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***Microscopy Today* Innovation Award Application**

# “Innovation is not the product of logical thought”

# -- Albert Einstein

Each year *Microscopy Today* presents ten awards to organizations or individuals who have launched or published innovations in microscopy or microanalysis. Winning products and methods are selected based on their usefulness to the microscopy community.

**Application form.** Entries may come from colleagues or as self-nominations. There are only four actual questions on the entry form. There is no charge to enter this competition.

**Eligibility.** Entries will be accepted only for the following: (a) new commercial microscopy-related products that were first marketed in the previous calendar year or (b) new microscopy methods and inventions that were first published in peer-reviewed journals in the previous calendar year. While multiple entries from the same organization are allowed, a single company or individual cannot receive more than one award in a single year. Officers and editors of the Microscopy Society of America and their subcontractors are not eligible.

**Judging criteria.** The entries most likely to win are those that provide better, faster, easier, or entirely new methods of analysis using some type of microscope or microanalytical instrument.

A winning entry should show the innovation’s usefulness to the microscopy community via the clarity and completeness of Questions 7-10. Supporting information, such as scientific papers, patents, or data may be included as an appendix, but please organize these supplements into a single (pdf or zip) file to facilitate the transmission process. Related videos also may be included in zip file format.

**Descriptive evidence about product or method.** Evidence types include data from a working instrument/method or a peer-reviewed publication. Photographs of the commercial product available for sale or a citation to the peer-reviewed article must be provided. Submission of photographs implies permission has been granted to publish the photographs in *Microscopy Today*.

**Previous winners.** Descriptions of winning products and methods are published in the September issue of *Microscopy Today*. These descriptions can be accessed at no charge. Go to [www.microscopy-today.com](http://www.microscopy-today.com), select website, select ‘issues’ from the menu bar, select any September issue from 2010 onward.

**Submission.** Submit this completed application form as a Word file (a PDF of the document may be submitted in addition but not at the exclusion of the Word file) to Senior Editor Charles Lyman at charles.lyman@lehigh.edu. The submitter will be the sole correspondent concerning the application.

**Deadline.** Completed application forms will be accepted until midnight PDT on March 21 or the following Monday if this day falls on a weekend. Winners will be notified on or about June 1.

**Submitting person and organization(s):**

**1. Submitting person** (for all communications)**:**

Organization name:

Street Address\*\*\*:

City:

State:

Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

Submitter's Name:

Submitter’s Phone\*\*\*:

Submitter’s Email\*\*\*:

\*\*\*Required

**2a. Joint entry with (company or organization name)**(if necessary, list more as 2b, 2c, etc. )

Organization Name:

Street Address\*\*\*:

City:

State:

Zip/Postal Code:

Country:

Contact Name:

Contact Phone\*\*\*:

Contact Email\*\*\*:

\*\*\*Required

**Information about Product or Method:**

**3. Name of invention, product, or method:**

**4. Please provide a one-sentence (20 words maximum) description of the innovation**(This may form the basis of the award citation)**:**

**5. Date when this product was first marketed (or available for order) or date of first peer-reviewed journal article describing the method or invention:**

(These dates must be in the previous year, e.g., 2022 for the 2023 Awards):

**6a. Inventor or Principal Developer(s)**(List all developers from all companies and organizations as 6b, 6c, etc.)**:**

Developer Name:

Developer Position:

Developer Organization:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip/Postal:

Country:

Phone:

Email:

**Description of Product or Method:**

**7. Describe what the product or method does and how the product or method works.**

(Must be between 250 and 350 words. Include a photo of the product.)

**8. Describe why the product or method is an advance over previous methods.** (Must be between 50 and 200 words, without repetition of text from above.)

**9. Describe the significance of this development for science and technology.**   
 (Must be between 50 and 200 words, without repetition of text from above.)

**10. What are the likely applications of the product or method?**   
 (Must be between 50 and 200 words, without repetition of text from above.)

Supporting documentation should be submitted in a separate file (preferably a single pdf file).

Questions regarding the *Microscopy Today* Innovation Awards should be addressed to Charles Lyman, Senior Editor, at charles.lyman@lehigh.edu.