

**LSC SPARK  
AWARD**

A graphic element for the Spark Award, featuring a series of five small grey dots on the left, followed by a vertical line that splits into two diagonal lines: a dark blue line on top and a light blue line on the bottom, both pointing downwards and to the right.

# Spark Award

*Leading Suppliers Council*

The NAHB Leading Suppliers Council Spark Award annually recognizes the most innovative Leading Suppliers Council (LSC) member of the year.

Spark Award winners demonstrate superior knowledge and expertise in developing cutting edge products and services, embrace a progressive outlook and demeanor, and exhibit a willingness to push the envelope when it comes to taking the home building industry to the next level.

Award recipients exemplify suppliers and manufacturers throughout the industry who are committed to developing products and services that enhance building quality and livability.



Leading  
Suppliers Council

## Eligibility Requirements

- You must be a current NAHB Leading Suppliers Council member; membership must not lapse before the awards presentation, which will be held at the International Builders' Show in Orlando. If you are current at the time of entry, but your membership is scheduled to expire before the judging process ends, you must renew your membership in order to be eligible for the award.
- Entry is limited to current LSC Members only. The entry fee is \$125 per submission. There is no limit on the number of entries you can submit. Payments may be made online by visiting **[nahb.org/sparkaward](http://nahb.org/sparkaward)**.
- Entries must be completed in full, entry fees paid, and turned in prior to the deadline of Oct. 31, 2018. No late entries will be accepted. You must use the official entry form to enter your product and/or solution.
- Completed entries (including relevant materials) must be submitted online via the website.

## Entry Criteria

Entries should demonstrate how the product or solution meets the criteria listed below. Entries must meet all of the criteria prior to judging to qualify.

- Products and/or solutions must have been fully launched and available on the market for a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of three (3) years prior to submission.
- Products and/or solutions should be distinct from other items on the market.
- Product extensions must show substantial modification or adaptation.
- Products and/or solutions should demonstrate a recognizable benefit to the building industry; the entrant should be able to show how it has helped improve industry efficiency or effectiveness.

## Application Questionnaire

In essay format (maximum 800 words), please respond to the following questions. Responses should be clear, concise and logical. Judges reserve the right to revoke any applications deemed incomplete.

### *Value*

- Please describe your innovative product or solution.
- What makes your product or solution innovative?
- Is it completely new or an advance on an existing technology/solution?

### *Delivery*

- What impact has your product or solution had on the building industry? Please provide any data that could help quantify the impact.
- How has it helped improve building industry efficiency?
- Is the innovation cost effective?
- Has it helped the building industry improve standards?

### *Impact*

- How has your product or solution made a difference in the building industry at large?
- Has it influenced the way the building industry thinks?
- Has it made the building industry more effective?
- Can it strengthen the future of the building industry for the long-term?

## Judging Process

Judges will score each entry based on a point scale, wherein entrants can receive up to a maximum of 150 points. Judges are largely interested in seeing measurable results the product or solution has obtained while on the market, and will not focus on the length of time the product or solution has been on the market.

Judges will assess applications primarily on these criteria:

*Points: 50*

- Does the innovation break with conventional ideas or processes in its field? Is it completely new? Does it go beyond marginal improvements on something that already exists? Is it a fresh way of looking at an existing solution?

*Points: 50*

- Will it have a wide impact on future technology in its field or in other fields? Who is the end user — a marketer or a supplier? Has it helped the end user improve his/her efficiency? Is there any data available to quantify this impact?

*Points: 50*

- How has the product or solution made a difference in the building industry at large? Has it influenced the way the building industry thinks? Has it made the building industry more effective? Can it strengthen the future of the building industry for the long-term?

Judging will take place mid-fall. Winners will be notified by email and asked to attend the presentation event.

All entries will be pre-screened to ensure that entry guidelines have been met. Judges reserve the right to revoke any entry deemed incomplete.

## Benefits of Receiving a Spark Award

Leading Suppliers Council Spark Award winners will be recognized at the annual supplier's reception event, at The New American Home® the Sunday before the International Builders' Show officially opens.

Recipients will receive a plaque, in addition to recognition on the NAHB website and in *Professional Builder* magazine, exposure via national press release announcement distributed by NAHB and through multiple NAHB social media outlets, an 'IBS Live' interview, an IBS booth plaque and a complimentary IBS show directory advertisement.