ITCC Innovation Award

Have you or your team created a product, service or initiative that resulted in a positive impact to your company or the IT certification industry? Was it a project that helped improve the customer or test candidate experience or resulted in candidates more accurately being able to demonstrate their skills and abilities? Then it's time to share your story and gain recognition for your leadership. Nominations are now being accepted for the Information Technology Certification Council's (ITCC) Innovation Award.

Submission Qualifications

- Implementation of an innovative test, process, or service within the past two years
- The product, service, or initiative must produce value for one or more stakeholders within the IT certification and testing industry, such as, but not limited to:
  o Increased security of a test
  o Resulted in a new method for evaluating competencies
  o Improved convenience or market access to your certification program
  o Enhanced the respect and demand for certified professionals
- Open to companies and individuals in the IT certification industry (ITCC membership is not required)

Application

- Company
- Contact name
- Contact title
- Contact phone
- Contact email
- Contact’s role or relationship to the innovation
- Innovation name

Participants must write a brief abstract of 1,000 words or less responding to each of the questions below. Please consider and carefully address each point. A follow-up presentation and interview will take place if the submission is selected as a finalist. The written submission and contact information should be emailed to info@itcertcouncil.org.

- Description of the innovation
- Description of the genesis of the innovation
- Describe the value or benefits from the innovation to the various stakeholders
- Provide the measureable results
- What lessons were learned as a result this innovation

Submission Dates

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, January 5, 2018. The award presentation will take place at an ITCC event gathering during the ATP Innovations in Testing Conference in San Antonio, Texas in February 2018.
Judging Process

1. **Written Submission**
   All submissions will be distributed to the judging panel for the first phase of judging. Judges will score the applications based on the how well the written submission addresses each of the Judging Criteria Questions. The scores from each judge will be totaled to get the submission scores. The top finalists will be selected for the presentation and interview phase of judging.

2. **Finalist Presentations & Interviews**
   Each finalist will be asked to present a 15-minute presentation explaining the innovation. Emphasis should be placed on clearly defining the innovation, the reason the innovation was developed, the benefits to the different stakeholders, the measurable results, and the lessons learned. Following the presentation, the judges will be given 15 minutes to ask questions of the innovation representative. (These presentations/conference calls will be recorded for any judge unable to attend the scheduled call.)

3. **Judges Meeting**
   The judges will schedule a conference call to discuss their evaluation of each of the finalists and will then come to consensus on the winning submission.

Judges Criteria

- **How strategic was the genesis of the innovation?**
  Address a known weakness or threat, expand on a strength or opportunity, expand market share, develop a new product, service a new client base, etc.

- **What was the level of innovation?**
  Was it to improve an existing process/product/service or create a new process/product/service, was it an application of existing technology in the market or new technology, was it a high risk exploration or a low risk exploration

- **What values or benefit did it create for one or more stakeholders?**
  How did your innovation bring value to those who hold some influence over the certifications you build? How does it benefit them while still being a benefit to the individual certified professional?

- **How well do the measurable results demonstrate an impact of the innovation?**
  Provide hard data. Show how numbers of certified professionals improved due to your innovation, or how much time or effort was saved. Be as specific with numbers as possible.

- **How valuable were the lessons learned for the industry?**
  Versus for the organization or the individuals involved

Panel of Judges
Selected from the ITCC members, past winners, past finalists, and the ITCC Board of Directors. An individual may not serve as a judge if the organization to which they represent submits for this award.

Fee to Nominate
There is no fee associated with submission.
**Award Winner Details**

- Award presentation at the ITCC meeting in conjunction with the ATP Conference
- A featured story in the ITCC quarterly e-newsletter, *TechCertNews*, and recognition print ad in industry press outlets
- ITCC leadership will provide quotes for winner and finalists for press releases or internal newsletters
- Presentation opportunity at an ITCC member meeting webinar for winner and finalists
- Finalists invited to participate in the Spring ITCC Member Meeting

**Be recognized as an IT certification innovator.**
**Submit today for this prestigious industry award!**