OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

IBEX will be presenting Innovation Awards in a number of product categories at the 2026 International BoatBuilders' Exhibition & Conference (IBEX). The judging of the Innovation Awards will be conducted by persons selected by Boating Writers International, Inc. (BWI). Innovation Awards are awarded based upon the judges' subjective determination of which Product entries best satisfies the criteria listed below. There will be fourteen product categories (included on the Official Entry Form) eligible for Innovation Awards at IBEX 2026; however, there is no guarantee that an Innovation Award winner will be selected for each category. **Winning products will be selected based on the following criteria:**

- Have innovative distinction from other products currently manufactured in the marine industry
- Have substantial modification or adaptation to the marine market if the product is an extension from a non-marine or general market
- Provide benefit to the marine industry and/or consumer
- Provide practicality of use
- Cost-effectiveness

Products entered into the 2026 IBEX Innovation Awards program must comply with the following rules:

- Product must be on display in its finished, sellable state at the time of the show at which it is entered.
- Product must not have been previously submitted for an Innovation Award.
- Product must be sold or available for order at the time of the show at which it is entered or for sale to the public within 60 days after the end of the show. No concept products will be considered.
- Product cannot have been sold or available for order in the U.S. more than one year prior (October 7, 2025) to being entered for an Innovation Award at any show.
- Participation in the Awards is limited to contracted companies exhibiting at IBEX 2026.

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee is $450 for NMMA members and $550 for non-members per Product entered. U.S. currency, credit or check are acceptable payment types and must be received by August 25, 2026.

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ENTRY: The official entry form must be submitted by August 18, 2026. In addition, the following items must be submitted to validate entry.

- Required: Complete the Official 2026 IBEX Innovation Award Entry form by August 18, 2026. *Located in the Exhibitor Resource Center.
- Required: Submit a product summary (250-word max) describing the product/process and its innovative nature. *Submitted on entry form.
- Required: Provide product image and company logo (hi res required) *Submitted via Egnyte file share by August 25, 2026. Following acceptance of official entry form, IBEX will provide a unique link to share images.
- Required: Provide a product video (3-minute max) showcasing the innovative features of the product in a succinct matter. Production quality is not judged. *Submitted via Egnyte file share by August 25, 2026. Following acceptance of official entry form, IBEX will provide a unique link to share video.
- If applicable: Upload additional product photos, brochures, catalogues, or other pertinent information about the Product using the Egnyte file share link by August 25, 2026.
- Required: Complete payment for entry by August 25, 2026. ($450 NMMA member/ $550 non-member per Product). *Payment should be submitted through the Exhibitor Resource Center once the invoice has been received.
- Required: Participate in onsite product demonstration meeting with judges. Meetings will be scheduled after program entry closes and will take place onsite, October 4 and 5, 2026. Product must be present during the meeting.

PARTICIPATION: Participation in the 2026 IBEX Innovation Awards is limited to companies contracted to exhibit at IBEX 2026.

CANCELLATION/REFUND: Product entry cancellations and withdrawals received by August 25, 2026 may be eligible to receive a full refund and will not be deemed as an active participant in the program. Entry cancellations received after August 25, 2026 will not be eligible for a refund. A product withdrawal must be submitted by September 18, 2026. Withdrawal requests made after September 18th will not be accepted. The entry will be considered active in the program and judged. The product will remain ineligible for consideration at future IBEX, Minneapolis and Miami Innovation Award programs. Judges review all entrant material prior to the product demonstration meetings. In result,

products that fail to be present during the scheduled onsite judges meeting will still be judged. Entry withdrawal should be completed by contacting Rachel Harmon at rharmon@nmma.org. All refund requests must be made by the entrant or credit card holder. Refunds will be credited back to the original credit card used for payment, unless otherwise directed.

DISCLAIMER: The Innovation Award judges make their determination based on information submitted by participating manufacturers. Those persons who serve as judges have limited time to review the information submitted and to review the Product. The judges make their determination based on such information submitted, such review and the knowledge, experience, and skill of the judges. The judges will conduct no testing of the Product itself. The selection of a particular Product for an Innovation Award does not constitute NMMA's or BWI's (i) endorsement of the Product nor (ii) a warranty of the Product's fitness for a particular purpose, effectiveness, or safety. It merely reflects the judges' judgment that, if the Product in fact performs or functions as the materials submitted with the Product purport, such Product is more "innovative" than the other Products in its category and satisfies the other criteria listed above.

PARTICIPANT DECLARATION: By completing an Official Entry Form to submit a Product for consideration for an Innovation Award, each company submitting a Product (an "Applicant") is deemed to have read and understood all Official Rules and Regulations and, in addition, is deemed to have acknowledged and agreed to the following:

- Applicant acknowledges that NMMA has the right to review and amend the program, when necessary, in order to conduct the program to completion.
- Applicant represents to NMMA and to BWI that (i) Applicant owns the Product without conflict with, or infringement upon, the valid rights of others, (ii) the Product was not sold or available for purchase to any person or entity in the U.S. prior to October 7, 2025 and (iii) Applicant has no knowledge of any other person or entity marketing or selling any product that is similar to the Product that has not been disclosed in the materials submitted.
- Applicant acknowledges and agrees that all product images, product video, trademarks, tradenames, logos and other materials

(collectively, the "Images") submitted to NMMA may be used in NMMA's promotional, marketing, outreach, educational, informational, and other materials including, without limitation, in connection with NMMA's website, the Innovation Awards Program and any of NMMA's boat shows, trade shows or other exhibitions (collectively, the "NMMA Materials"). By completing an Official Entry Form and entering the Innovation Awards Program, Applicant irrevocably grants NMMA (including its affiliates and assigns) (i) a royalty-free, transferable license to use Applicant's name, logo and Images in NMMA Materials; and (ii) permission to photograph, record, broadcast, publish, distribute, reproduce, modify and otherwise use the Images in any format or media (including, but not limited to, print, tape, film, audio, video, DVD, composite, artistic, electronic, digital, Internet and Web cast), in whole or in part, in connection with the NMMA Materials, and Applicant hereby waives any and all rights in and to such recordings or duplications.

- Applicant acknowledges that any Innovation Award granted is based on compliance with these Rules and Regulations and the accuracy of the above representations and warranties. Therefore, any violation of the Rules and Regulations or breach of any of the representations or warranties (in the sole determination of NMMA) shall give NMMA grounds to revoke any award granted by giving written notice to that effect to an Applicant, in which event, Applicant agrees to return the Innovation Award and to cease making reference to the Innovation Award in its marketing literature.
- Applicant agrees to hold NMMA and BWI harmless and indemnify NMMA and BWI from any and all loss, cost, expense (including reasonable attorneys fees), and damage that may arise or be incurred by either or both of them as a result of Applicant's participation in this Innovation Awards program or Applicant's being granted an Innovation Award.