



SuSChemE-SUSTENS2

Sustainable Chemical Engineering Systems

Athens, Greece | 28–30 June 2026

Conference Awards — Definition & Guidelines

*Prepared by the Organising Committee
March 2026*

Overview

The SuSChemE-SUSTENS2 conference will present two awards to recognise outstanding contributions from among its participants. Both awards are open exclusively to conference participants (presenters and attendees).

The awards will be presented during the closing ceremony on 30 June 2026 at the Royal Olympic Hotel, Athens.

General Notes

- Both awards are peer-evaluated and are not commercially sponsored; they reflect the scientific and professional judgement of the Award Panel alone.
- The Organising Committee reserves the right to withhold either award in any given conference edition, if submissions do not meet the required standard.
- All nominees and winners consent to their name and organisation being featured in conference communications.

For questions, contact: info@suscheme-sustens2.com

Submission for Awards

Applications for both awards must be submitted via the official online forms, available through dedicated submission links on the conference website:

- [Startup Innovation Award](#). Link will be active **from 15th April until 15th June 2026**
- [Industry Best Practice Award](#). Link will be active **from 15th April until 15th June 2026**

Please ensure that the relevant form is used for each award. Only submissions through these links will be considered.

Awards Ceremony

Winners of Awards will be announced at the SuSChemE-SUSTENS2 Conference Closing Ceremony. Representatives of the winners will be invited to receive their Awards and deliver a 1-2 minute talk to the plenum.

The circumstance will attract photographs and video recording, to be used in subsequent publicity. Reception of an Award is an automatic consent of winner representatives for their pictures and videos to be published by conference organisers for the purposes of post-event publicity of the event.

Similarly, winners receive the right to publicise the same photos and videos for their corporate purposes. The circumstance may also be videoed and photographed by winners' own vendors and their material shall also be made available to the conference organisers.

Award 1: Startup Innovation Award

Recognition of an early-stage company whose work translates sustainable chemical engineering science into a scalable, real-world solution — bridging the gap between research and market impact.

Purpose & Rationale

Startups are key accelerators of sustainable transition, bridging research and markets. Awards increase their visibility to financiers and clients, both critical for their growth.

Eligibility

- Company founded within the last 7 years
- Active in at least one conference theme: Green & Sustainable Technologies, Sustainability and Industrial Biotechnology, Sustainable Power-to-X systems, AI for Sustainability, Process Engineering & Industrial Applications, Safe & Sustainable-by-Design (SSbD) chemicals, materials and processes, Circular Economy.
- Must be represented by at least one registered conference participant (presenter or attendee)
- Must have a demonstrable proof of concept, prototype, or early commercial deployment; purely conceptual-stage projects are not eligible.
- Teams not yet established as a company are not eligible.

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weight
Scientific and technical novelty	15%
Sustainability impact potential (environmental and/or social)	30%
Scalability and commercial viability	25%
Alignment with SSbD and/or circular economy principles	20%
Team capability and ecosystem partnerships	10%

Selection Process

- Self-nomination via a short online form (max 1 page)
- A shortlist of up to 5 startups is selected by the Award Panel prior to the conference
- Shortlisted startups deliver a 5-minute pitch in a dedicated conference session, followed by Q&A
- The Award Panel deliberates and the winner is announced at the closing ceremony

Award Panel

The panel comprises 3–5 members drawn from the Scientific Committee, industrial sponsors, and at least one representative from the EFCE Sustainability Section. Panel members with a conflict of interest will recuse themselves from relevant evaluations and will be substituted.

Prize

- Engraved award plaque and official certificate
- Featured profile in the conference proceedings and post-event communications
- Invitation to present at the next SuSChemE edition
- Membership to SusChem Greece.

Award 2: Industry Best Practice Award

Honour to an industrial organisation that demonstrates measurable commitment to sustainable engineering systems — showcasing responsible transformation at scale.

Purpose & Rationale

Sustainable industrial transformation requires rigorous, evidence-based practices that deliver measurable and scalable impact. The award recognises provision of concrete, real-world examples for the broader engineering community and lead the path of sustainability.

Eligibility

- Any industrial or industrial-research organisation (SME to multinational) represented by a registered conference participant
- The nominated practice, project, or programme is already being implemented and actively generating results — proposals or early-stage pilots are not eligible
- Nominations may be self-submitted or put forward by a consortium partner, academic collaborator, or co-author represented at the conference
- EU-funded project partners are eligible, provided the nominated practice already demonstrates clear industrial application and measurable outcomes
- Self-nomination via a short online form (max 1 page)

Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Weight
Measurable sustainability outcomes (quantified environmental and/or economic impact)	35%
Replicability and transferability (to other sectors or contexts)	25%
Systems thinking and integration (whole-process or value-chain approach or process or value-chain level)	20%
Stakeholder engagement and transparency	10%
Contribution to European sustainability goals (Green Deal, SSbD framework, etc)	10%

Selection Process

- Submission of a structured nomination form (max. 2 pages)
- Award Panel reviews and may invite a 10-minute presentation during the conference
- Award Panel deliberates and the winner is announced at the closing ceremony.

Award Panel

The panel comprises 3–5 members from the Scientific Committee, industrial sponsors, and the EFCE Sustainability Section Panel. Members with a conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from relevant evaluations and be substituted.

Prize

- Engraved award plaque and official certificate
- Case study published in the conference proceedings
- Spotlight feature in post-event communications and partner channels
- Invitation to present at the next SuSChemE edition
- Membership to SusChem Greece.