



DESIGN**EUROPA**
AWARDS 2024

Rules of the
DesignEuropa Awards
2024



Industry and Entrepreneurs and Small Companies Categories

The DesignEuropa Awards are organised annually by the European Union Intellectual Property Office, which is the trade marks and designs office of the European Union.

Registered Community Designs (RCDs), which are all registered at the EUIPO, have been providing design protection at EU level since their introduction in 2003.

The aim of the awards is to raise awareness of the design protection system in the EU and to promote design as a valuable intellectual property right that underpins our economy and supports jobs.

1. Candidates and Eligibility

Candidates are required to submit their entries in accordance with the terms and conditions given below:

- The competition is open to any person, entity or institution of any nationality, either individually or as a team, provided that they own a valid RCD that is also marketed and sold (in any country).
- All designs submitted must be valid RCDs at the time of sending the application, with no pending invalidity proceedings. Finalist designs must retain their validity throughout the selection and award period.
- Designs entered for the competition must be marketed by the owner of the RCD or a licensee.

2. Categories

Entries must be submitted under the following categories:

- **Industry:** RCDs owned by companies with 50 or more employees or with a balance sheet total of EUR 10 million or more.
- **Entrepreneurs and small companies:** RCDs owned by companies with fewer than 50 employees and a balance sheet total of less than EUR 10 million **AND/OR** established on or since 1 January 2020.

3. Submission of entries

- Entries may be submitted either on the candidate's own initiative, at the behest of the Awards' promoters or by any other person, entity or institution that wishes to propose a candidate.
- Candidates must submit their entries using the online application form accessible on the DesignEuropa Awards website (www.designeuropaawards.eu).
- The form must be completed with the following basic information provided:
 - RCD number, RCD owner's contact details, designer's contact details
 - complementary information on RCD owner (year of creation of company, sector, number of employees, turnover and balance sheet total)
 - complementary marketing and sales information on the proposed design
- There is no entry fee.
- The period for submission of entries is from 13 December 2023 to 15 March 2024 (both dates inclusive).
- Entries that do not include the required information specified in the rules will not be accepted.
- They will be informed accordingly.
- The submission of an entry implies full and unconditional acceptance of all rules.

4. Awards

Candidates are required to submit their entries in accordance with the terms and conditions given below.

- The panel of judges may nominate up to three finalists in each category. A list of these finalists will be published on the official competition website and in other publications related to the awards.
- The nominated finalists will be asked to confirm their acceptance of the nomination and consent to the award.
- The awards for each category cannot be split between two entries.

- Finalists will be invited to the DesignEuropa Awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia in September 2024.
- Travel and accommodation costs will be covered by the organiser. The winner of each category will receive a trophy and a certificate.
- Finalists and winners will be featured on the DesignEuropa Awards website, in newsletters, and in other promotional and multimedia material published for disseminating information about this event. Information on the company, the designers and the selected designs will also be included in press dossiers for specialised press and media and may be used for other promotional activities organised by the Office.

5. Jury

- The jury will be suitably qualified and will have, collectively, ample experience in business, design and intellectual property.
- The jury will be selected by the Office from candidates meeting the criteria listed above.
- The responsibilities of the jury will be as follows:
 - to judge the entries and take a decision on the finalists and on the winner of each category
 - to act collectively (the winner must obtain a majority of the votes)
- Judging criteria:
 - Compliance:
 - Sound marketing and management of design and other intellectual property rights
 - Demonstrable impact on the market
 - Design Performance (a balanced outcome of the following applied criteria):
 - Aesthetic value and visual appeal
 - To support the overall performance of the product, appealing to users' emotions and experience in a meaningful way.
 - Usability/functionality
 - Understanding the needs of diverse user groups and interpreting the needs to create a product that is easy, safe and comfortable to use.
 - Innovation
 - The design should be used as a tool to reach a new or an improved solution.

- Design Ethics:
 - Sustainability and environmental impact
 - The design should add to the positive environmental impact and thus to the value of the product, by the application of eco-design, regenerative design and circular design principles and regulations.
 - Factors considered included but were not restricted to considerate use of materials; understanding the product's lifecycle; circularity; and the product's need.
- Social/Human impact
 - Design should add value by supporting the inclusion and diversity of users of a product and understanding the cultural context.
- The jury's decision is final.
- The organiser will act as secretariat for the Jury.

6. Calendar

- The period for submitting applications and nominations will be from 13 December 2023 to 15 March 2024 (both dates inclusive).
- The finalists will be announced on www.designeuropaawards.eu.
- The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia, in September 2024.
- The jury's decision will be published on the DesignEuropa Awards website.

7. Cooperation and additional information

- The organiser may request evidence of the complementary information included in the entry form.
- The organiser may ask finalists to submit high resolution images that show the design from various perspectives. Explanatory texts, detailed plans and samples may also be requested.
- In the event of being selected as a finalist, participants agree to cooperate with the organiser of the DesignEuropa Awards by providing access to the press and other media for interviews or for the photographing or filming of their design or premises.

- The organiser reserves the right to publish finalists' and winners' designs and related information on its website and in promotional material (publications, exhibition media, etc.) without remuneration for the participant.
- Neither reproduction nor making available rights will be payable on any document submitted for the awards, either during the selection procedure or in relation thereto.
- The organiser also reserves the right to record and publish videos and pictures from the award ceremony without remuneration for the participant.

8. Change to, or cancellation of the DesignEuropa Awards

- In the event of force majeure or if circumstances so dictate, the Office reserves the right to suspend, postpone or cancel the Awards at any time and without prior notice; in this event, participants will not be entitled to claim compensation.

9. Data Protection

The protection of your privacy is of the utmost importance to the European Union Intellectual Property Office ('EUIPO' or 'us' or 'the controller' or 'the Office'). The Office is committed to respecting and protecting your personal data and ensuring your rights as a data subject. All data of a personal nature, namely data that can identify you directly or indirectly, will be handled fairly, lawfully and with due care.

This processing operation is subject to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regards to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2020 EC. For further information please download the DesignEuropa Awards privacy statement.

10. Waiver of Responsibility

Participation in the DesignEuropa Awards or

submissions of a proposal implies that you read and accepted the 'Declaration' and 'Additional declarations' in the registration form. All enquiries should be sent to the Office's Communication Service: communication@euipo.europa.eu.

Next Generation Design Category

The DesignEuropa Awards are organised annually by the European Union Intellectual Property Office, which is the trade marks and designs office of the European Union.

Registered Community Designs (RCDs), which are all registered at the EUIPO, have been providing design protection at EU level since their introduction in 2003.

The aim of the awards is to raise awareness of the design protection system in the EU and to promote design as a valuable intellectual property right that underpins our economy and supports jobs.

1. Candidates and Eligibility

The Next Generation Design category is a special award for young designers up to 29 years old.

Candidates are required to submit their entries in accordance with the terms and conditions given below:

- The competition is open to any person between the ages of 18 and 29 years old by the date of the application period. All designs submitted must be valid RCDs owned by the candidates themselves or any other company or individual (in any country).
- All designs submitted must be valid RCDs at the time of sending the application, with no pending invalidity proceedings. Finalist designs must retain their validity throughout the selection and award period.

3. Submission of entries

- Entries may be submitted either on the candidate's own initiative, at the behest of the awards' promoters or by any other person, entity or institution that wishes to propose a candidate.

- Candidates must submit their entries using the online application form accessible on the DesignEuropa Awards website (www.designeuropaawards.eu).
- The form must be completed with the following basic information provided:
 - RCD number, RCD owner's contact details, designer's contact details
 - There is no entry fee.
- The period for submission of entries is from 13 December 2023 to 15 March 2024 (both dates inclusive).
- Entries that do not include the required information specified in the rules will not be accepted.
- They will be informed accordingly.
- The submission of an entry implies full and unconditional acceptance of all rules.

4. Awards

- The winner will be asked to confirm their acceptance of the nomination and consent to the award.
- The winner will be invited to the DesignEuropa Awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia in September 2024.
- Travel and accommodation costs will be borne by the organiser. The winner will receive a trophy and a certificate.
- The winner will be featured on the Office's website (in the DesignEuropa Awards section), in newsletters, and in other promotional and multimedia material published for disseminating information about this event. Information on the designer will also be included in press dossiers for specialised press and media and may be used for other promotional activities organised by the Office.

5. Jury

- The jury will be suitably qualified and will have, collectively, ample experience in business, design and intellectual property.
- The jury will be selected by the Office from

candidates meeting the criteria listed above.

- The responsibilities of the jury will be as follows:
 - to judge the entries and take a decision on the finalists and on the winner of each category
 - to act collectively (the winner must obtain a majority of the votes)
- Judging criteria:
 - Compliance:
 - Sound management of intellectual property rights (RCD)
 - Design Performance (a balanced outcome of the following applied criteria):
 - Aesthetic value and visual appeal
 - To support the overall performance of the product, appealing to users' emotions and experience in a meaningful way.
 - Usability/functionality
 - Understanding the needs of diverse user groups and interpreting the needs to create a product that is easy, safe and comfortable to use.
 - Innovation
 - The design should be used as a tool to reach a new or an improved solution.
 - Design Ethics:
 - Sustainability and environmental impact
 - The design should add to the positive environmental impact and thus to the value of the product, by the application of eco-design, regenerative design and circular design principles and regulations.
 - Factors considered included but were not restricted to considerate use of materials; understanding the product's lifecycle; circularity; and the product's need.
 - Social/Human impact
 - Design should add value by supporting the inclusion and diversity of users of a product and understanding the cultural context.
- The jury's decision is final.
- The organiser will act as secretariat for the Jury.

6. Calendar

- The period for submitting applications and nominations will be from 13 December 2023 to 15 March 2024 (both dates inclusive).

- The winner will be announced at the awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia, in September 2024.
- The jury's decision will be published on the DesignEuropa Awards website.

7. Cooperation and additional information

- The organiser may request evidence of the complementary information included in the entry form.
- The organiser may ask finalists to submit high resolution images that show the design from various perspectives. Explanatory texts, detailed plans and samples may also be requested.
- In the event of being selected winner, participants agree to cooperate with the organiser of the DesignEuropa Awards by providing access to the press and other media for interviews or for the photographing or filming of their design or premises.
- The organiser reserves the right to publish winners' designs and related information on its website and in promotional material (publications, exhibition media, etc.) without remuneration for the participant.
- Neither reproduction nor making available rights will be payable on any document submitted for the Awards, either during the selection procedure or in relation thereto.
- The organiser also reserves the right to record and publish videos and pictures from the award ceremony without remuneration for the participant.

8. Change to, or cancellation of the DesignEuropa Awards

- In the event of force majeure or if circumstances so dictate, the Office reserves the right to suspend, postpone or cancel the awards at any time and without prior notice; in this event, participants will not be entitled to claim compensation.

9. Data Protection

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Lifetime Achievement Category

The DesignEuropa Awards are organised annually by the European Union Intellectual Property Office, which is the trade marks and designs office of the European Union.

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The aim of the awards is to raise awareness of the design protection system in the EU and to promote design as a valuable intellectual property right that underpins our economy and supports jobs.

The Lifetime Achievement category is intended to reward the long-term contribution and dedication of an individual designer whose designs have become iconic over time due to their high level of originality and creativity.

1. Candidates and Eligibility

The Lifetime Achievement category is a special award for designers whose work demonstrates:

- a significant contribution throughout their career.
- design excellence.
- work of aesthetic value.
- a considerable impact on the market.
- use of the RCD system.

2. Nominations

Any person, entity or institution that wishes to propose a candidate can do so through the nomination form.

Nominations must be submitted using the online form accessible via the DesignEuropa Awards website (www.designeuropaawards.eu). The form must be completed with the following basic information:

- designer's name, and website link with basic information about the designer or his/her designs
- proposer's contact details
- RCD number

There is no entry fee.

3. Awards

- The winner will be asked to confirm their acceptance of the nomination and consent to the award.
- The winner will be invited to the DesignEuropa Awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia in September 2024.
- Travel and accommodation costs will be borne by the organiser. The winner will receive a trophy and a certificate.
- The winner will be featured on the Office's website (in the DesignEuropa Awards section), in newsletters, and in other promotional and

multimedia material published for disseminating information about this event. Information on the designer will also be included in press dossiers for specialised press and media and may be used for other promotional activities organised by the Office.

4. Jury

- The jury will be suitably qualified and will have, collectively, ample experience in business, design and intellectual property.
- The jury will be selected by the Office from candidates meeting the criteria listed above.
- The responsibilities of the jury will be as follows:
 - to judge the entries and take a decision on the finalists and on the winner of each category
 - to act collectively (the winner must obtain a majority of the votes)
- Judging criteria:
 - Significant contributions throughout a career
 - Design excellence
 - Work of aesthetic value
 - Impact on the market
 - Use of the RCD system
- The jury's decision is final.
- The organiser will act as secretariat for the Jury.

5. Calendar

- The period for submitting applications and nominations will be from 13 December 2023 to 15 March 2024 (both dates inclusive).
- The winner will be announced at the awards ceremony in Riga, Latvia, in September 2024.
- The jury's decision will be published on the DesignEuropa Awards website.

6. Cooperation and additional information

- The organiser may request complementary information about the designer or their work.
- Entries that do not include the required information specified in the rules will not be accepted. **Entrants will be informed accordingly.**
- In the event of being selected as a winner, all participants agree to cooperate with the organiser of the DesignEuropa Awards by providing access to the press and other media for interviews or for the photographing or filming of their design or premises.
- The organiser reserves the right to publish information about the winner on its website and in promotional material (publications, exhibition media, etc.) without remuneration for the participant.
- Neither reproduction nor making available rights will be payable on any document submitted for the Awards, either during the selection procedure or in relation thereto.
- The organiser also reserves the right to record and publish videos and pictures from the award ceremony without remuneration for the participant.

7. Change to, or cancellation of the DesignEuropa Awards

- In the event of force majeure or if circumstances so dictate, the Office reserves the right to suspend, postpone or cancel the Awards at any time and without prior notice; in this event, participants will not be entitled to claim compensation.

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