligibility requirements. This statement will be confirmed with the nominated manufacturing company.)

- Yes
- No

### Manufacturing Company (Nominee) Information

<b>Manufacturing Company Name:</b>			
<b>Headquarters Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>HQ phone:</b>			
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>Company X (formerly Twitter) URL:</b>			
<b>Company LinkedIn URL:</b>			

**Manufacturing Company Size - Number of employees:** Please select one.

- 5,000 or more
- 1,000-5,000
- 500-1,000
- 100-500
- Less than 100

**Manufacturing Company Size - Annual Revenues:** Please select one. Note: This information is kept strictly confidential and is only used as a data point for tracking entries by company size. For project nominations, this data is used in consideration for identifying small/medium enterprises and large enterprises for Manufacturer of the Year award candidates.

- Over \$10 billion
- \$1 billion - \$10 billion
- \$500 Million - \$1 Billion
- \$100 Million - \$500 Million
- Under \$100 Million
- Confidential

What does this company manufacture and what is its industry sector? \_\_\_\_\_

**Communications/PR Contact Information:** List an individual at the manufacturing company who can assist with communications/PR and any marketing or promotional efforts

<b>PR Contact Name:</b>	<b>Title:</b>
<b>Company:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>

**Awards Coordinator Contact Information:** If the manufacturing company has an Awards Coordinator, please list contact information below.

<b>Awards Coordinator Name:</b>	<b>Title:</b>
<b>Company:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>

## Section 2: Noncorporate Organization/Institution Information

**Institution Contact Information:** Primary contact at the noncorporate organization/institution for the nominated project. This is the best individual for answering detailed questions about a project's implementation, timeline, strategic impact, etc. This contact will also receive award status notification e-mails. The contact information provided must be directly for an individual at the institution – email addresses for general inboxes and/or main switchboard phone numbers without extensions will not be accepted. Nominations that do not include this information will be disqualified with no refund of entry fees.

<b>Noncorporate Org Contact Individual Name:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Noncorporate Org Name (university, society, association etc.):</b>			
<b>Address (Number and Street):</b>			
<b>Address Line Two (optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop Code, etc.):</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>Company X (formerly Twitter) URL:</b>		<b>Company LinkedIn URL:</b>	

**Alternate Noncorporate Organization/Institution Contact Information:** List a second contact at the noncorporate organization/institution for the nominated project. This contact will receive award status notification e-mails. This must be direct contact information for an individual at the institution – email addresses for general inboxes and/or main switchboard phone numbers without extensions will not be accepted. Nominations that do not include this information will be disqualified with no refund of entry fees.

<b>Alternate Noncorporate Org Contact Name:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Noncorporate Org Name (university, society, association etc.):</b>			
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	

**Noncorporate Org/Institution Trophy Shipping Information:** Award trophies will be distributed to all organizations selected as Partners in Collaborative Innovation at the Manufacturing Leadership Awards Gala, June 18, 2025, in Marco Island, FL. However, in the event that the institution is unable to send a representative to the gala, please provide shipping information for the recognition trophy. Please include a street address only – our shipping partners will not deliver to a P.O. box.

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Company:</b>			
<b>Address (Number and Street):</b>			
<b>Address Line Two (optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop Code, etc.):</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	

**For projects submitted jointly between a manufacturer and a noncorporate organization/institution:** Describe how the noncorporate organization/institution worked with the manufacturer on this project: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 3: Contact Information for Project Nominations

**Project Contact Information - Manufacturer:** The following form is for providing contact information for individuals at the client manufacturing company with primary responsibility for the project. The Project Contact should be an individual who is the best contact for answering detailed questions about a project’s implementation, timeline, strategic impact, etc.

Note that the Manufacturing Leadership Council will contact ALL nominated manufacturing companies to verify consent and awareness of any awards entry submitted on another company’s behalf. If the MLC cannot make direct contact with the individual listed at the manufacturer, or if that individual did not provide consent for this entry, the nomination will be automatically disqualified with no refund for entry fees.

<b>Project Contact Name:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Company:</b>			
<b>Address (Number and Street):</b>			
<b>Address Line Two (optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop, etc.):</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	

**Primary Project Location:** List the project’s primary physical location: street address, city, state, ZIP code, and country. If the project took place over multiple locations, list one as a primary location.

<b>Address (Number and Street):</b>			
<b>Address Line Two (optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop, etc.):</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	

**Executive Sponsor Contact Information:** The executive-level individual at the manufacturing company who led sponsorship of the project. Contact must be VP level or higher. This must be direct contact information for an individual at the manufacturing company – email addresses for general inboxes and/or general business (main switchboard) phone numbers will not be accepted.

<b>Executive Sponsor Name:</b>	<b>Title:</b>
<b>Company:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>

**Manufacturing Company Trophy Shipping Information:** Award trophies will be distributed to all Manufacturing Leadership Award Finalists and Winners at the Manufacturing Leadership Awards Gala, June 18, 2025, in Marco Island, FL. However, in the event that this project is selected as a finalist or winner but the manufacturing company that you are nominating is unable to send a representative to the gala, please provide shipping information so that we may send the trophy to them directly.

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Company:</b>			
<b>Address (Number and Street):</b>			
<b>Address Line Two (optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop Code, etc.):</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>State/Province:</b>	<b>Zip/Postal Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	

## Section 4: Project Information

1. **Project Title.** Please provide a title for this project that is approved for public release. This is how the project will be announced at the Manufacturing Leadership Awards Gala, will appear in award announcements issued by the NAM and MLC, and will appear on award trophies. The title must clearly describe the project’s results in 10 words or less. Incorrectly formatted titles will be sent back for revision.

Examples:

“A Digital Thread for a Full-Solution Provider”

“Improving Quality and Productivity with IoT-Driven Smart Manufacturing”

“Empowering Sustainability, One Supply Chain at a Time”

2. **Project Abstract.** Please provide a description of the project being nominated, including the reasons for the project’s origin and the benefits it has delivered. *(250-word limit)*
3. **Project Timeline.** Please provide a list of key dates for the project’s development, launch, and completion. Indicate phases still to be implemented, if applicable.
4. **Process Impact.** Describe how this project transformed a key process, improved performance, improved cost effectiveness, and/or created an entirely new dimension of value for the company. *(400-word limit)*
5. **Business Impact and ROI.** Describe how this project aided in the company’s growth financially or relative to market share, reputation, or customer satisfaction, as well as project cost in terms of financial or other resources, the hard and soft benefits realized, and if possible financial returns and metrics on specific process improvements. *(400-word limit)*
6. **Strategic Impact and Scale.** Describe how this project helped advance the company’s long-term business goals, further its digital transformation, and/or expand its future growth opportunities, as well as the project’s scale or potential scale across the company’s operational footprint. *(400-word limit)*

7. **Achievements and Innovation.** Describe how the project improved the company's competitiveness or allowed it to deliver and realize greater value, as well as what was innovative about this project or its outcome. Include any additional recognition through other awards programs, industry groups, institutions, etc. (250-word limit)
8. **Supporting Technologies.** Please list the key technologies and services, if any, that were used to support this project. (Examples: design/development applications such as CAD, PLM, simulation/visualization; enterprise applications software such as ERP and CRM systems; IoT platforms; control/automation systems; networking and communications technologies; data/analytics applications; advanced robotics; professional services, etc.)

## Project Category Descriptions

**Artificial Intelligence Vision and Strategy** - Finalists in this category have developed operational and/or corporate strategies for the use of AI to advance business goals such as greater efficiency, speed, agility, and new product/service discovery. They have developed and communicated a future-focused vision for AI and have orchestrated AI strategy across the organization to achieve consistency and impact.

**Business Model Transformation** - This category recognizes outstanding achievement in using advanced technologies for strategic business model innovation such as discovering new products, creating service-based revenue opportunities, and deploying new business operating models and systems. Successful projects demonstrate leadership and business culture shifts, internal and external collaboration, metrics to measure success, and leverage core manufacturing strengths to maximize competitiveness

**Collaborative Ecosystems** – This category recognizes organizational efforts at utilizing M4.0 technologies to enhance internal and external cross-functional collaboration to boost productivity, satisfy customer requirements, accelerate innovation, achieve greater speed and agility, or build strategies to further growth. Manufacturing organizations recognized with this award create corporate structures and policies that support a collaborative enterprise both internally and with partners, vendors, customers and other external entities.

**Digital Supply Chains** – This category honors those who have created digitally powered supply networks that are flexible, responsive, and resilient. Finalists in this category have developed strategies for predicting and minimizing disruptions, while also rethinking and reengineering how they source materials, manage suppliers, deliver products, and service customers. They demonstrate efficiency in managing the overall value chain and maximizing customer value. They have also developed or embraced best practices for sharing data across key suppliers, partners, and customers.

**Engineering and Production Processes** – Finalists in this category embrace new design and production approaches to drive game-changing process improvements. They adopt technologies such as advanced 3D modeling and simulation, sensor networks, advanced materials, process automation platforms, advanced robotics, additive/3D printing and/or other digital technologies for production applications. Successful projects improve efficiency and quality, increase responsiveness, and reduce costs.

**Enterprise Integration and Technology** – Finalists in this category orchestrate innovative corporate IT, OT, engineering, and communications strategies and systems to integrate the shop floor to the top floor. Successful projects demonstrate a holistic approach to technology deployment to create common operating systems, platforms, and data sharing strategies to help establish an integrated enterprise.

**Operational Excellence** – Finalists in this category implement continuous improvement projects and harness M4.0 technologies and processes to reduce costs, streamline processes, reduce waste, improve quality, and enhance overall equipment effectiveness. Top-scoring projects demonstrate commitment over time, measurable results, and enhanced performance of the organization as a whole.

**Sustainability and the Circular Economy** – Finalists in this category have made significant progress in embracing manufacturing processes, supported by digital technologies, that minimize emissions, conserve energy, reduce waste, and are economically and environmentally safe and sound for employees, communities, and consumers. They undertake ambitious sustainability initiatives, seek innovative methods for product and materials reclamation, and show a broad and deep commitment to sustainability through product design and end-of-life strategies, meaningful metrics, and/or sustainable practices both internally and across supply networks. And they have demonstrated a commitment to help drive a more circular industrial economy.

**Transformational Business Cultures** – This category honors organizations that have reimagined traditional manufacturing organizational cultures to create a digital-first mentality in how they think, plan and act in managing operations. They create cultures that foster a continuous learning environment to leverage the potential of advanced technologies to improve the organization. Finalists in this category encourage decisions at the lowest level possible, demonstrate excellence in employee upskilling and reskilling, and cultivate a mindset of flexibility and ownership among the workforce.

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