

The 21st InnovMetal Award (2026) Entry Instructions

These Entry Instructions apply to matters concerning registration, submission, evaluation, award confirmation, intellectual property handling, certificates, and prize payment for the 21st InnovMetal Award (The InnovMetal Award, hereinafter referred to as “IMA” or “the Award”). By submitting an entry, participants are deemed to have fully read, understood, and agreed to comply with all provisions of the Call for Entries for the 21st InnovMetal Award and these Entry Instructions.

I. Submission Instructions

1. Participants must log in to the official IMA website at www.ykwjdesign.com and register and submit their entries online through the official submission system.
2. Participants may choose the Product Track or the Creative Track according to the nature of their entries. For team entries, only the designated team contact person is required to register and complete the names, identity information, and contact details of all team members. Duplicate registration is not required. In principle, each Product Track team shall consist of no more than 5 members; each Creative Track team should consist of no more than 3 members.
3. The Product Track primarily solicits design products and services with outstanding commercial and social value that are capable of rapid product development or commercialization, with no restrictions on product category. Product Track submissions shall include the following materials:
 - (1) Work layout: JPG file, 300 dpi, A2 size (420 mm x 594 mm), portrait orientation, file size not exceeding 5 MB, including main renderings, explanatory diagrams, usage scenarios, etc.;
 - (2) Work description: including product positioning, innovation points, market demand and positioning, core technologies, structural processes, usage methods, and product development or commercialization prospects;
 - (3) Technical documents: materials presenting the core technologies, structural scheme, and implementation path of the product in 2D, 3D, or animated formats, including but not limited to OBJ-format 3D models, PDF structural detail drawings, MP4 explanatory videos, etc.;
 - (4) Other supplementary materials: intellectual property materials (patents, copyrights, etc.), packaging design, brand/IP image, sample images, prototype photos, animations, and other materials, which participants may provide according to the characteristics of the entry.
4. Entries submitted to the Creative Track must be accurately submitted under the corresponding design categor:
 - (1) Work layout: JPG format, 300 dpi, A2 size (420 mm x 594 mm), portrait orientation, and no larger than 5 MB. Each entry may submit only one layout.
 - (2) The Creative Track layout shall include the competition title, work title, overall renderings, detailed views, basic exterior dimensions, at least two principal views, and a design description. The layout must not contain the author's name, institutional or organizational logo, team mark, or any other information that may affect anonymous evaluation; otherwise, the entry shall be deemed invalid.
5. All submitted works must be original. The same work may not be submitted repeatedly, may not be submitted simultaneously to both the Product Track and the Creative Track, and may not be resubmitted through obvious renaming, partial modification, repackaging, or other forms of duplicate submission. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to deem such submissions invalid.
6. Universities, colleges, research institutions, or organizations submitting entries as a group may contact the submission liaison to obtain the registration form. After compiling the work layouts and registration forms, they may submit all materials together to the designated email address: design@ykwjdesign.com.

7. Once submitted, entry information shall not, in principle, be modified. Where supplementation or correction is required due to system-related reasons or upon request of the Organizing Committee, the notice of the Organizing Committee shall prevail.

II. Intellectual Property

1. All submitted works must be original works created by the participants, with clear ownership of intellectual property rights, and must not infringe upon any intellectual property rights, portrait rights, reputation rights, trade secrets, or any other lawful rights of any third party.
2. Where a Product Track submission has applied for or obtained corresponding intellectual property rights, the relevant rights shall belong to the participant, with clear ownership and no dispute. Where the work involves multiple contributors, commissioned work, employee-created work, pre-existing project outcomes, or third-party authorization, the participant shall obtain lawful authorization and properly resolve rights ownership before submission.
3. Winners of the Product Track Gold Star Award, Silver Star Award, and Bronze Star Award must enter into a Productization Cooperation Agreement with a local enterprise in Yongkang and carry out productization in accordance with the agreement. The intellectual property rights of the Gold Star, Silver Star, and Bronze Star Award-winning works shall belong to the productization enterprise, and the intellectual property transfer fees and annual fees shall be borne by the productization enterprise.
4. For each design category under the Creative Track, the intellectual property rights of the winning works receiving the Gold Creation Award, Silver Creation Award, and Bronze Creation Award shall belong to the corresponding co-organizing enterprise of that design category. The co-organizing enterprise shall protect the intellectual property rights of the winning works within three months after the award is granted. The design authors shall enjoy the right of joint attribution in patent applications. Without permission from the IMA Organizing Committee, participants shall not apply for or transfer the intellectual property rights of the winning works.
5. The IMA Organizing Committee shall have the right to display, publish, publicize, promote, compile, report through media, and exhibit online and offline all winning works. Co-organizing enterprises shall have the right to redesign, produce, display, publish, publicize, promote, and commercially transform the winning works under their respective design categories. Without permission from the IMA Organizing Committee, no other organization or individual may use the winning works of this edition of the Award for publicity, publication, exhibition, commercial development, or any other purpose.
6. If any submitted or winning work is found to have intellectual property defects, ownership disputes, plagiarism, misappropriation of others' achievements, theft of trade secrets, or any other illegal or non-compliant circumstances, the IMA Organizing Committee shall have the right to cancel the participant's eligibility or award qualification, withdraw certificates, trophies, and other honors, and recover any prize money already paid. Any economic loss, reputational damage, or other damage caused thereby to the organizer, undertaker, co-organizers, partners, or other relevant parties shall be borne by the participant. The scope of compensation includes but is not limited to economic losses, reputational losses, litigation fees, attorney fees, preservation fees, appraisal fees, notarization fees, travel expenses, and other reasonable costs.
7. Any dispute arising from the implementation of these Entry Instructions or participation in this edition of the Award shall first be resolved through friendly consultation. If consultation fails, the dispute shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the People's Court of Yongkang City, Zhejiang Province.

III. Notification of Results, Certificates, and Prize Payment

1. Important notices, including evaluation results, shortlisted entries, award winners, and award acceptance arrangements, will be published through the official website, official WeChat accounts, or other channels designated by the Organizing Committee. Participants shall closely follow these channels. If a participant misses important information, fails to provide timely feedback as required, or fails to submit materials within the specified time limit for reasons attributable to the participant, thereby affecting evaluation, award

acceptance, certificate issuance, prize payment, or other matters, the relevant consequences shall be borne by the participant.

2. The IMA Organizing Committee shall award prize money to winners according to the evaluation results. All prize money is pre-tax. Relevant entities designated by the Organizing Committee shall perform withholding and payment obligations for individual income tax in accordance with applicable financial and tax laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China. Before receiving prize money, winners shall sign the corresponding Award Acceptance Notice. Prize money shall be paid by bank transfer to the personal bank account designated by the participant or to the corporate bank account of the participant's affiliated organization, including its branch, where applicable.
3. The recipient of prize money may be an organization or an individual account. If the prize recipient differs from the award winner, an additional written statement jointly signed and sealed by both the award winner and the recipient shall be provided, and the prize money shall be paid only upon approval by the IMA Organizing Committee.
4. Winners of the Product Track Gold Star Award, Silver Star Award, and Bronze Star Award must enter into a Productization Cooperation Agreement with the corresponding co-organizing enterprise, or with a productization partner enterprise confirmed by the Organizing Committee. Such agreement shall clearly specify necessary matters including the scope of productization cooperation, delivery of design outcomes, intellectual property arrangements, rights and obligations of both parties, acceptance standards, timelines, liability for breach of contract, prize payment, and conditions for recovery of prize money. If the Productization Cooperation Agreement is not signed, the conditions for prize payment for the relevant award shall be deemed unmet, and the winner shall not apply for, receive, or obtain the prize money for that award. The Organizing Committee shall not bear any corresponding obligation to pay such prize money.
5. Prize money for the Product Track Gold Star Award, Silver Star Award, and Bronze Star Award shall be paid in stages. After the Productization Cooperation Agreement is signed and becomes effective, and after the winner submits complete award acceptance materials as required by the Organizing Committee, the Organizing Committee shall, in accordance with applicable procedures, first pay 50% of the total prize money. The winner shall assist the productization enterprise in implementing productization of the winning work within one year from the date of signing of the agreement. In special circumstances, an extension of one year may be applied for. After the design outcome is implemented and a finalized product is formed, the winner and the co-organizing enterprise shall jointly submit an acceptance application. The remaining 50% of the total prize money shall be paid after the acceptance is approved.
6. If the winning work of the Product Track Gold Star Award, Silver Star Award, or Bronze Star Award ultimately fails to achieve implementation of the design outcome, fails to complete product finalization, or fails to pass the acceptance procedure organized or recognized by the Organizing Committee, the conditions for final entitlement to the prize money shall be deemed unmet. The Organizing Committee shall have the right to cancel payment of the remaining 50% of the prize money and require the winner to return the 50% prize money already paid within the time limit specified in the written notice of the Organizing Committee. If the winner fails to return such amount within the specified time limit, the Organizing Committee and/or the relevant right holder shall have the right to recover the amount in accordance with the law.
7. If the winner refuses to sign the agreement, fails to deliver design outcomes in accordance with the agreement, fails to cooperate in promoting productization, fails to submit acceptance materials as required, provides false materials, or otherwise violates these Entry Instructions, the Call for Entries, or the Productization Cooperation Agreement, the Organizing Committee shall have the right to suspend, stop, or cancel the corresponding prize payment and require the return of any prize money already paid. If losses are caused thereby, the winner shall bear corresponding legal liability in accordance with the law.
8. If no enterprise proceeds with productization cooperation for shortlisted works, or if after evaluation and matchmaking the works are deemed not to meet productization conditions, the Product Track Gold Star Award, Silver Star Award, and Bronze Star Award may remain vacant.

IV. Miscellaneous

1. By submitting an entry, the participant is deemed to acknowledge and agree to comply with all provisions of the Call for Entries for the 21st InnovMetal Award and these Entry Instructions.
2. Matters not covered herein shall be separately notified or supplemented by the IMA Organizing Committee according to the actual circumstances of competition organization, evaluation, intellectual property protection, productization cooperation, and prize payment. Such supplementary provisions shall have the same effect as these Entry Instructions.
3. Provided that they do not violate the laws, regulations, and relevant policies of the People's Republic of China, the final interpretation of all matters related to this edition of the Award shall belong to the Organizing Committee of the 21st InnovMetal Award.