



## INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR Guidelines

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### SPONSOR

The award is sponsored by Wayne Economic Development Corporation (WEDCO). The Innovator, through enterprising spirit, determination and creativity, helps invigorate Wayne County's economy, promotes job creation or retention, and enriches the County's character and uniqueness. This effort is harmonious with WEDCO's overall work towards improving the quality of place for Wayne County residents.

### DESCRIPTION

To recognize, reward, and further encourage innovation in technology, product, or process for the betterment of a business, and therefore its employees and community as a whole. The scope of the award includes, but is not limited to, application of new equipment or technology. Equal consideration will be given to creative approaches in customer service, human resource issues and personnel relations, management, marketing, or production processes.

### WHY APPLY?

The Innovator of the Year will:

- be honored in November and receive an engraved plaque; the award presentation will be captured via video and photos;
- receive recognition through the various media outlets;
- increase the stature and morale of Wayne County's business community by sharing creative, productive actions and initiatives performed by one of its own.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection committee will consider the following:

- the unique or creative way(s) the product or process is being used;
- the specific challenges that had to be overcome during the development of the product or process;
- the specific challenges that had to be addressed and overcome during the pandemic;
- the tangible benefits of the idea, product, process to Wayne County in terms of jobs, economic impact, quality of life, and its ability to reflect positively on the County.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Nominees will be judged as indicated above and must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- WEDCO member and/or business located in Wayne County;
- for-profit business or not-for profit business;
- has not won the award during the last three years.

(Over)

## HOW ARE NOMINATIONS MADE?

Submit completed nomination form to WEDCO.

Email: Kim@WayneEconomic.com

Hand Deliver: 32 Commercial Street, Suite 1, Honesdale, PA 18431

All submissions will be acknowledged - please contact WEDCO if you do not receive an email receipt.

## NOMINATION GUIDELINES

- Nominations may be made by anyone, including self-nominations.
- Complete all the information on the nomination form.
- All entries should be typed or printed and may not exceed 1,000 words.
- Nomination forms must be received by WEDCO no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, October 15, 2021**. Late applications will not be considered.

## SELECTION COMMITTEE

- The committee consists of members of WEDCO's Board of Directors.
- To address potential conflict of interest, no member of the selection committee can be considered for the award during the time he or she serves on this committee.
- The decision of the WEDCO Board will be final. The award recipient will be notified by October 31, 2021.



**INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR**

## NOMINATION FORM

Complete Part 1 & 2; please type or print. This form is online at [WayneEconomic.com](http://WayneEconomic.com) and may be reproduced.

### PART 1 - CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Nominator:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Nominee:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the company won the award previously? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what year: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions?**  
Please contact:  
Mary Beth Wood  
Executive Director  
WEDCO  
32 Commercial St.  
Suite 1  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
570-253-2537  
[mbw@wedcorp.org](mailto:mbw@wedcorp.org)

### PART 2 - WHY IS THIS COMPANY AN INNOVATOR?

On a separate sheet, please tell us why your nominee is deserving of the Innovator of the Year Award. Do not exceed 1,000 words. You may want to consider how a technology or unique process is used, specific challenges that were overcome, or tangible benefits such as job creation, quality of life and positive economic impact on Wayne County.

**Return to WEDCO by Friday, October 15, 2021**

**E-mail:** [Kim@WayneEconomic.com](mailto:Kim@WayneEconomic.com)

**Hand Deliver:** 32 Commercial Street, Suite 1, Honesdale, PA 18431