

William C. Schwartz 2006 Industry Innovation Awards

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Mitsubishi Power Systems • U.S. Nutraceuticals • Disney Shared Services • CESSNA/Citation • Geotechnical & Environmental Consultants • Indra Systems • Superchips • Lake-Sumter Emergency Medical Services • Nursery Supplies • Kinetics • Channel Intelligence • Crow • Planet Digital • Ocean Optics • Adacel Systems • Insulated Component Structures of Florida • Kissimmee Utility Authority • .decimal • Engineering & Computer Simulations

Nominations must
be received by
Friday, June 30, 2006

Call for nominations!

The Metro Orlando EDC invites you to submit nominations for the 2006 William C. Schwartz Industry Innovation Awards. Awards will be presented at an awards luncheon on Thursday, September 14, 2006.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES: Successful innovation is a driving force behind expanding and diversifying our economy. Whether it be new technology or simply a new approach, when people conceive ideas and create new or improved products and services that fulfill customers' needs, companies are born, established companies flourish, and job opportunities grow.

The Metro Orlando EDC's William C. Schwartz Industry Innovation Awards program honors companies for creating, developing, and successfully implementing products, ideas and processes. Winners are chosen in Orange, Seminole, Lake and Osceola counties and the City of Orlando. The purpose of the awards program is to inspire future entrepreneurs, scientists, business leaders and dreamers to harness the incredible power and promise of technology and creative thinking to solve the challenges that confront us in the 21st Century.

Eligibility: A nomination can be made by an individual or by a team of individuals on behalf of a company. Nominees must be based in the Metro Orlando region, which includes Orange, Seminole, Lake and Osceola counties and the City of Orlando.

Deadline for Nominations: The Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission must receive all nominations by Friday, June 30, 2006. Nominations received after that date will not be considered.

Processing of Nominations: The Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission will screen all entries to verify eligibility. Only entries that have been correctly prepared will be forwarded to the Awards Review Committee. The names of the winners will be disclosed at an awards luncheon on Thursday, September 14, 2006.

The Awards Review Committee, convened by the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission and consisting of prominent members of industry and government, will assess nominations based on the identified criteria. The Committee acknowledges that not all criteria will apply to every nomination.

The decision of the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission's Awards Review Committee is final. The judges have the discretion to determine whether there is a suitable winner for the award. If no winner is deemed suitable, no award will be presented.

Criteria for evaluating nominations includes any or all of the following:

- Extent and significance of the corporate innovation impact on the region;
- Extent and significance of the corporate innovation impact on your company or your employees;
- Overall contribution to Metro Orlando's competitiveness;
- Actual and future return on investment;
- Impact of patents, copyrights and trademarks relevant to achievements;
- Innovation's impact on the region's prestige through national and international recognition or significant benefits to society in general;
- Vision created by the individual or the team and the development and execution of a plan to accomplish the vision;
- Degree of resolve, persistence, barriers overcome, risk-taking and methods of risk management shown by the individual or the team in the innovative process;
- Evidence of extraordinary achievement and of entrepreneurial skills demonstrated relevant to cited achievements to make the innovation a success;
- Evidence regarding the environment and/or culture created to enable effective use of the innovation in meeting customer needs.

The Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission and the program sponsors may disclose the names of the award recipients and any information submitted as they consider appropriate. No claim can be made or any action brought against the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission, its sponsors or members of the selection committee as a result of use made of such information.