SAMPLE PROJECT NOMINATION FORM

FOR MANUFACTURERS AND NONCORPORATE ORGANIZATIONS/INSTITUTIONS SUBMITTING THEIR OWN PROJECT

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 use by manufacturers and noncorporate organizations/institutions that are submitting their own project. **All nominations must be created and submitted through the online awards portal at https://manufacturingleadership.awardsplatform.com.**

Each manufacturing enterprise or noncorporate institution may submit no more than five (5) project nominations per year. A single enterprise can be named a finalist for up to three (3) project awards per season.

Project title and company or institution name 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 5 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/Noncorporate Organization Information

Full Manufacturing Company/Noncorporate Org Name:			
Headquarters Street Address:			
City:	**State/Province:**	**Zip/Postal Code:**	**Country:**
HQ phone:			
Website:			
Company X (formerly Twitter) URL:			
Company LinkedIn URL:			

Manufacturing Company/Noncorporate Org 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/Noncorporate Org 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 or organization manufacture and what is its industry sector?

_____

_____

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

PR Contact Name:	**Title:**
Company:	
Phone:	**E-mail:**

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

Awards Coordinator Name:	**Title:**
Company:	
Phone:	**E-mail:**

Section 2: Contact Information for Project Nominations

Primary Project Contact: 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 notifications.

Project Contact Name:		**Title:**	
Company:			
Address:			
Address Line 2 (Optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop, etc.):			
City:	**State/Province:**	**Zip/Postal Code:**	**Country:**
Phone:		**E-mail:**	

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.

Project Address:			
Address Line 2 (Optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop, etc.):			
City:	**State/Province:**	**Zip/Postal Code:**	**Country:**

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.

Executive Sponsor Name:	**Title:**
Company:	
Phone:	**E-mail:**

Project Trophy Shipping Address: 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's team or parent organization is unable to send a representative to the gala, please provide shipping information for the project trophy.

Trophy Shipping Name:		**Title:**	
Company:			
Address:			
Address Line 2 (Optional) (Suite Number, Mail Stop, etc.):			
City:	**State/Province:**	**Zip/Postal Code:**	**Country:**
Phone:		**E-mail:**	

Section 3: 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.