

The IOR's Beyond Refrigeration Environment Award

The IOR is delighted to announce a new Award that will be made annually to a project that demonstrates the achievements of our sector in reducing environmental emissions from cooling in the UK. The introduction of this award supports one of the most important priorities for IOR members – to address the challenges of net zero as well as facilitating the sharing of innovation, raising awareness of best practice and promoting the advancement of technology for the good of society. Not only will the winning project, company and team be recognised before their peers at the IOR Annual Dinner each year, they will be invited to give a technical paper on the IOR written papers programme to ensure that awareness of innovative and successful solutions is maximised. The award is linked to the practical application of the IOR's Beyond Refrigeration priorities that are aimed at supporting the sector towards net zero. The award is open to companies or a collaboration between companies. Entries can be for a single or multi-site innovation or project in any refrigeration, air conditioning or heat pump field (industrial, commercial or domestic). The project must have been installed and must be operational. Entries must provide robust data on performance, energy usage and environmental impact. It is anticipated that a successful project will address at least four of the seven critical areas for addressing climate change as outlined in the IOR's Beyond Refrigeration template. These are: maximising system performance, using best technology, balancing heating and cooling, reducing the need for cooling, intelligent energy use, developing the best people and skills, working together and whole system lifetime. Read more about these topics at www.ior.org.uk/beyondrefrigeration

Judging Criteria

An independent panel of Judges will consider entries against the following criteria:

- Demonstration of Beyond Refrigeration principles cited.
- Scale and benefits of environmental savings achieved (eg compared to previous installations or industry benchmarks).
- Potential for replicability or wider application.
- Innovative nature of the approach.
- The award is designed to recognise recent projects, but as it is necessary to have had time to demonstrate result, it should be no longer than 2 years since the completion date of the project.

Key Dates

11th November 2026: Deadline for submission of entries.

10th December 2026: Entrants will be advised of results of the judging.

27th February 2027: Winner announced at the IOR Annual Dinner.

April 2028: Presentation by the winner to IOR members.

Entry Form

1: Main contact for the entry.

Name	
Job Title	
Email	
Phone Number	
Your Company or Organisation Name	

2: Title of the project or innovation.

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3: There are seven Beyond Refrigeration critical areas for addressing climate change. Which of these does this entry address. Please choose all that are relevant and indicated in one sentence how this has been met.

Using Best Technology	
Maximising System Performance	
Whole System Sustainability	
Intelligent Energy Use	
Balancing Heating and Cooling Demand	
Reducing the Need for Cooling	
Developing the best People and Skills	
Working Together	

4: Describe the innovation or project with reference to the judging criteria.

Please include details of the key benefits, the potential risks, cost and what is its potential impact on the sector as a whole. (Maximum of 500 words)

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5: Describe the specific environmental impact.

(Maximum of 500 words)

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6: What evidence or data supports the environmental impact. You must provide specific details of energy/carbon saving- direct and indirect.

(Maximum of 500 words)

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7: What is the potential for the innovative element to be replicated in other sites and installations, or to influence future design and applications in this area.

(Maximum of 500 words)

8: You may provide additional information to support your entry here. For example, links to external evidence, etc.

9: Has it been 2 years, or less, since the completion of the project or innovation

10: Images and graphs. You are strongly encouraged to include up to 4 images /graphs to support your entry. Please attach a PDF or JPG images

Rules & Entry Statement

In signing and submitting this award entry I confirm that:

I am authorised to submit this award entry on behalf of those individuals, businesses or customers involved in this project. I have contacted and sought permission and there are no copyright or other intellectual property rights that would be infringed by making this submission. I have permission to share the data (which may be anonymised if necessary) included in the application.

I understand that information about the shortlisted entries will be made public by the IOR and that the content of this information e.g. in press releases or website articles will not be released or announced publicly without my authorisation.

I agree to be available to answer further questions if necessary about this entry.

If shortlisted I agree to arrange for representatives of the entry to attend the IOR Annual Dinner to be present to hear the announcement of the winner.

If the entry is named as the winner I understand that a written paper and presentation will be required and agree to identify a suitable speaker and to prepare such paper in a timescale to be agreed with the IOR (usually around 12 months time).

The IOR agrees not to use the information provided in this entry for any other purpose and to keep the details of entrants and entries confidential until such time as the Shortlist and Winner is announced.

The IOR judges will sign a confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement and will not use or share information about entries or entrants for any purpose either within the IOR or externally with third parties at any time.

I confirm that I have read and understood the rules of this award.

Name

Signature

Date

Please submit completed forms and attachments by email to Lisa Waters lisa@ior.org.uk

Institute of Refrigeration, Kelvin House, 76 Mill Lane, Carshalton SM5 2JR

The Institute of Refrigeration is a registered charity.