**THE SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD**AWARD CRITERIA

**The SME of the Year Award will be presented to the small-medium sized company that can best demonstrate a successful approach to developing their sales to the process sector.**

Tell us about your journey. We want to hear how you cracked the process sector? Everything from sector interaction; programme co-operation and collaboration; business growth – in terms of both sales and jobs; product or service development; your demonstration of sheer ambition and commitment to winning business in the process sector.

But don’t leave it there. We’d also love to hear about any other activities your business and staff are involved with. Are you sponsoring an apprentice or supporting a young person into work? Is your business working with the local community or are your employees raising funds for local charities – if so, tell us how.

As well as receiving a trophy to mark the winner’s success at the prestigious NEPIC Annual Awards Dinner, held at Hardwick Hall on the evening of Friday 22 March 2024, the winning organisation will also receive £2,000\* to donate to a local school of their choice to fund a science related project - a wonderful way to raise your company’s profile further within your local community and attract future talent to the sector.

**Award Criteria**
To apply, SME’s should write a 750-word article outlining the successful approach that has enabled them to develop sales into the process sector. Examples of evidence would be programme engagement; interaction with the sector; collaborations with other SMEs; international trade, job creation, sales growth, product and service development, skills support and community relations.

**How to enter**
Entries should be submitted electronically, clearing stating your organisation name and the category in which you are applying for on the top of the document. Entries should be submitted along with a completed application form *(see overleaf)*.

**Closing date**All entries are to be submitted by close of business on **9th February 2024.**

*\* Subject to category sponsorship.*

**THE SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD**APPLICATION FORM

**Please complete the following application form and return electronically
along with your 750-word article.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Company Details** |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Contact Person |  |
| Job Title |  |
| Company Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Telephone No. |  |
| Mobile No. |  |
| E-mail Address |  |
|  |  |
| **Your Nominated School** |  |
| School Name |  |
| School Contact |  |
| Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Telephone No. |  |
| E-mail Address |  |

Please submit your application to NEPIC by close of business on **9th February 2024** via the following e-mail address: **awards@nepic.co.uk** stating
**SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD ENTRY** within the subject line.