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INTRODUCTION

The BBA Sustainable Innovator Award is a BBA-initiated competition designed to recognise and support forward-thinking manufacturers who are driving meaningful innovation in the construction products sector. The scheme celebrates product innovations that demonstrate clear improvements in quality, safety and sustainability, and which have the potential to raise standards across the built environment.

The award is open to growth-ready manufacturers with innovative products that are already in production and ready to take the next step in their development. This unique route into the BBA's certification process supports innovation and robust, independent assessment in ensuring products perform as intended in real-world construction applications.

What is the prize?

The winning entry will receive a full BBA Agrément assessment (or HAPAS assessment in the case of civils products), providing the opportunity to progress through the BBA's established certification process free of charge. This includes assessment, scoping and certification activity in line with standard BBA protocols. Whilst certification is not



guaranteed, the prize enables the winning manufacturer to enter the process without the usual cost barrier, subject to meeting all technical and procedural requirements.

In addition, the winner will benefit from:

- ✔ A dedicated account manager throughout the assessment process
- ✔ Expert feedback from industry-leading professionals as part of the judging process
- ✔ Post-award publicity, including interviews, case studies and social media activity
- ✔ An award presented in person in November 2026

The approximate value of the prize is £50,000.

Who is the award for?

The Innovation Award is open to growth-ready organisations that manufacture products for use in the construction sector, specifically startups and small businesses.

Entrants must be the original developers and manufacturers of the product and be able to demonstrate that it is innovative, already in production, and suitable for independent assessment. Products must not already be BBA-certified or under contract with the BBA at the time of entry.

The scheme is designed for organisations that are ready to invest in certification and are committed to engaging fully with the assessment process, including the provision of technical information, evidence and access required to support evaluation.

Why this award matters

Innovation plays a critical role in improving safety, performance and sustainability in construction, but innovation must be underpinned by evidence and assurance. The BBA Sustainable Innovator Award exists to highlight products that not only push boundaries, but do so in a way that supports trust, compliance and long-term performance.

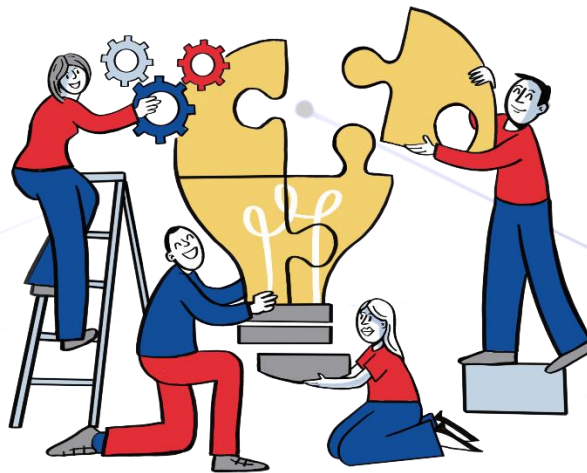
The scheme combines industry recognition with access to independent certification to help bridge the gap between innovation and adoption, giving specifiers, contractors and clients greater confidence in new solutions entering the market.



WHY ENTER?

The BBA Sustainable Innovator Award 2026 offers manufacturers a unique opportunity to accelerate the growth of an innovative construction product, whilst gaining recognition from one of the most trusted names in the industry.

Designed for startups and growing businesses, the award helps build credibility, unlock opportunity and move innovation forward with confidence.



01 ACCESS A £50K CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITY – FREE OF CHARGE

The winning product will receive free access to a full BBA assessment, providing the opportunity to progress towards BBA Agrément Certification (subject to meeting all requirements).

For many growing manufacturers, certification can be a significant investment. This award removes the cost barrier and gives you the chance to take a critical step toward independent verification of your product's performance, safety and compliance.



02 BUILD TRUST IN YOUR INNOVATION

Certification delivers confidence and recognition.

By entering the Innovation Award, your product will be reviewed by industry experts against clear, published criteria focused on quality, safety and real-world performance. This helps demonstrate to specifiers, contractors and clients that your innovation is not just new, but credible and robust.

03 GAIN EXPERT FEEDBACK FROM INDUSTRY LEADERS

Shortlisted entrants and the winner will benefit from expert feedback from professionals working across standards, safety, innovation and the built environment.

This insight can be invaluable in refining your product, strengthening your technical case, and preparing for wider market adoption.

04 RAISE YOUR PROFILE ACROSS THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

The Innovation Award is designed to shine a spotlight on high-quality innovation.

Entrants benefit from:

- ✔ Association with the BBA and its reputation for independence and rigour
- ✔ Visibility through campaign communications and partner networks
- ✔ Media and content opportunities for the winning product, including interviews, case studies and social coverage



- ✔ The winner will be announced publicly in November 2026, offering further exposure to senior industry stakeholders.

05 ACCELERATE YOUR ROUTE TO MARKET

For innovative products, credibility is often the key to unlocking adoption.

The Innovation Award combines recognition, expert scrutiny and access to certification to help bridge the gap between innovation and specification, supporting the journey from promising product to trusted solution.

06 BE PART OF RAISING INDUSTRY STANDARDS

This award recognises innovation beyond an individual product.

Entering the awards contributes to a wider industry effort to promote safer, smarter and more sustainable construction, helping to raise expectations and standards across the built environment.

Important Notes

- ✔ Entry provides access to the certification process, not guaranteed certification (awarded if all requirements are met)
- ✔ All assessments and decisions follow standard BBA procedures
- ✔ The focus is on recognising innovation that delivers real-world impact



HOW TO ENTER

Entering the BBA Sustainable Innovator Award is designed to be a clear, structured and fully digital process.

If your organisation and product meet the eligibility criteria, you'll be invited to submit a single product innovation for consideration by the judging panel.



STEP 1

PREPARE YOUR SUBMISSION

All entries are submitted online. As part of your application, you'll be asked to provide a small set of documents and information that help the judges understand what your product does, why it matters, and how it performs.

Your submission will include:

- ✔ A business overview or pitch deck
(explaining your organisation, your product and its market opportunity)



- ✔ Business verification details
(to confirm your organisation is a legitimate manufacturer and potential certificate holder)
- ✔ A technical description of the product, including:
 - what the product is
 - how it works
 - what makes it innovative
 - how it differs from existing solutions
- ✔ Supporting evidence, which may include:
 - test data
 - demonstrations (video or prototype)
 - customer or use-case validation
 - evidence of product performance to date
- ✔ A brief product lifecycle summary, outlining:
 - development to date
 - current manufacturing status
 - readiness for independent assessment
- ✔ A roadmap to market or scale, showing how certification would support your next growth phase

STEP 2

SUBMIT ONLINE

All submissions are made digitally through the Innovation Award entry system.

Once submitted:



- ✔ You'll receive confirmation that your entry has been received
- ✔ Your submission will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness before progressing to judging

If any essential information is missing, you may be contacted to provide clarification within a specified timeframe.

STEP 3

ELIGIBILITY & INITIAL REVIEW

The BBA will carry out an initial review of all entries to confirm that:

- ✔ the organisation and product meet the eligibility criteria
- ✔ the submission is complete
- ✔ the product appears suitable for independent assessment

Only eligible entries will progress to the judging stage. Shortlisting is carried out at the BBA's discretion, in line with its established processes and competencies.

STEP 4

JUDGING & SHORTLISTING

Eligible entries will be reviewed by an expert judging panel against published criteria, including:

- ✔ quality and performance
- ✔ safety impact
- ✔ innovation
- ✔ feasibility and market readiness



- ✔ sustainability (as a bonus consideration)

Shortlisted entrants may be invited to:

- ✔ provide additional clarification
- ✔ take part in interviews or presentations
- ✔ respond to judge questions

STEP 5

WINNER SELECTION & NEXT STEPS

The winning product will be announced in person in November 2026. The winner will then be invited to begin the BBA assessment and certification process, free of charge, in line with standard BBA procedures. Certification is not guaranteed and remains subject to successful completion of the assessment process.

Important Notes

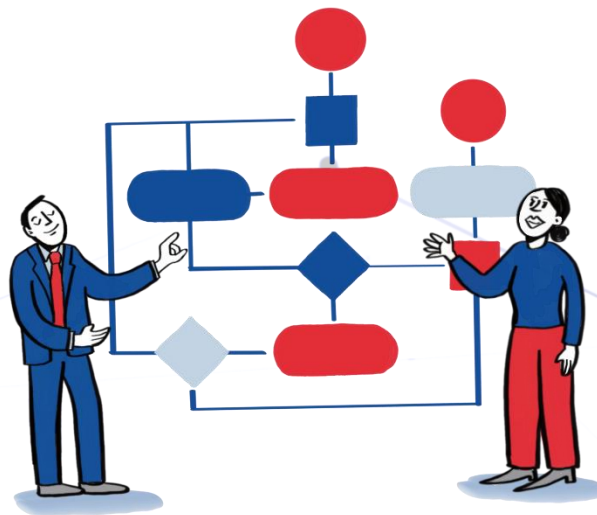
- ✔ Only one product may be submitted per organisation
- ✔ All information provided must be accurate and truthful
- ✔ Entry into the Innovation Award provides access to the certification process, not automatic certification
- ✔ Further terms and conditions will apply



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The BBA Sustainable Innovator Award is open to growth-ready manufacturers with innovative construction products that are suitable for independent assessment and certification.

To be eligible, both the organisation and the product must meet the criteria outlined below.



01 ORGANISATIONAL ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to growth-ready organisations that manufacture products for use in the construction sector, specifically for startups and small businesses. Eligible organisations must be the original developers and manufacturers of the product submitted.

Eligible organisations include:

- ✔ Startups
 - 0–9 employees
 - Annual turnover under €2 million
 - New to certification



- ✔ Small businesses
 - 10–49 employees
 - Annual turnover under €10 million
 - May have limited prior experience of certification

All entrants must be:

- ✔ A legally registered business, typically within the first 5–7 years of trading
- ✔ Willing and able to engage fully with the BBA assessment and certification process
- ✔ Committed to ongoing participation, evaluation and investment beyond the initial certification period

The target audience is any potential certificate holder, defined as the organisation directly responsible for the development and manufacture of the product.

02 PRODUCT ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, the submitted product must meet all the following criteria:

- ✔ The product is not currently certified by the BBA
- ✔ The product is considered innovative, meaning it introduces a new or significantly improved:
 - function
 - design
 - material



- system or process that delivers better performance, greater efficiency, or solves a recognised construction industry challenge
- ✔ The product is already manufactured and in production, and is suitable for independent assessment
- ✔ The product is intended for use in the built environment, including civil and highways applications
- ✔ The product can demonstrate eligibility for certification, including appropriate liability coverage
- ✔ The product is the original work of the submitting organisation (no white labelled or rebranded products)

Products must be at an appropriate level of market and technical readiness:

- ✔ Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 8 or above, or
- ✔ TRL 7 with supporting test data (learn more [here](#))

03 COMMITMENT TO CERTIFICATION

As part of entry, shortlisted organisations must confirm their commitment to:

- ✔ Engaging with the BBA as the certifying body
- ✔ Providing all required technical documentation and evidence
- ✔ Participating in assessment activities in line with standard BBA processes
- ✔ Working to agreed timelines

Entry into the Innovation Award provides access to the certification process free of charge, but does not guarantee certification, which remains subject to standard BBA assessment procedures.



04 EXCLUSIONS

The following are not eligible for entry:

- ✔ Products that are already certified by the BBA or currently under contract with the BBA
- ✔ White labelled or third-party manufactured products
- ✔ Concept stage products or solutions below the required TRL threshold
- ✔ Products intended solely for:
 - upgrading or remediation
 - electrical applications
 - excluded specialist sectors as defined by the BBA
- ✔ Products that cannot demonstrate compliance with baseline safety and legal requirements

JUDGING PROCESS & CRITERIA EXPLAINED

The BBA Sustainable Innovator Award is judged through a structured, transparent process designed to ensure fairness, consistency and expert oversight.

All eligible entries are reviewed by the BBA and an independent panel of industry experts, with products assessed against clearly defined criteria aligned to quality, safety, innovation and market readiness.



STAGE 1

ELIGIBILITY & INITIAL REVIEW

Once submissions close, all entries are reviewed by the BBA to confirm that:

- ✔ the organisation and product meet the published eligibility criteria
- ✔ the submission is complete
- ✔ the product appears suitable for independent assessment

Only eligible entries progress to the judging stage. Shortlisting is carried out at the BBA's discretion, in line with its established processes and competencies

STAGE 2

EXPERT PANEL REVIEW

Eligible entries are reviewed by an expert judging panel drawn from across the construction, standards, safety, innovation and sustainability landscape.



Judges review each submission independently against the published criteria, using the information and evidence provided by the entrant. This may include technical descriptions, supporting data, demonstrations and use case examples

STAGE 3

SHORTLISTING & FURTHER REVIEW

A shortlist of leading entries is identified following the initial judging review.

Shortlisted entrants may be invited to:

- ✔ provide additional clarification
- ✔ take part in interviews or presentations
- ✔ respond to judge questions

This stage allows judges to explore how the product performs in practice, its readiness for market, and its potential to deliver meaningful improvements in safety, quality or sustainability.

STAGE 4

FINAL SELECTION

The judging panel recommends a winning product based on the overall strength of the entry across all criteria.

The final decision is made in line with BBA governance and processes, and the winning product will be announced in November 2026.



Important Notes

- ✔ The judging process is designed to identify the most impactful innovation, not to guarantee certification
- ✔ Winning the Innovation Award provides free access to the BBA assessment and certification process, which remains subject to standard procedures and outcomes
- ✔ All judging decisions are final



Judging Criteria

Entries are assessed against the following core criteria:

01

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- ✔ Robustness, durability and consistency of performance
- ✔ Evidence of performance against recognised standards and best practice

02

SAFETY IMPACT

- ✔ Contribution to reducing onsite risks or long-term hazards
- ✔ Relevance to built environment safety requirements, such as fire safety, structural integrity, durability and safety in use

03

FEASIBILITY & MARKET READINESS

- ✔ Appropriate Technology Readiness Level (TRL 8+, or TRL 7 with supporting test data)
- ✔ Evidence that the product is already manufactured and ready for assessment
- ✔ Clear pathway to market adoption

04

INNOVATION

- ✔ Novelty and differentiation from existing solutions
- ✔ Clear explanation of what makes the product innovative and why it matters

05

SUSTAINABILITY

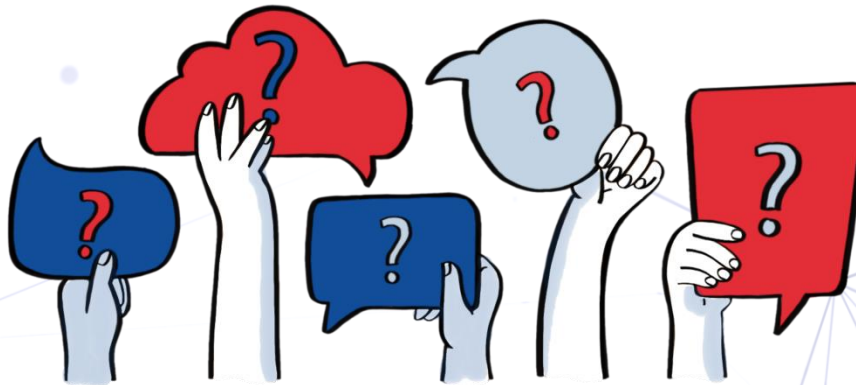
- ✔ Environmental impact and lifecycle performance
- ✔ Contribution to improved sustainability outcomes in construction



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

What is the BBA Sustainable Innovator Award?

It is a BBA- initiated competition designed to recognise and support innovative construction products that deliver measurable improvements in quality, safety and sustainability. The award gives manufacturers the opportunity to gain recognition and access the BBA certification process free of charge.



Who can enter?

The award is open to growth-ready manufacturers, specifically startups and small businesses, that develop and manufacture construction products. Entrants must be the original developers of the product and willing to engage fully with the BBA assessment process.

What types of products are eligible?

Eligible products must:

- ✔ Be innovative and already manufactured
- ✔ Be intended for use in the built environment (including civil and highways applications)
- ✔ Not already be BBA-certified or under contract with the BBA



- ✔ Be suitable for independent assessment and certification
- ✔ Meet the required Technology Readiness Level (TRL 8+, or TRL 7 with supporting test data)

Can I submit more than one product?

No. Each organisation may submit one product only as part of the Innovation Award.

Does winning guarantee BBA certification?

No. Winning the Innovation Award provides free access to the BBA assessment and certification process, but certification is not guaranteed. All products must successfully complete the standard BBA assessment process and meet all technical and procedural requirements.

What does the prize include?

The winning product will receive:

- ✔ A full BBA Agrément assessment (or HAPAS assessment for civils products)
- ✔ Assessment, scoping and certification activity in line with standard BBA processes
- ✔ Where certification is awarded, a three-year standard planned maintenance cycle
- ✔ A dedicated account manager
- ✔ Expert feedback from industry professionals
- ✔ Post-award publicity, including interviews, case studies and social media activity
- ✔ A physical award presented in person in November 2026

The approximate value of the prize is £50,000.



What costs are covered, and what is not?

The prize covers access to the assessment and certification process, including the first three-year cycle of standard planned maintenance audits.

It does not include:

- ✔ Product testing
- ✔ Unplanned maintenance activities, including any amendments, reissues or additional assessments required due to product or name changes, or assessment status.

Any additional work will be quoted separately.

What do I need to submit?

All entries are submitted digitally and typically include:

- ✔ A business or product overview
- ✔ Technical description and supporting evidence
- ✔ Demonstrations or validation (e.g. video, test data, use cases)
- ✔ Confirmation of commitment to certification

Full submission requirements will be provided as part of the entry process.

How are entries judged?

Entries are reviewed through a structured process involving:

- ✔ Eligibility and completeness checks by the BBA
- ✔ Review by an expert judging panel
- ✔ Shortlisting and further clarification where required

Products are assessed against published criteria focused on quality, safety, innovation, feasibility and sustainability.



Who are the judges?

The judging panel will include experts from across:

- ✔ Construction and product manufacturing
- ✔ Standards and certification
- ✔ Safety, quality and innovation

Final panel membership will be confirmed ahead of judging.

When will the winner be announced?

The winning product will be announced in November 2026, with post-award publicity following the announcement.

What happens after the award?

The winner will be invited to begin the BBA assessment and certification process, supported by a dedicated account manager. Post-award communications and case study activity will also take place.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Queries about the Innovation Award should be directed to:
bba.award@wildwoodplus.com

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Promoter: British Board of Agrément (BBA)

Effective date: Monday 18th May 2026



1. Introduction

1.1 These Terms & Conditions (“Terms”) govern participation in the BBA Sustainable Innovator Award (“Innovation Award”).

1.2 By submitting an entry, entrants agree to be bound by these Terms.

1.3 The Innovation Award is promoted and administered by the British Board of Agrément (“BBA”).

2. Eligibility

2.1 The Innovation Award is open to growth-ready organisations that manufacture products for use in the construction sector, specifically startups and small businesses.

2.2 Entrants must be the original developer and manufacturer of the product submitted.

2.3 Each organisation may submit one product only.

2.4 Products must not already be certified by the BBA or under contract with the BBA at the time of entry.



3. Entry Process

3.1 All entries must be submitted digitally via the official Innovation Award process by the published deadline.

3.2 Entrants must provide accurate and complete information as requested.

4. Judging

4.1 Eligible entries will be assessed through a structured judging process.

4.2 The BBA reserves the right to not award a winner if their entry is not considered suitable or meets the required standards.

4.3 Judging decisions are final.

5. Prize

5.1 The winning product will receive free access to a BBA assessment, providing the opportunity to progress through the BBA certification process.

5.2 Certification is not guaranteed and remains subject to standard BBA procedures.

5.3 The award prize is non-transferable and non-exchangeable, and no cash or other alternative will be available.

5.4 The award prize covers standard assessment and certification activities only. Any additional activity, non-standard technical assessment work or additional scope may remain separately chargeable where required.

6. Intellectual Property

6.1 Entrants retain ownership of their intellectual property.

6.2 Entrants grant the BBA permission to use submitted materials for judging and promotion of the Innovation Award.



7. Publicity

7.1 Shortlisted entrants and the winner may be asked to participate in publicity related to the Innovation Award.

8. Liability

8.1 To the fullest extent permitted by law, the BBA accepts no liability for any indirect or consequential business losses arising through participation or winning the Innovation Award.

8.2 Winning the Innovation Award does not guarantee certification outcome or commercial success.

9. Data Protection

9.1 Personal data will be processed in accordance with applicable data protection laws and the BBA privacy policy.

10. General

10.1 The BBA reserves the right to amend, suspend or withdraw the Innovation Award and/or associated timelines where reasonably necessary.

10.2 These Terms are governed by the laws of England and Wales.

