

2003



INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

NON-MACHINERY COMPETITION

COSPONSORED BY



Association of Independent
Corrugated Converters



Board Converting News

About The Competition

SPONSORED BY AICC AND BOARD CONVERTING NEWS, the Innovator of the Year Competition provides an outlet for AICC members to showcase innovations they have created to increase plant productivity, improve plant efficiency, and overall, serve as the solution to a specific production or management problem. Since its beginning in 1988, the competition has evolved to include AICC's boxmaker members as well as our Associate members in both the Machinery and Non-Machinery categories.

The Innovator of the Year Competition is a video-based competition that requires companies to submit a 5-minute video of the innovation with off-camera narration and a completed entry form describing the innovation.

From the entries submitted, six finalists are selected by AICC's Plant Innovations Committee and a 7-10 minute videotape is developed to highlight each of the finalists. Winners are selected during AICC's Annual Meeting each fall by an AICC meeting attendee secret vote during the opening General Session and announced during the closing General Session.

THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS features the NON-MACHINERY category in which any non-machinery innovation developed since October 2000 can be entered into the competition by AICC Associate Members only.

Introduced in 1997, this category is defined as anything not used in the actual mechanical converting process or as any innovation that adds value to the board, and/or a non-corrugating machinery product innovation that may touch the board (i.e., substrates, conveyors, etc.), and/or a machine that produces production-run converted products (i.e., sample table). In other words ... cost-saving ideas ... novel employee education programs ... special incentive programs ... boxplant problem-solving in the non-machinery area ... simple modifications ... refinement in a process that results in increased efficiency and productivity ... innovations that address environmental issues ... computer systems, software and consulting ... linerboards and new substrates ... quality and management controls ... administrative support ... financial services ... and much more!

THE INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS include the Innovator of the Year, and Second and Third Place designations. The Innovator of the Year is the recipient of the silver Trophy Bowl as well as a complimentary registration to the next national AICC meeting. Second and Third Place winners receive plaques commemorating their win in the competition. All winners and finalists also receive a copy of the Innovator of the Year Video, a compilation of the competition's winning entries and finalists.



Entry Rules and Video Guidelines

ELIGIBILITY The Non-Machinery Competition is open to all AICC Associate Members.

HOW TO ENTER Complete the official entry form with a written description of the entry and its benefits, and submit the form with a 5-minute (NTSC format) video of the entry that includes off-camera narration describing the demonstration.

ENTRY FEES Entry fees are not required to enter the competition.

MULTIPLE ENTRIES You may enter more than one entry provided that each entry includes its own completed entry form and a separate 5-minute video of the entry.

VIDEOS SHOULD NOT INCLUDE the product or manufacturer's name/logo as the innovation itself is all that will be included in the final video. Your entry should visually demonstrate your innovation in use and show how it is innovative. Only factual, non-commercial information should be included.

SHOOTING THE VIDEO A variety of camera angles/views of the innovation should be submitted. Show the entry/demonstrator in a "wide shot" and at least one "close shot."

Please submit no more than 5 minutes of video.

NARRATION It is strongly recommended that the narrator's only role be to explain the entry's demonstration. The narrator should not be doing the demonstration or operating the camera. Please do not include music.

JUDGING Entries are first judged by a panel of industry experts who make up the AICC Plant Innovations Committee. Six finalists are chosen and featured at AICC's Annual Meeting during which meeting attendees vote by secret ballot for the Innovator of the Year.

While judging is based on the merit of your entry and not on the professionalism of the video, please note that a good video (i.e., good lighting, steady hand, clear picture) with a good explanation on the entry form and off-camera narration can only help.

PROFESSIONALLY PRODUCED MATERIALS

For professionally produced videos, please observe the following guidelines:

- Raw, rather than edited footage is encouraged. Graphics and overlays should not be used unless they are critical to explaining how the entry operates, are non-commercial in nature, and do not contain your company/product name, logo or any other identifying information.
- Materials must be in the U.S. standard NTSC format. Tape formats accepted include: Beta and Beta SP, preferably dubbed from the original camera tapes; material transferred to DVD; digital files in QuickTime format (640 x 480 size minimum, 29.97 fps, upper or first field dominant). Other formats such as DVCam, MiniDV, 3/4" U-Matic, Beta SX and Digi-Beta will be accepted but will incur a \$100 transfer fee. VHS tape submissions are discouraged and submission of digital files other than those described above cannot be accepted.

VIDEO RECORDED BY YOU

For videos produced with a consumer-grade video camera, please observe the following guidelines:

- Raw, rather than edited footage is encouraged.
- Mount the camera on a tripod; a shaky video will not show your entry to its best advantage.
- Use the highest grade videotape available and a new tape that has not been previously used.
- Use additional lighting whenever possible. Typically, the more light, the better the quality.
- Record a minimum of five seconds before any action begins everytime you turn on the camera.
- Acceptable formats include: 8mm and Hi-8 formats as well as materials transferred to DVD. Other formats such as: DVCam; MiniDV; 3/4" U-Matic; Beta SX; and Digi-Beta will be accepted but will incur a \$100 transfer fee. We strongly recommend against submitting your entry in VHS format as the image quality will not show your product well.

ENTRY DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 2nd, 2003

INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR • NON-MACHINERY COMPETITION

Entry Form

CHOOSE ONE ENTRY CATEGORY

Production/Equipment Administrative Materials/Supplies

PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR INNOVATION. Tell us what it is designed to achieve and how it works and include/attach additional materials if needed. Use another sheet of paper if necessary.

WHY IS THIS ENTRY INNOVATIVE? Use another sheet of paper if necessary.

WHAT IS THE INSTALLED/DELIVERED PRICE OF THIS INNOVATION (IF APPLICABLE)?

APPROXIMATE INSTALLATION TIME: _____

PLEASE GIVE YOUR BEST ESTIMATE OF THE DOLLAR SAVINGS PRODUCED BY THIS INNOVATION.

\$ _____ **PER MONTH** \$ _____ **PER YEAR**

PLEASE DESCRIBE measurable results, e.g., time savings, waste reduction, labor reduction, streamlining of specific operations or other production or administrative savings.

COMPANY INFORMATION

COMPANY NAME _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

CONTACT NAME _____ CONTACT TITLE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

COMPETITION AGREEMENT CLAUSE

Please read and sign below: We are happy and proud to enter our innovation in the spirit of sharing new ideas, solutions and discoveries with the AICC membership. We understand that our entry may be publicly described and published, and we hereby give the Association of Independent Corrugated Converters (AICC) permission to do so without restriction.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____