

Innovation Category

This award is to celebrate those women who have achieved excellence in innovation that has multiplied the effect of the UK defence mission.

What will the judges be looking for?

The innovation achieved could be in many different spheres, examples are: science and technology, ways of working, funding, smarter government. The nominee could be the originator and developer of the idea, the leader who recognised its value and enabled it to happen or any other individual worthy of recognition. The judges will be looking for evidence of the effect of the innovation – quicker, more efficient, less costly or other improvements.

Finalists from earlier years

This is the first year that this category has been available so there are no examples of earlier winners.

Who can be entered?

This category is open to individual women only. As the award is sponsored by [QinetiQ](#), women employed by QinetiQ may not be entered for the category but may, of course, be nominated for any of the other categories.

How do I nominate?

Nominating someone is simple, just click [here](#), but we advise that you read this first!

To nominate, follow these easy steps:

- Provide the contact details of the woman you are nominating, note the need to confirm that you have her agreement to share her details.
- Tell us briefly why you think they deserve to be nominated (the citation part of the nomination form)
- Provide your own contact details

The citation part of the nomination form is broken down into three elements:

1. An overview of why you are nominating this woman (maximum of 200 words)
2. An explanation of how this woman has demonstrated the criteria for this award category (maximum of 200 words)
3. Examples of the results this woman has achieved as supporting evidence (maximum of 200 words)

Hints and tips

Put yourself in the judges' shoes. They read lots of citations so **capture their attention early, be concise and provide context**. It may be obvious to you why an achievement is so worthy of recognition, but our judges may not have the same background or experience as you so please explain the significance.

Providing context to the citation (i.e. sphere of work, day to day tasks, key challenges, etc.), and tangible evidence of the outcome or effect that this had on others will strengthen the nomination

hugely. Our judges may not be familiar with all parts of the defence enterprise so avoid or, at the very least, explain acronyms.

There is a word limit of 200 words per section. Even if the form allows you to enter more, the citation will be shortened if it exceeds this limit which could mean that it ends mid-sentence.

If you are not sure your nomination fits the criteria for the category, please contact us on WIDAwards@paconsulting.com.

Supporting Documentation

If you wish to provide supporting documentation, please add as a file at the bottom of the citation. Any links should be contained within a document. Please bear in mind that given the number of citations we receive, the judges will not routinely look at additional material, using it only to separate those who are close to being shortlisted and again at the finalists and winners judging stages. It follows that you should take time to carefully complete the citation and not rely on the strength of any supporting documentation which may not be used by the judges.

Nominations window

Nominations open on 25th April and close at midday on Friday 8th June 2018. We are unable to take any nominations or supporting documentation outside of those dates.