



4 - 6 OCTOBER 2022, BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE, AUSTRALIA

LAND FORCES 2022 INNOVATION AWARDS ELIGIBILITY AND JUDGING CRITERIA

AMDA Foundation Limited will present the **Land Forces 2022** Innovation Awards during the **Land Forces 2022** Exposition at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC), 4-6 October 2022.

There will be three Innovation Awards:

- **Land Forces 2022 National Innovation Award**
- **Land Forces 2022 SME Innovation Award (\$15,000 cash award)**
- **Land Forces 2022 Young Innovator Award (\$15,000 cash award)**

1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1.1 The **Land Forces 2022 National Innovation Award** and **SME Innovation Award** are open to all Australian companies. All entrants will automatically be entered for the National Innovation Award. Only if they are also Small-to-Medium Enterprises (SME) will they be entered for the SME Innovation Award (below.)

1.2 To be eligible for the **National Innovation Award** the entrant must have its headquarters and the majority of its operations based in Australia; and have an Australian Company Number (ACN) and/or Australian Business Number (ABN).

The **Land Forces 2022 National Innovation Award** is also open to SMEs working with Australian research institutions and universities on projects funded by the Australian Department of Defence or its Defence Science & Technology (DST) Group under one of three mechanisms: the **Defence Innovation Hub**; the **Next Generation Technologies Fund (NGTF)**, which is administered by DST; or under a project grant funded through the **Defence Science Institute** (DSI – located in Melbourne), **Defence Innovation Partnership** (DIP – located in Adelaide), **Defence Innovation Network** (DIN – located in Sydney), **Defence Science Centre** (DSC – located in Perth), or the **Queensland Defence Science Alliance** (QDSA – located in Brisbane).

1.3 The **Land Forces 2022 SME Innovation Award** is open to Small-to-Medium Enterprises (SME) that are Australian-owned, have their headquarters and the majority of their operations based in Australia; have an Australian Company Number (ACN) and/or Australian Business Number (ABN); and that satisfy the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) definition of an SME – that is, they employ less than 20 people (Small), or 199 people (Medium).

1.4 The **LAND FORCES 2022 Young Innovator Award** is open to Australians working (or doing the majority of their work) in Australia, even if their employer is the local subsidiary of a foreign company.

He or she may be employed by a company, academic body or government organisation. This award is aimed at engineers, researchers and scientists near the beginning of their career and is to be used to further develop their capabilities. The individual may be self-nominated or nominated by his or her employer.



The employer doesn't necessarily need to be an exhibitor, award finalist or winner. The nominee must be under 30 years of age as of the date that nominations fall due; and the nominee must not be employed in a senior supervisory role.

1.5 The **Land Forces 2022 National Innovation Award** and **SME Innovation Award** will be presented to the innovators that, in the opinion of the judging panel and the Board of AMDA Foundation Limited, have developed the most innovative new product, service, production or manufacturing process or approach to business in a specific category.

1.6 An innovation may be submitted only once unless (in the opinion of the Judges) it is too immature to be considered and so should be re-submitted once more when further refined; and it may win only once.

2. JUDGING CRITERIA - LAND FORCES 2022 NATIONAL INNOVATION AWARD and SME INNOVATION AWARD

2.1 Entries for the **Land Forces 2022 National Innovation Award** and **SME Innovation Award** will be judged on their inventiveness and relevance. A Pre-Condition for nomination is:

- Commercial Success or Demonstrated Market Potential

2.2 An Innovation has achieved 'Commercial Success' if it has achieved its first sale, or entered operational service, in the 18 months immediately prior to entries closing for the **Land Forces 2022 Innovation Awards**.

2.3 An Innovation will show 'Demonstrated Market Potential' if, in the opinion of the judging panel, the innovation is market-ready and the innovator concerned has developed a sound business plan and can point to unsatisfied market or operational demand for the product or service concerned. Entries from SMEs working with Australian research institutions and universities on Defence-funded R&D and innovation projects will be considered to have 'Demonstrated Market Potential'.

2.4 Successful nominees will then be judged on two criteria:

- Understanding of user needs
- Originality and innovation

2.5 These criteria will be given equal weighting, although the judges will treat entries from SMEs working with Australian research institutions and universities on Defence-funded R&D and innovation projects as demonstrating an understanding of user needs (this is a condition of receiving such funding). The judging panel will select winners whose innovations best meet these criteria and present their recommendation to the Board of AMDA Foundation Limited for validation.

2.6 In the event of a tie, added weight will be given to the entry judged most relevant to the land defence domain. In the event of an unresolved disagreement on whether or not an Innovation is truly Australian or has 'Demonstrated Market Potential', the judging panel will refer the matter to the AMDA Foundation Board and will abide by the Board's decision.

2.7 The SME Innovation Award may be awarded only to a single company, not to a consortium or industry team.

3. JUDGING CRITERIA - LAND FORCES 2022 YOUNG INNOVATOR AWARD

3.1 Nominations will be judged on the basis of their:

- Contribution to, or leadership of, a specific project
- Originality and Innovation in meeting the technical and/or business challenges in the project concerned.

3.2 The judging panel will select the Award winner who best meets these criteria and present their recommendation to the Board of AMDA Foundation Limited for validation. The final choice will rest with the Board.

3.3 In the event of a tie, the judging panel will refer the matter to the Board of AMDA Foundation Limited and will abide by the Board's decision.

4. TIMELINE

4.1 Nominations will open on 4 July 2022, closing at Close of Business on 8 August 2022. A shortlist of candidates will be drawn up by 6 September 2022.

4.2 The winners will be announced and awards presented at **LAND FORCES 2022** on Tuesday 4 October 2022.

5. DISCLAIMER

4.1 AMDA Foundation Limited reserves the right not to present this Award and not to present the SME Innovation Award if, in the opinion of the judging panel and the AMDA Foundation Board, no nominee is considered to be of sufficient quality.

For Further Information:

Mr Gregor Ferguson
Executive Manager Innovation and Industry Engagement
AMDA Foundation Limited
PO Box 4095
Geelong
VIC 3220

Tel: 0414 803 717

Email: gferguson@amda.com.au