

2024 Construction Excellence Awards



NEW ENTRY DEADLINE DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2023

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Ceilings and Interior Systems Construction Association (CISCA) invites applications for their **Construction Excellence Awards competition**.

Award winners will be recognized during the CISCA Summit dinner on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024** in Orlando, Florida. The awards ceremony features a multi-media presentation of all submissions and winning projects. Winners will be featured in the Acoustical Interior Construction magazine and on the CISCA website. *Unlike past years, all winners will not be called to the stage for a picture.* Only the recipients of the Founder's, Contractors, Distributors, Manufacturers and Rep awards will be called to the stage.

Be sure to read
this material
in its entirety.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES

Entries are due no later than **December 15, 2023**. A special entry fee is available for entries received by **December 1, 2023**. No late entries will be accepted.

Staff will review submissions submitted on or prior to the due date of December 15, 2023 and advise the submitter if there are names of products or companies used in the names of pictures or written paragraph. They will also advise if any of the pictures will not display correctly for the judges. The submitter will be given until December 31 to correct any issues. Entries submitted after December 15 or any which have not been revised by the end of day December 31, will be submitted to the judges as they were submitted.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- A CISCA member must submit all entries.
- Projects must be completed within 12 months of the date due (December 15, 2022 to December 15, 2023) and not have been previously submitted by the submitting company.
- No maximum number of total entries from one company.
- A maximum of one entry in any one category and sub-category from one company.
- No project may be submitted in more than one category by the same company. Any project submitted in two different categories, i.e., Manufacturer and Independent Rep or Manufacturer and Contractor, must have different pictures and written paragraphs. The same pictures and paragraphs may not be submitted in two categories. If this occurs, the submitting company/ies will be asked to either change the submitted material for one of the entries or withdraw one entry.
- The Installing Contractor, Manufacturer, Distributor, Independent Rep, General Contractor, Acoustician and Architect must be listed on the entry and will be included in the video and magazine.
- All entries will be judged against others submitted in the same category.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

1. Contractor
2. Manufacturer
3. Distributor
4. Independent Rep

OTHER TYPES OF ENTRIES

Boutique

There is no membership category or region when entering in this category.

This includes unique interior projects that are less than 10,000 total square feet in size—regardless of the size of the members' project. For example, the submitter's installation size was 5,000 square feet but the total project was 20,000 square feet. This project cannot be submitted into the Boutique category.

International

There is no membership category or region when entering in this category.

This includes projects outside of North America, i.e., projects not in the United States, Canada or Mexico, should enter in this category.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

-  **Office** – Renovation or construction of office space
 -  **Education** – Renovation or construction of a school or college
 -  **Healthcare** – Renovation or construction of a hospital or other healthcare facility
 -  **Retail** – Renovation or construction of a retail space such as a store or mall
 -  **Civic** – Renovation or construction of any public building, such as airport, casino, museum, library, church or entertainment facility
-  **NOTE:** the judges may disqualify entries submitted in the wrong category.

SUB-CATEGORIES

Based on the size of the work done by the Contractor, Manufacturer, Distributor or Independent Rep submitting the project.

- Larger than 50,000 square feet
- Smaller than 50,000 square feet

 It is important to understand that the “Square Feet” is intended to mean **INSTALLED Square Feet** (not the project size).

REGION SUB-CATEGORY DESCRIPTION

- West
- East

FEES

\$575 fee if submitted by December 1.

\$875 fee if submitted between December 2 and December 15.





AWARD TYPE

A project may only win one award. If a project wins any of the awards listed below the winner will only be advised they won an award as the winners of these awards are presented during dinner as a surprise to the winners. However, if the winner insists on knowing which award was won, they will be told. Winners will be asked to notify the other companies that worked on the project and advise them that the project won an award. Winners will be given the option of having staff contact the other companies.

FOUNDER'S AWARD

Selected by the judges as the best overall submission from all the entries received. The three projects with the highest scores by the judges during the first round, regardless of who submitted the project or which category they were submitted into, are moved to round two of judging. The judges then vote for which of the three was the best submission. Projects submitted into the Boutique and International categories are not eligible to receive the Founder's Award.

CONTRACTOR'S AWARD

Project submitted by contractors that received the highest vote total from the judges.

MANUFACTURER'S AWARD

Project submitted by manufacturers that received the highest vote total from the judges.

DISTRIBUTOR'S AWARD

Project submitted by Distributors that received the highest vote total from the judges.

INDEPENDENT REP'S AWARD

Project submitted by reps that received the highest vote total from the judges.

GOLD AWARD

The five stated above will be presented at the end of the presentation of the Gold awards

Winning projects will receive one award. Additional awards may be purchased.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN SUBMISSION

! IMPORTANT: No names of companies or projects are to be used in photographs or long paragraph. The only place to include these names is in the short paragraph.

IMAGES

Specs & Format

- Include a minimum of five (5) and maximum of ten (10) pictures, up to 100 MB each.
- Use JPG format of 300 dpi or higher (other formats such as TIF and PDF will not display correctly for the judges).
- Dark and low-resolution photos may not be usable for the magazine.
- If cell phone images are used, they should be the highest resolution possible.
- Do not use a photo more than once in the entry. Judges will deduct points if you upload your photos in the 10 additional photo sections again. The 10 additional photos must be unique from the others submitted.

Contrast

Photos should have good contrast—it is hard for the judges to review photos that are dark.

Orientation

Review the photos you upload to be sure they are displaying correctly. If they are on their side or upside down, you will need to rotate the original photo and upload them again. Photos which do not display as you intended are difficult to judge. If you see a scroll bar with the photo, check that it is a JPG and not a PDF or TIFF. Photos which show a scroll bar will not display correctly for the judges.

Image Naming

Be aware of how you name your photos. The judges will see all submitted photos so do not use the name of the project or product for any photo submitted.

! Points will be deducted if the name of the photo is the name of the project or company.

Pre-project Photos

Photos before the project began and during construction are helpful for judging (bonus judging points may be awarded if included).

VIDEO

- No longer than 5 minutes in length is optional
- Bonus judging points will be awarded if videos are included and they will be played during dinner in Orlando.

! Do not use the name of the project or companies in the video as the judges will watch the video.

The video should be contractor specific—showing progress or methods. **It should not be a “stock” video or a CGI rendering or a video of the photos submitted.** YouTube videos should not be used as these are generally used for company promotional purposes and show the name of the project and company name. Points given for having a video included are then deducted for this information being used.

NARRATIVE

Short Paragraph (75 word maximum)

This will be used in the program and magazine. You may use company and project names in this paragraph.

Long Paragraph (up to 500 words)

This will be used for the judges and should clearly describe the challenges faced with the project. Tell the judges why this project should win. No names of companies or projects are to be used in this essay. **Points WILL be deducted for each name that is inserted in the essay or name of photos.**

When thinking about what to include regarding job conditions, consider the challenges a job site might present to the contractor with regards to a difficult space to work within (lots of other tradesmen and equipment working at the same time making installation more difficult); unusual heights and the complexity of installation due to these heights or other extreme unusual outside influences that challenged the installation process. Many times, the submittals include the statement “the job had a short time frame for installation” or something of that nature and depending on the project and products installed that may or may not be considered a “job condition.”

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN SUBMISSION, CONT'D

Short Picture Description

To give any needed explanation on the pictures without name.

 **Points WILL be deducted if the name of the project or product names are inserted.**

Companies Involved in Project

List ALL companies that worked on the project. The Installing Contractor, Manufacturer, Distributor, Independent Rep, General Contractor, Acoustician and Architect will be recognized in all material. CISCA staff will contact all other non-members regarding membership so they can be included in all material so please list all companies (including the name of the contact person and email address) that worked on the project.



PLEASE READ THIS SECTION CAREFULLY

JUDGING CRITERIA

PRESENTATION

20% of the total points

The presentation includes the quality of the photos (the photos clear, bright and show the work, look professional) and descriptive quality (which should describe the work and material being shown on the photograph presented, without using company or specific product information).

TECHNICAL QUALITY OF THE JOB

80% of the total points

- **Technical Quality** - Was this a standard installation or were special means and methods required? Was it unique?
- **Quality of the Job** - Overall final appearance of the installed work for alignments, finish, etc.
- **Complexity of the Job (Installation)** - Was this a simple plug and play installation or was this a special process? Was field cutting required?

- **Complexity of the Job (Manufacturing Process)** - Were the materials custom made or were they modified standard pieces?

NOTE: Most judges are not manufacturers and do not know or are aware of any complexities.

- **Job Conditions** - Was installation height, schedule, temperatures (hot/cold) or complexities mentioned in the installation?
- **Overall Finished Project** - Your opinion on how the overall system looks

DEDUCTIONS

Project name used	- 10%
Materials named	- 10%
Company name used	- 10%

BONUS POINTS

Useful video	+ 5 pt
Photos during construction	+ 5 pt



Need help? See the How to Submit An Entry video at:
youtu.be/_U8dFXn2Fil