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To enter the iTnews Benchmark Awards 2022, [**fill in the online entry form here**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HZMQ6XM)**.**

**About this document**

You can refer to this document when preparing your awards entry. When you are ready to submit your entry, you must [**fill in the online entry form here**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HZMQ6XM)**.**

**The iTnews Benchmark Awards recognise Australia's leading IT projects**

For nine years, these awards have given organisations, their IT leaders and teams an opportunity to gain recognition for their ambition, innovation and the value they have delivered to government, industry and the public.

Award winners join an alumni that includes leaders and teams responsible for some of Australia's most remarkable IT projects.

[Past winners](https://www.itnews.com.au/awards/past-winners) include Service NSW, The Reserve Bank of Australia, Suncorp, Feros Care, Boost Juice, Melbourne Water, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Nine and La Trobe University. Last year's awards were [presented online](https://www.itnews.com.au/awards/winners), but in 2022 the awards will be once again presented at a gala dinner at KPMG's Barangaroo offices in Sydney.

**How much does it cost to enter the iTnews Benchmark Awards?**

There is no cost to enter the iTnews Benchmark Awards.

**Why enter?**

* Join an alumni of IT leaders and teams responsible for some of Australia's most remarkable IT projects. This group will be invited to exclusive iTnews events.
* Finalists’ projects will be featured by iTnews, which is read by tens of thousands of people every day. Coverage will include videos about the finalists' projects.
* Be recognised in front of your IT industry peers at our gala awards dinner on 31 March, 2022 at the KPMG offices in Barangaroo in Sydney. All finalists are invited.
* Winners and finalists receive a promotional brand pack to use on social media, web sites, in email signatures and in other communications.

**When is the deadline for entries?**

The deadline for entries is 11pm December 15, 2021... so get in quick!

**What can you nominate for an award?**

The awards focus on IT projects by large, end-user organisations. End-user organisations are encouraged to nominate their own projects.

Technology companies/contractors can also nominate client projects, but they must have approval from their client to do so. This is a client-focused awards program, focusing on the client’s challenges and how a project helped them. So the client must be prepared to accept an award and speak about their project publically (they will be invited to speak on video about their project if the project is a finalist). The client will also be invited to attend the iTnews Benchmark Awards dinner if their project is a finalist.

Your project is eligible if any part of it occurred between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Judging will focus on achievements during that period.

To be eligible your project must have been conducted by an Australian organisation or solely within the Australian subsidiary of a multinational organisation.

Pilot projects are welcome, if testing with actual end-users or customers has been completed.

You may submit multiple entries.

**The judging process**

The awards will be judged by a select panel comprised of the iTnews editorial team and guest judges. Event sponsors have no involvement in the judging process.

Finalists in each category will be announced in late February and early March 2022.

Winners will be announced at a gala awards dinner on 31st March, 2022 at the KPMG offices in Barangaroo in Sydney.

**The Awards categories**

You can submit entries in 12 categories:

1. **Best Federal Government Project** - Projects conducted by federal government departments or agencies that resulted in either internal efficiencies or improved citizen services.
2. **Best State Government Project** - Projects conducted by state government departments or agencies that resulted in either internal efficiencies or improved citizen services.
3. **Best Local Government Project** - Projects conducted by local governments that resulted in either internal efficiencies or improved citizen services.
4. **Best Industrial Project – Projects in the mining, resources, utility and manufacturing sectors which demonstrably improved productivity or product delivery.**
5. **Best Agricultural Project** – **Agricultural projects which demonstrably improved productivity or product delivery.**
6. **Best Logistics Project – Logistics projects which demonstrably improved business outcomes such as lower costs or faster or more reliable delivery, or overcame significant challenges, such as supply chain disruption.**
7. **Best Education Project** – Projects conducted by or for educational institutions at all levels – from childcare to university to adult education – that delivered either internal efficiency or better experiences and outcomes for students.
8. **Best Health Project** - Projects conducted by any organisation that delivered health services which demonstrably improved staff productivity and/or service delivery to patients.
9. **Best Finance Industry Project -**Projects conducted by participants in the financial services industries that either improved internal operations or resulted in improved products and/or service delivery to corporate or retail customers.
10. **Best Consumer Project** - This category is for projects that served consumers in activities in which the end-user is a member of the public going about their daily lives. We suggest this category for companies focused on retail, media & entertainment, telecommunications services, tourism, transport services (but not logistics) and automotive. Projects should demonstrate improvements to internal operations and/or result in improved products and/or service delivery to corporate or retail customers.
11. **Innovation Group Award – This category recognises the contribution of innovations labs or business units, and centres of excellence to delivering new revenue growth or costs savings, or improving measurable customer benefits.**
12. **Talent Management Award – Recognises innovative programs to attract and retain technology staff.**

One project entered in these categories will be selected as **Australian Technology Project of the Year.**

You may submit multiple entries.

**Submissions will be judged according to:**

* The strength of the business case for the project.
* The project’s delivery – evidence of agility, creative applications of IT and competencies developed, whilst keeping within targeted scope, deadline and cost.
* Whether new ground was forged – in terms of innovation and new technologies or approaches, and how this risk was managed.
* Return on investment – anticipated or measured.

**Questions?**

You can ask questions about the awards by emailing us here.

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**\*1. Please enter your details below.**

* First Name
* Last Name
* Work Email
* Job Title
* Organisation
* Phone

**\*2. Choose your award category from the list below.**

* **Best Federal Government Project**
* **Best State Government Project**
* **Best Local Government Project**
* **Best Industrial Project**
* **Best Agricultural Project**
* **Best Logistics Project**
* **Best Education Project**
* **Best Health Project**
* **Best Finance Industry Project**
* **Best Consumer Project**
* **Innovation Group Award**
* **Talent Management Award**

**\*3. Upload an image (not a logo) that shows off the project.**

Choose a photo – not a logo – that you would like to see featured in any news story or video about your project. We accept .PNG, .JPG or .GIF. We prefer large professionally-taken photos in horizontal format, at 1400 x 900 or larger. File size limit: 16MB

**4. Please name your IT project for consideration.** (In fewer than ten words)

*To be eligible, the work you nominate must have occurred between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 (FY 2020-21). Judges will focus on achievements in the 2020–21 financial year. If your project also took place outside that timeframe, please specify what was achieved during the 2020–21 financial year.*

**\*5. Please describe the technology project, including commencement and completion dates.** (In fewer than 400 words)

*Remember that the iTnews Benchmark Awards focus on end-user organisations’ challenges and how projects helped them.*

*And as you complete this form, remember that your entry will be judged according to:*

* *The strength of the business case for the project.*
* *The project’s delivery – evidence of agility, creative applications of IT and competencies developed, whilst keeping within targeted scope, deadline and cost.*
* *Whether new ground was forged – in terms of innovation and new technologies or approaches, and how this risk was managed.*
* *Return on investment – anticipated or measured.*

*Feel free to include links to additional supporting material.*

**\*6. What was the ultimate aim of the project?** (In fewer than 50 words)

**TECHNOLOGY**

**\*7. Was there any bespoke software development required by your team? What technology products were used?** (In fewer than 100 words)

**\*8. Were the services of any technology services providers or consultancies involved? What did they contribute to the project?** (In under 100 words)

**\*9. What return on investment was projected? What has been measured?**

*Evidence of ROI will be weighted higher during the judging process.*

**STRATEGY**

**\*10. Please name the CIO/senior IT decision maker responsible for delivery of this IT project (i.e. recipient for award).**

**\*11. Please provide the names and contact details of two peers (ideally, direct reports to the CIO/project lead or executives they report to) who would be willing to endorse the project and those that led its implementation.**

**\*12. Please name the team members directly responsible for delivery of the project.** (If applicable)

**\*13. How does this project fit within your organisation’s broader business strategy?** (In fewer than 200 words)

**\*14. How does this technology implementation set you apart from the rest of your industry?** (In fewer than 200 words)

**\*15. How did you manage change and win staff over to the new technology?** (In fewer than 200 words)

**\*16. How was the business case pitched to other senior stakeholders? How did you gain executive sponsorship?** (In fewer than 200 words)

**Conditions of entry**

iTnews reserves the right to publish details of your award entry, but will not publish information that you indicate is confidential.

If your entry is a finalist, we will contact you in January 2022.

Finalists will be announced in late February and early March 2022 by iTnews.

Winners will be announced at a gala awards dinner on 31st March, 2022 at the KPMG offices in Barangaroo in Sydney.

You can send questions about the IoT Awards to itnewsawards@nextmedia.com.au.

Thank you for your submission and best of luck!

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