



AUVSI XCELLENCE AWARD 2018

Deadline to submit nominations:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018



Award Submission Rules and Regulations

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Wednesday, February 21, 2018

ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY FEES and SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- The AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards are given to recognize new, creative and innovative ways of using unmanned systems to make our world better, safer and more productive. This can include new products, solutions, technology, projects or other advances in unmanned systems technology and applications. These are collectively referred to here as “solutions.” Interested applicants should not be limited by these descriptions, but rather should seek to push the boundaries of the possible.
- The AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards are open to any organization or individual. Eligible organizations include businesses, nonprofits, schools, and government agencies. Being an AUVSI member or AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2018 exhibitor is not required.
- All solutions must have been released, launched, implemented, deployed or otherwise put into use on or after May 1, 2016 Beta versions, upgrades or new releases that include significant changes and added features are also welcome.
- Entries must be submitted online via the Awards website, with payment by credit card, check or wire transfer payment of the appropriate fee. If submitting multiple entries or the same solution into several categories, each must have its own completed online entry and payment. The deadline for completed online entries is Wednesday, February 21, 2018. Payments by credit card must be made with the online submission by that date. Payments by check or wire transfer must be received by AUVSI not later than February 28, 2018.
- Entry fees are non-refundable. Incomplete entries or those without payment by the dates specified will be disqualified. However, not all categories require an entry fee. A full breakdown of fees follows:

	AUVSI Member- First Entry	AUVSI Member- Additional Entry	Non-Member- First Entry	Non-Member- Additional Entry
Technology Innovation – All Categories	\$299	\$249	\$349	\$299
Training and Education – Organization Categories	\$299	\$249	\$349	\$299

Training and Education – Individual Category	Free	Free	Free	Free
Operations and Safety – Organization Categories	\$299	\$249	\$349	\$299
Operations and Safety – Individual Category	Free	Free	Free	Free
Humanitarian	Free	Free	Free	Free

MULTIPLE ENTRIES:

- There is no limit on the number of entries permitted. An organization or individual may submit as many entries in as many categories as appropriate.
- Each entry requires a separate online submission and entry fee.
- If the same solution is being entered into multiple categories, a separate submission and entry fee is required.

CATEGORIES:

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION—recognizing those who strive for innovation as they boldly guide our industry into the next phase of technology advancement.

- Counter UAS & Security
- Cybersecurity
- Detect & Avoid
 - Air
 - Ground
 - Maritime
- Geofencing
- Hazardous Environment Detection
- Remote Identification
 - Air
 - Ground
 - Maritime

TRAINING AND EDUCATION—recognizing leadership in training and certification and developing a safety focused UAS culture.

- Training and Education (Organization)
- Airmanship & Contribution to the UAS Safety Culture (Organization)

- Airmanship & Contribution to the UAS Safety Culture (Individual)

OPERATIONS AND SAFETY—highlighting our industry’s commitment to safety and responsibility

- User Applications and Operations Software Platforms (Organization)
- Operational Safety & Risk Management (Organization)
- Airmanship & Contribution to the UAS Safety Culture (Organization)
- Airmanship & Contribution to the UAS Safety Culture (Individual)

HUMANITARIAN—demonstrating the role unmanned technology can play in bettering our world. AUVSI seeks to recognize organizations and/or individuals who have made a significant impact using unmanned systems to serve in a humanitarian or philanthropic effort.



JUDGING

- Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges consisting of industry experts, analysts and members of the media. The judges will be appointed by AUVSI, in consultation with others as deemed appropriate.
- Judging is scheduled to begin in early March and be completed by late March/early April.
- The panel of judges will evaluate and score your solution based solely on your online entry.
- If your product is embargoed, you may indicate that on the online submission form, as well as the date until which the product is embargoed. We ask our judges to honor all embargoes and not share any information publicly prior to the embargo being lifted, however, AUVSI cannot assume responsibility for the actions of our judges.
- Up to 5 top entries in each category will be named finalists in that category. Not all finalists will be winners. Finalists will be announced around early April.
- Finalists with the highest scores will be the winners of that category.
- Winners for all categories will be selected prior to AUVSI Xponential 2018 and will be announced during the event.
- The **TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION** entries will be scored on the following:
 - Innovation and Ingenuity – Is this solution cutting-edge and unique from its competitors? Does it creatively solve a problem or leverage an opportunity in a way not demonstrated in other solutions?
 - Functionality and Practicality – How practical and useful is the solution? Does it serve a true need in the marketplace?
 - Value, Impact and Effectiveness – How valuable or impactful is this solution?
 - Ease of Use/Implementation and Scalability – How easy is the solution to use or implement?
 - ‘Wow factor’ – Does the solution feature something unexpected, surprising or unanticipated?
 - Bonus Points as determined by the judges
- The **TRAINING AND EDUCATION** and **OPERATIONS AND SAFETY** entries will be scored on the following:

- Roles & Responsibilities and Organization Structure – Has the organization/individual developed clear safety roles and responsibility guidelines? Is this structure practical, usable and appropriate?
- Safety Systems Management – Has the organization/individual implemented a safety management system in place? What level of detail does this system include?
- Remote Crew Qualifications, Airmanship – Do remote crews under the direction of this individual/organization undertake additional courses, such as CRM and non-technical skills training, team and safety related courses?
- Emergency Response Plan and Procedures – Has the organization/individual implemented an emergency response plan? How many times has this been tested? Is training conducted based on this plan?
- Risk Assessment / Job Safety Assessments – Has the organization/individual developed and implemented a risk matrix and risk management system? Does a system track their near misses and incidents? Does the risk management system allow for improvement in their risk management due to their “lessons learned?” Are trainings provided for risk mitigation strategies?
- Accident and Incident Reporting Criteria – Has the organization/individual developed and implemented accident and reporting criteria? Are the criteria regularly utilized? Are the criteria comprehensive?
- The **HUMANITARIAN** entries will be scored based on the following:
 - Innovation and Ingenuity – Is this solution cutting-edge and unique from its competitors? Does it creatively solve a problem or leverage an opportunity in a way not demonstrated in other programs?
 - Functional and Practicality – How practical and useful is the solution? Has it been applied in a real-world situation? Does it serve a true need to improve the human condition?
 - Implementation and Scalability – How easy is the solution to use or implement? Could it be easily transferred to a different context (i.e., region, disaster zone)?
 - Legacy – What is the lasting impact of this solution? Was it a one-off or did the solution create an ongoing program?
 - Impact – Consider the impact of this solution on efforts to save lives, improve health and relieve hardship and suffering.

FINALISTS & WINNERS:

- Finalists will be notified prior to AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2018. All finalists will not be winners.
- Finalists with the highest scores will be the winners of that category.
- Winners for all categories will be selected prior to AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2018 and will be announced during the event.
- Winners will be announced on two separate occasions:
 - Winners of the Technology Innovation, Training and Education and Operations and Safety categories will be announced at the Awards Ceremony (*subject to change*):

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Solutions Theater in the XPO Hall

- Winners in the Humanitarian category will be announced during the Day 3 Keynote:

Thursday, May 3, 2018

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Mile High Ballroom

- Winners (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place and Humanitarian) will receive a prestigious trophy as well as an electronic promotional toolkit containing a press release template, photos and electronic file of the “winner’s” logo which may be used in collateral materials, website, emails etc. to promote your winning status.
- First Place winners will be invited on stage during each ceremony to accept their award and for a photo opportunity.
- Subject to sponsorships received, up to the five highest-scoring entries for the Humanitarian Award will win a cash donation. This cash donation will be given to each winner, or to a charitable organization designated by the winner (subject to approval of the organization by AUVSI).
- All winners will be announced through social media and through a press release that will be issued the day of the awards ceremony.

GENERAL:

- Entry in the competition entitles AUVSI the rights to use company names, any solution descriptions or images for promotional materials created by AUVSI and/or its sponsors.
- Entry in the competition indicates an agreement to abide by these AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards 2018 Rules & Regulations.
- AUVSI and the judges reserve the right to interpret and apply these Rules and Regulations without claim for damage or recourse of any kind. The decisions of AUVSI and the judges are final.

QUESTIONS:

Please contact Katie Cooper, the Awards Administrator, at kcooper@auvsi.org with any questions you may have regarding the Awards. We will answer your questions as soon as possible, however before emailing us, please be sure to check the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page to see if that answers your questions.

Thank you and good luck!