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**Innovation of the Year**

**Stage 2 Interview Dates: 16th & 23rd September 2025**

**Criteria**

* *Open to all businesses who have embraced state-of-the-art technologies, developed cutting edge products, or otherwise used their initiative to solve problems.*
* *Entries must have a Doncaster focus in particularly references your business has had on the area or community.*
* *Max word count for scored question of 1000 words.*
* *Entrants may provide a maximum of 3 pieces of evidence to support their submission. Evidence must consist of images only i.e. charts/pictures. Entrants may be asked for additional information, including evidence of financial information, at the interview stage (Stage 2).*
* *All completed entry forms must be returned back to* [*awards@doncaster-chamber.co.uk*](mailto:awards@doncaster-chamber.co.uk) *by Sunday 8th June 2025.*
* *Please ensure to block stage 2 interview dates out in your diary should they be needed as they cannot be moved or changed to an alternative.*
* *Stage 2 judging visits will take place at your premises listed below. If you do not have an alternative you will be required to find a room where this can be held.*
* *Maximum 3 categories per company can be entered*
* *All entries will be screened prior to stage 1 and entries with limited information will not be put forward for judging.*

**Guidance**

* Innovation in this context could mean anything from releasing a cutting-edge product, to diversifying into other markets, embracing state-of-the-art technologies or using your initiative to solve problems.
* Describe what you set out to achieve through innovation and the strategy you used in order to ensure success. Provide sufficient context and a detailed background to your entry (especially if it requires inside-knowledge of your respective industry)
* Demonstrate how you delivered the innovation and ensured you stayed ahead of the competition. Explain what steps you had to take, if there were any obstacles that you encountered along the way and how it set you apart from peers in the same industry.
* Demonstrate how innovation and diversification has contributed to your business success and growth, including your financial performance. Include relevant financial metrics or performance-related stats; examples of how you have grown since innovating; and any other noteworthy achievements.
* Describe what the future of your business holds for future innovations to keep progressing.



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**Company Information**

Company Name:

Contact Name:

Contact Number:

Email:

Address for Stage 2 Interview Visit if Required:

How many employees does you company employ (full time equivalent):

**Please briefly tell us about your business to provide the judges with some context for your answers. Here, you may want to reference your sector, main business activities, competitors, products and services.** (Max. 400 words, unscored)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 (Projected) |
| Turnover |  |  |  |
| Profit |  |  |  |

Should you win in your category, we will play a song of your choice as you walk up on stage to collect your award. Please list your first and second choices below. Doncaster Chamber reserves the right to change any song. If no track is selected, Doncaster Chamber will allocate a song on your behalf.

**First Choice Second Choice**

**Why does your business deserve to win this award? (Max 1000 words)**

