OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

The Minneapolis Boat Show will be presenting Innovation Awards in a number of product categories at the 2027 Discover Boating® Minneapolis Boat Show, in partnership with Progressive® Insurance (the "2027 Minneapolis Show"). The judging of the Innovation Awards will be conducted by persons selected by Boating Writers International, Inc. ("BWI"). Innovation Awards are awarded based upon the judges' subjective determination of which Product entries best satisfies the criteria listed below. There will be five Product categories (included on the Official Entry Form) eligible for Innovation Awards at the 2027 Minneapolis Show; however, there is **no guarantee** that an Innovation Award will be selected for each category. **Winning Products will be selected based on the following criteria:**

- Have innovative distinction from other products currently manufactured in the marine industry
- Have substantial modification or adaptation to the marine market if the product is an extension from a non-marine or general market
- Categories specific to boat entries demonstrate excellence through refinement to products currently on the market
- Provide benefit to the marine industry and/or consumer
- Provide practicality of use
- Are cost-effective

Product(s) must qualify under these rules:

- Product must be on display in its finished, sellable state at the time of the show at which it is entered.
- Product must not have been previously submitted for an Innovation Award at any other show.
- Product must be sold or available for order at the time of the show at which it is entered or for sale to the public within 60 days after the end of the show. No concept products will be considered.
- Product cannot have been marketed or sold in the U.S. prior to January 22, 2026; more than one year prior to being entered for an Innovation Award at any show.
- All boats entered in the Innovation Awards must be NMMA Certified at time of entry.
- Participation is limited to contracted companies exhibiting in the 2027 Minneapolis Show.

HOW TO ENTER:

- **Required**: Complete the 2027 Minneapolis Innovation Awards Entry form by December 9, 2026.
- **Required:** Write a summary (**250 words or less**) describing the Product/process and its innovative nature to be submitted at the time of entry.
- **Required:** Pay entry fee ($450/NMMA member $550/non-member per Product) submitted by December 16, 2026.
- **Required:** Upload product photo and company logo (300 dpi) by December 16, 2026. Uploads to be provided through Egnyte file transfer platform. Access will be provided by NMMA once entry form has been accepted.
- **Required:** Submit a video showcasing the innovative features of the product in a succinct matter to the Egnyte folder by December 16, 2026. *3 minute max. Production quality will not be judged.
- Upload additional product photos, brochures, catalogues, or other pertinent information about the Product via Egnyte file share provided by NMMA.
- **Required:** Provide a representative that will be available to meet with the judges on Wednesday, January 20, 2027 between the hours of 9am and 2pm, should the judges' see necessary. This meeting will be scheduled in advance and requires the physical product to be present.

ENTRY FEE:
The entry fee is $450 NMMA member/ $550 non-member per Product entered. All entries must be paid in full by December 16, 2026 to be considered. Entries received after this time are not eligible.

PARTICIPATION:
Participation in the 2027 Minneapolis Innovation Awards is limited to contracted companies exhibiting in the 2027 Minneapolis Show. All boats submitted to the program must be NMMA certified at the time of entry.

WITHDRAWAL/REFUND:
Product entry cancellations and withdrawals received by January 8, 2027 may be eligible to receive a full refund and will not be deemed as an active participant in the program. Entry cancellations and withdrawals received after January 8, 2027 will not be eligible for a refund. A product withdrawal must be submitted by January 12, 2027. Withdrawal requests made after January 12th will not be accepted. The entry will be considered an active participant in the program and judged. The product will remain ineligible for consideration at future IBEX Innovation, Minneapolis Innovation and Miami Innovation Award programs. Judges review all product portfolio material prior to onsite judging. In result, products that fail to be present during the onsite meeting will still be judged. Entry withdrawal should be completed by email by contacting Rachel Harmon at rharmon@nmma.org. All refund requests must be made by the entrant or credit card holder. Refunds will be credited back to the original credit card used for payment, unless otherwise directed.

DISCLAIMER:
The Innovation Awards are awarded based on information submitted by participating manufacturers to the Innovation Award judges. Those persons who serve as judges have limited time to review the information submitted and to review the Product. The judges make their determination based on such information submitted, such review and the knowledge, experience, and skill of the judges. The judges will conduct no testing of the Product itself. The selection of a particular Product for an Innovation Award does not constitute NMMA's or BWI's (i) endorsement of the Product nor (ii) a warranty of the Product's fitness for a particular purpose, effectiveness, or safety. It merely reflects the judges' judgment that, if the Product in fact performs or functions as the materials submitted with the Product purport, such Product is more "innovative" than the other Products in its category and satisfies the other criteria listed above. There is no guarantee that an Innovation Award will be selected for each category. The judges have the discretion to move a product to another category from where it was originally entered.

PARTICIPANT DECLARATION:
By completing an Official Entry Form to submit a Product for consideration for an Innovation Award, each company submitting a Product (an "Entrant") is deemed to have read and understood all of the Official Rules and Regulations and, in addition, is deemed to have acknowledged and agreed to the following:

- Applicant acknowledges that NMMA has the right to review and amend the program when necessary in order to conduct the program to completion.
- Applicant represents to NMMA and to BWI that (i) Applicant owns the Product without conflict with, or infringement upon, the valid rights of others, (ii) the Product was not marketed or sold to any person or entity in the U.S. prior to January 22, 2026 and (iii) Applicant has no knowledge of any other person or entity marketing or selling any Product that is similar to the Product that has not been disclosed in the materials submitted.

- Applicant acknowledges that any Innovation Award granted is based on compliance with these Rules and Regulations and the accuracy of the above representations and warranties. Therefore, any violation of the Rules and Regulations or breach of any of the representations or warranties (in the sole determination of NMMA) shall give NMMA grounds to revoke any award granted by giving written notice to that effect to an Applicant, in which event, Applicant agrees to return the Innovation Award and to cease making reference to the Innovation Award in its marketing literature.
- Applicant acknowledges and agrees that all product images, product video, trademarks, tradenames, logos and other materials (collectively, the "Images") submitted to NMMA Applicant may be used in NMMA's promotional, marketing, outreach, educational, informational, and other materials including, without limitation, in connection with NMMA's website, the Innovation Awards Program and any of NMMA's boat shows, trade shows or other exhibitions (collectively, the "NMMA Materials"). By completing an Official Entry Form and entering the Innovation Awards Program, Applicant irrevocably grants NMMA (including its affiliates and assigns) (i) a royalty-free, transferable license to use Applicant's name, logo and Images in NMMA Materials; and (ii) permission to photograph, record, broadcast, publish, distribute, reproduce, modify and otherwise use the Images in any format or media (including, but not limited to, print, tape, film, audio, video, DVD, composite, artistic, electronic, digital, Internet and Web cast), in whole or in part, in connection with the NMMA Materials, and Applicant hereby waives any and all rights in and to such recordings or duplications.
- Applicant agrees to hold NMMA and BWI harmless and indemnify NMMA and BWI from any and all loss, cost, expense (including reasonable attorney fees), and damage that may arise or be incurred by either or both of them as a result of Applicant's participation in this Innovation Awards program or Applicant's being granted an Innovation Award.