



Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards

Recognising excellence, innovation and contribution

Nomination Information



What are the Spatial Excellence Awards (SEA)?

The Spatial Excellence Awards celebrate the achievements of top spatial information enterprises and individuals, and showcase the finest projects and most significant performance of professionals that the Surveying and Spatial Industry have to offer. Projects and individuals attaining recognition at this premier event are deemed to be truly outstanding achievers and pre-eminent in their field.

SEA provides a stepping stone for organisations and individuals to be nominated in the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards (APSEA) – the only awards for the Asia Pacific region that recognise the excellent achievements of both individuals and organisations engaged in the surveying and spatial information industry in this region at a single event.

Previous years have seen an excellent standard of competition, with a diverse range of individuals and small, medium and large private, public and academic sector organisations vying for these prestigious awards.

SEA Key Principles

- Recognise and acknowledge excellence in the surveying and spatial information industry in education and research
- Celebrate excellence before an audience of industry peers
- Encourage activities that create a stronger, larger and more relevant industry
- Congratulate individuals for their contributions to improving the quality and recognition of the profession
- Embrace the achievements of the industry and its related industries and professions
- See the industry as a whole grow and mature through its achievements in innovation, business and in project management
- Promote the industry's capabilities to a broader market

What do the awards achieve for industry?

Recognising excellence is an important marketing tool for both individuals and organisations in every sphere of the profession.

Celebrating that excellence in full view of peers and colleagues encourages activities and behaviours that make the industry stronger, bigger and more relevant.

Participants and observers alike can see the industry as a whole, understand its strength and potential, see it as a growing and maturing sector proficient at key business and management competencies - as an innovative and exciting prospect for future investment.

Who hosts it?

SEA is jointly hosted by the two organisations that created the concept and actively promote it: The Spatial Industries Business Association (SIBA), Geospatial Information and Technologies Association (GITA ANZ) and the Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI).

Who is eligible to enter?

Industry Awards are open to any organisation — private, public, academic or not for profit — provided the evidence submitted relates to the two years* immediately prior to the making of the application and relates to spatial activities. Private organisations can include sole traders, partnerships and corporations.

** Activities completed more than two years ago may still be eligible in some extenuating circumstances. In such cases, entrants should apply for eligibility on a case-by-case basis.*

Nominations for individual awards are to be provided by members of SSSI. The SSSI Regional Committee will nominate a judging panel to select the winners.

Fees

Entry for all SIBA member companies is FREE. However, a fee for entry into the industry project awards is payable by **companies that are NOT members of SIBA|GITA**. The fee per project is \$500 (excl GST). This is a nominal fee that ensures that the cost of running the event is born by the industry as a whole, and not just SIBA members.

There is no fee for the SEA individual awards when the nominated person is a member of SSSI. There is a \$500 (GST inclusive) fee payable for **nominees** for Young Professional of the Year and Professional of the Year **who are not members of SSSI**.

Judging

The SEA Judging Panel for the Industry Awards is comprised of industry peers, authorities, associates and advisors who provide expert, objective and independent opinions on the merits of the projects entered in any given year.

The Judging Panel's decisions are final. No correspondence is exchanged once the decisions are made. Information about which projects have entered or won awards will not be issued or made public prior to the Awards Presentation.

The Judging Panel can also confer *“Highly Commended”* if they consider that projects merit recognition but fall outside the parameters of established or given award categories.

For every project entered, the Judges will presume that, as a mandatory minimum:

- The workplace was safe
- The client was satisfied with the outcome
- The methodologies used were professionally and ethically sound

In addition to specific category criteria, the Judging Panel may additionally consider a project's merit according to any other agreed or relevant benchmarks. Conversely, Judges may elect to not confer an award in any given category if they consider that none of the projects entered in that category warrant recognition for excellence.

Entrants should note that a project's 'size' will not, of itself, necessarily improve or limit the likelihood of winning an award. Entries from smaller companies and related to smaller scale projects are encouraged.

The Judging Panel for the SSSI Individual Awards is comprised of a number of esteemed members who represent all the Commissions and Special Interest Groups within SSSI.

Recognition

All winners are announced and prizes presented at the official Awards Presentation at state level. Every award winner receives a certificate.

Winning projects also receive the SEA Award insignia suitable for print and web publication.

Project Nominators are NOT advised whether their project is a Finalist prior to the awards presentation. At least one representative for each project entered is required to attend the Awards Presentation.

Winners' details are subsequently published in available and appropriate media.

Individual and project winners are eligible for the National APSEA Awards held annually with the exception of some specified state awards.

How to submit

Entrants are encouraged to provide sufficient evidence to fully answer the category criteria. Each submission should address the specific criteria and demonstrate:

- Why the organisation has 'achieved excellence'
- How the organisation 'delivers outcomes above and beyond the ordinary'; and
- How the organisation contributes to 'the growth and maturity' of the industry and the economy.

Each submission:

- Must be made via the SIBA [SEA Awards website](#)
- Must address the criteria for the category entered
- Must include at least one representative image (min 300dpi / jpg)
- Statement of Excellence

APSEA Website - <https://spatialexcellence.awardsplatform.com>

Instructions

- Click on the link
- Create a user ID
- A confirmation will be sent to your email, click on the link to confirm your account
- Login and lodge your application

Applicants may Login and change their submission up until the final submission date.

Industry Awards Categories

1. Spatial Enablement
2. Innovation and Commercialisation
3. Technical Excellence
4. People and Community
5. Environment and Sustainability
6. Export

The points listed below, to the extent they are relevant, are to be used as a guide when writing a submission and supplementary materials. Nominees should provide sufficient evidence to substantiate any claims.

References are desirable in all cases.

You must provide an executive summary or a statement of excellence. You should clearly outline what the issue was that spatial solved.

Further support or clarification of a criteria can be provided through an attached document.

You must meet the initial requirement and answer the criteria. You are invited to call the office for further guidance and advice in deciding which category to enter.

Highlight areas of ingenious adaptation of new or existing solutions, innovative application of emerging or developing technologies and the uniqueness of the project.

Award for Spatial Enablement

The Award for Spatial Enablement recognises products or projects in which the application of spatial information, methodology and/or tools has greatly improved the outcomes of a project, process or product.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation (200 words)
- ❖ Application of spatial information, methodology and/or tools in a non-spatial market or project (250 words)
- ❖ Demonstrated benefit and outcomes as a result of spatial enablement. Identification of the business outcome that was not able to be delivered without the spatial technology and information. (600 words)
- ❖ Has the project been implemented and how long is it likely to be utilised (250 words)

Award for Innovation and Commercialisation

The Award for Innovation and Commercialisation recognises products or projects that made a significant contribution to the industry through the introduction of a new idea, method, technology, process or application resulting in social, environmental and/or economic benefits.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (200 words)
- ❖ Design of original solutions or ingenious adaptation of existing solutions. (300 words)
- ❖ Innovative application of emerging or developing technologies (300 words)
- ❖ Commercial viability including market take-up of the innovation. (500 words)
- ❖ Overcoming barriers of entry to market. (350 words)
- ❖ Sustainability (social, cultural, environmental and/or economic) benefit to the industry or the community. (300 words)

Award for Technical Excellence

The Technical Excellence Award recognises products or projects that implemented spatial solutions to an exceptionally high technical standard, overcoming significant technical challenges, and delivering outstanding results for the client. In contrast with the Innovation and Commercialisation Award, this category focuses on excellence in applying existing technology and methodologies.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (200 words)
- ❖ Level of complexity of the challenge. (250 words)
- ❖ Degree of technical methodology to overcome the challenge in delivering the solution. (500 words)
- ❖ Peer review and/or client satisfaction (500 words)
- ❖ Potential as a new spatial sciences benchmark. (250 words)

Award for People and Community

The People and Community Award recognises products or projects that make a difference to issues that affect communities via 'grass roots' initiatives and/or educational programs, services or tools that permit the widespread adoption, use, understanding and access to spatially enabled products or services.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (200 words)
- ❖ Demonstrated community acceptance, understanding and uptake of the solution. (300 words)
- ❖ Training, educational programs or tools enabling adoption. (500 words)
- ❖ Demonstrated benefit and/or contribution to the community. (300 words)

Award for Environment and Sustainability

The Environment and Sustainability award recognises products and projects that help to resolve any issue in an environmental context.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (200 words)
- ❖ Benefit to the environment. Impact on natural resource management and effect on the balance of the environment. (300 words)
- ❖ Methodology, verification and reporting. (500 words)
- ❖ Actions taken to address safety and structural or technical integrity. (300 words)
- ❖ Application of emerging or developing technologies. (250 words)

Award for Export

The Export Award recognises products or projects that successfully and commercially apply specific spatial knowledge, products, and/or IP in an export market.

Specific criteria

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- ❖ Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence (600 words)
- ❖ Project description: This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (200 words)
- ❖ Proportion of local specific content. (250 words)
- ❖ Developed locally and/or developed in conjunction with the export market. (300 words)
- ❖ Actively marketed into export countries. (300 words)
- ❖ Overcoming barriers of entry to the export market. (300 words)
- ❖ Use and application of technology, services or data within an export market. (250 word)

SSSI Individual Awards categories

1. SSSI Professional of the Year (Regional & National)
2. SSSI Young Professional of the Year (Regional & National)
3. SSSI Women's Leadership Award (Regional & National)
4. SSSI Educational Development Award (Regional & National)
5. SSSI Postgraduate Student Award (Regional & National)
6. SSSI Undergraduate Student Award (Regional & National)
7. SSSI Special Achievement Award (Regional Only)

SSSI Professional of the Year Award

A practitioner who is working in any of the disciplines of the surveying and spatial sciences whose professional achievements are acknowledged by peer citation as exemplifying the highest standards of excellence and ethical conduct.

Specific criteria

- ❖ Outstanding performance in their occupation
- ❖ Service to the surveying and spatial profession over a year or more
- ❖ Held in highest respect by peers
- ❖ Made a lasting difference to the surveying and spatial profession by their leadership
- ❖ Contributed to continuing professional development.

SSSI Young Professional of the Year

This award recognises a young professional who has made significant contributions in the field of Surveying and Spatial Science and acts as a role model for others in the industry.

Specific criteria

- ❖ Outstanding performance in their occupation
- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Participation in professional sub-committees and groups
- ❖ Contribution to significant projects
- ❖ Ongoing continuing professional education
- ❖ Under the age of 36 as at 31 December 2017 (under the age of 30 for NZ Spatial Excellence entries).

SSSI Women's Leadership Award

This award recognises women who have demonstrated a significant contribution to the spatial industry and have shown potential to achieve and deliver benefits to the profession. In addition, this award may also recognise any member of the spatial industry who has contributed to the advancement and career development of women in the spatial industry in a way that has had a positive and long-term impact.

Specific criteria

- ❖ Contribution to the profession
- ❖ Service to the surveying and spatial profession over a year or more
- ❖ Has made a lasting difference to the surveying and spatial profession for women by their leadership
- ❖ Contribution to continuing professional development

SSSI Educational Development Award

This award is conferred on practicing teachers, facilitators or academics who have substantially contributed, through teaching, research, publication or professional activities. It acknowledges leadership not only in empowering students in the use of technologies, but also in supporting other teachers to acquire knowledge and/or promote excellence for practising academics in the fields of surveying and spatial science.

Specific criteria

- ❖ Teaching, and/or
- ❖ Research, and/or
- ❖ Publication record, and/or
- ❖ Contribution to primary and/or secondary surveying and spatial education teaching
- ❖ Professional activities; service to the university, community and profession.

SSSI Postgraduate Student Award

This award is conferred on a Postgraduate student** who has undertaken a research project that contributes to the ongoing progression of the surveying and spatial profession.

*** Students eligible to enter this award include PhD and Masters Research students.*

Specific criteria

- ❖ The quality and usefulness of the research and development
- ❖ Relevance of the project to current issues and initiatives
- ❖ Demonstrated technical prowess
- ❖ Significance and implication of research for the spatial industry/science
- ❖ Quality of project design and implementation
- ❖ To be eligible, the nominee must complete the degree to which their research contributes during the calendar year of the award.

SSSI Undergraduate Student Award

This award is conferred on a student** who has undertaken a research project in the course of their studies that contributes to the ongoing progression of the surveying and spatial profession.

*** Students eligible to enter this award include final year undergraduates and graduates including Honours, Graduate Certificate/Diploma, Vocational and Educational Training (e.g. TAFE, Polytechnics) and Masters by coursework.*

Specific criteria

- ❖ The quality and usefulness of the research project
- ❖ Relevance of the project to current issues and initiatives
- ❖ Demonstrated technical prowess in the project
- ❖ Quality of project design and implementation
- ❖ To be eligible, the nominee must complete the degree to which their research contributes during the calendar year of the award.

Special Achievement Award

This award is conferred on persons who have substantially contributed to both the industry and their community, while overcoming obstacles or particular challenges. This award differs from that of Spatial Professional of the Year or Service to the Spatial Industry in that it aims to recognise the broad range of roles undertaken by many individuals, such as spouse/partner, parent, chauffeur, chef, financial manager, housekeeper, nurse, sports coach, as well as being involved in community-based activities, etc. It recognises that many individuals face obstacles or challenges, such as having a disability, or having to take career breaks to raise families and/or care for family members, etc. The ability of nominees in contributing to the industry while juggling their family and community-based activities is an aspect of this award. It essentially recognises need for balance between work and the rest of life.

***This is a REGIONAL category only and winners of this award do not progress to the Asia Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards.*



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