

Categories

Innovative developments of plastic parts for vehicle construction (cars, trucks, buses, motorbikes, etc) can be submitted in seven categories:

[Body Interior](#)

[Body Exterior](#)

[Power Train](#)

[New Mobility](#)

[Chassis Unit/Structural Component](#)

[Electronical/Optical Part](#)

[Enabler Technology](#)

Please find explanations regarding the categories in right column.

Submitter

Any company involved in the development and production (design, construction, manufacture, materials, tools, machines, application) of the part can be a submitter. The award goes to the submitter, duplicates can be purchased from SPE Central Europe for all other participants.

Participation Fee

For the first part/component EUR 950 (plus 7 % VAT)

For each add. part/component EUR 800 (plus 7 % VAT)

Jury

The assessment of the parts is done by recognized experts from the following areas:

- Application
- Processing
- Mold and tool making
- Raw materials production
- Mechanical engineering
- Recycling
- Design
- Research and development
- Trade press

The evaluation is based on a point system using product-specific and industry-specific criteria.

Notice

SPE Central Europe reserves the right to publish photos, videos, animations, and information about the submitted parts in the trade press and other suitable media. All parts submitted to the competition will remain with SPE Central Europe after the awards and will be displayed in exhibitions, preferably at universities and colleges, to support teaching activities.

Category Descriptions

Only parts used in serial production may be submitted in the categories Body Interior, Body Exterior, Power Train, New Mobility, Chassis Unit/Structural Component and Electronical/Optical Part. Prototypes and pre-series parts are assigned to the Enabler Technology category

Body Interior

Interior parts/components

Body Exterior

Exterior parts/components

Power Train

Chassis and drive chain technology for internal combustion engines

New Mobility

Electric drive technology, fuel cell vehicles etc

Chassis Unit/Structural Component

Chassis- and structural components

Electronical/Optical Part

Components with functional integration, optoelectronic assemblies, mechatronic systems, components for autonomous driving, polymer electronics, design elements for vehicle light architecture, etc

Enabler Technology

Special technologies, equipment and parts in which the innovation lies in the more integrated, cost effective process design or digitalization.

Special Award Descriptions

Grand Award

Receives the part/component with the highest overall score.

Grand Innovation Award

Is given to the part/component that is most often classified as highly innovative by the jurors.

Sustainability Award

Recognizes an improved ecological sustainability of a part/component.

Explanations for Filling out the Submission Form

Field: Innovation / Special Features / Technical Challenges

The following criteria will be used for evaluation:

Technical Solution / Level of Innovation

How does the new solution differ overall from the state of the art?

Material Selection

What are the selection criteria for the material? What special properties characterize it?
How does the material selection favor the required product properties? Does the material selection for this application represent an absolute innovation?

Mold Construction

Rough description of the mold concept, What changes compared to the previous mold / special features or special challenges? Special features or particular challenges in the design? New and innovative solutions in the implementation? Are there any significant simplifications that favor economic efficiency?

Processing

How has the processing procedure changed compared to the previously used part? Special features or special challenges in the process design? New and innovative solutions during implementation? Process steps that enable new product properties or component functions? Are there any significant simplifications that favor economic efficiency?

Product Design

What design aspects have been incorporated into the development of the innovative component? Are there any new requirements that are met by the design? Are there any significant improvements regarding the economic efficiency?

Economic Efficiency

What savings from an economic point of view does the component as a whole or individual areas (toolmaking, production, material, ...) (quantitative summary of the innovation contributions from the aforementioned categories as well as overarching innovations, e.g. in the development phase)?

Field: Sustainability

Please refer to the following guiding questions:

1. What makes the component more sustainable than the previous one? Is the solution significantly more suitable for subsequent recycling applications? Is the purity of the material ensured for recycling? What percentage of recycled materials is used? Was design for recycling considered or are material cycles utilized?
2. What challenges had to be overcome, and what (technological) solution did you find?
3. Please indicate the ecological savings potential (life cycle assessment) compared to the benchmark product/technology, e.g., reduction of greenhouse potential (CO₂ footprint) or other environmental impact categories such as resource consumption, land use, etc. Where possible, please quantify (e.g., 30% lower CO₂ emissions than the previous component).
4. How were the values determined (internal/external life cycle assessment, with/without critical review, own estimation/evaluation, software used if applicable (Gabi, SimaPro, OpenLCA, Umberto, FRED, Excel, etc.))?

Please note that sustainability improvements **must** be quantified!

Organizational Procedure

1. Submission Form

Fill in online (www.automotiveaward.de) for each part a separate sheet, save it and send it together with any attachments including one high-resolution image file (2835 x 2126 pixel, 300 dpi as jpg, tif ...) and in case available a video or an animation to the following address:

SPE Central Europe
anne.herden@spe-ce.de

Deadline: April 15, 2025

Please direct any questions to:

Thilo Stier

T: +49 151 46762111, thilo.stier@spe-ce.de

Dr. Thomas Wolff

T: +49 1590 4899887, thomas.wolff@spe-ce.de

Bernard Rzepka

T: +49 151 29708572, bernard.rzepka@spe-ce.de

2. Transfer Participation Fee

Transfer the participation fee to the following account:

Nord/LB Hannover

IBAN: DE40 2505 0000 0101 4210 22

BIC: NOLADE2HXXX

Purpose: Submission 2025

Send a copy of the transfer slip to the email address in point one.

Deadline: April 30, 2025

3. Send in Part(s)

The parts must be submitted for evaluation. Send therefore your part(s) and a copy of each submission form to the following address:

GRAFE-DESIGN-CENTER

Waldecker Straße 21

D-99444 Blankenhain

Deadline: Mai 21, 2025

Contact Person for Inquiries:

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