

SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

5th November • The Great Room, Grosvenor House

GUIDE TO ENTRY

Entries Open: 23rd February 2026

Entries Close: 26th June 2026

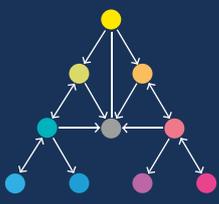


Celebrating True Supply Chain Excellence

The Supply Chain Excellence Awards were established to recognise and celebrate organisations delivering outstanding performance across their supply chain operations.

Now celebrating 30 years, the Awards have become the benchmark for best practice in European supply chain management, recognised for the rigour and credibility of their judging process and the valuable feedback provided to entrants.

The 30th Supply Chain Excellence Awards will take place on 5 November 2026, marking three decades of industry excellence at a flagship celebration bringing together leaders from across the supply chain community.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Event Information

Who can enter the Awards?

The Supply Chain Excellence Awards are designed to celebrate the joint achievements of logistics providers and their end-user clients.

All entries must be focused in this way, on the supply chain practitioner. We welcome submissions from solutions providers, e.g. 3PLs and consultancies, only when in partnership with one of their clients, who must be the focus of the entry. For example, Howard Tenens Logistics and their client Amazon Whole Foods submitted a joint entry last year.

What is the entry process and criteria?

Stage 1:

A 1,500 word submission that can include a video, judged on; Quality of contribution, significance of innovation to the industry, extent to which the solution creates competitive advantage for the company, depth of application, evidence of business benefits + collaboration with others.

Stage 2 (if shortlisted):

A 20-minute presentation (online) to a judging panel who will critique; enthusiasm and passion, commitment of senior management, communication with the wider organisation, scope/magnitude of change/achievement + evidence of results.

How much does it cost to enter?

Entries are free.

Can I enter more than one category?

Yes, but please keep each entry as distinct as possible.

Does it matter where our organisation is based?

Yes, we are accepting entries from companies based in the UK and Europe only.

How do I enter?

Visit our website and use our new online entry system.

Once you have registered yourself on the platform, you will be able to prepare your entry online. With this system you do not have to complete your entry in one sitting. You can work on it over time, saving your progress as you go. This makes it much easier to get your entry together.

The new platform also makes it easier for us to (for example) limit the number of words submitted in entries, thus making the entry process a more level playing field. This contributes to the fairness and rigour of the Awards.

When is the entry deadline?

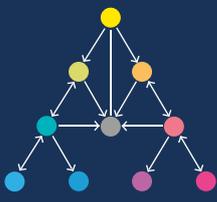
The entry deadline is the 26th June 2026.

Is the information we submit safe?

All entries are strictly confidential. No details of any kind will be shared to anyone other than our judges.

Our judges are mandated to sign a confidentiality agreement before they see any entries.

Judges will not divulge or utilise confidential information gained from judging submissions, or discuss with any other party, any details of any entry that they judge.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Event Information

When will the shortlist be announced?

The shortlist will be announced in late July and is featured in the September issue of Logistics Manager Magazine.

How are the Awards decided?

Shortlisted entrants will be notified in July 2026. Stage 2 interviews will be held in the first two weeks of September 2026. You will not be able to choose your day or time, so please make sure your presenter is available, and that you have an alternate.

If you're part of a joint entry, all parties should be present in the interview.

When and where is the ceremony?

The 30th Supply Chain Excellence Awards will take place on the 5th of November in London's largest ballroom - The Great Room, Grosvenor House.

How do I book a table?

Contact: awards@akabomedia.co.uk

Please note: drinks are not included in standard table prices.
VIP tables include half a bottle of wine per person.

Drinks menus and pre-order forms will be provided in advance to all other table bookers.

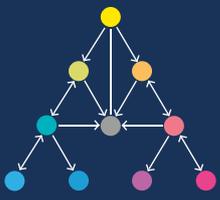
What are the timings of the Awards?

Timings for the Awards are below:

- 19:00 Official Welcome Drinks Reception
- 19:45 Three Course Dinner
- 21:30 Special Guest Host
- 21:45 Awards Ceremony
- 22:45 Evening Entertainment
- 01:00 Carriages

Please note these times are UK (GMT).





SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Who are the judges?

The Awards are recognised as the most prestigious in the industry.

This is partly due to our unrivalled judging process where the winners and finalists are selected by our panel of respected independent industry professionals.

Our judging panel is made up of experienced users of logistics services. They're nearly all decisions makers at large commercial organisation who have a genuine passion for excellence in supply chains.

Below is a small selection of our judges:



MARS

JAMES ROSENGREN
Head of Logistics and Supply Chain



sky

VICKI FLAXTEN
Director of Supply Chain



SELFRIDGES & CO

ALISON MUIR
Head of Procurement



Nomad Foods

RICHARD BRETNALL
Group Logistics Director



CLOUD NINE®

LEWE GOLDMANN
Supply Chain & Operations Director



JLR

LORETTA DITTRICH
Sr. Director Supply Chain & Manufacturing



ELA
EUROPEAN LOGISTICS ASSOCIATION

SHARON KINDLEYSIDES
Board Member

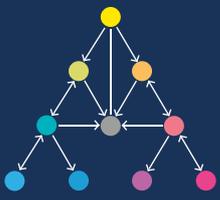


Castrol

JAYANTA CHATTERJEE
Global Supply Chain Director

You can see our full judging panel by visting our website.

All judges sign a confidentiality agreement before they see any entries.



Judging Criteria & Entry Tips

Judging Criteria

For the **majority of the award categories**, the judges are looking for evidence of excellence in the following areas:

- Clear business benefits for all parties.
- Clear evidence of collaboration.
- Clear evidence of customer/ client benefits.
- Quality of execution of project.
- Clear evidence of innovation.

When judging the **'Rising Star'** the judges are looking for:

- Enthusiasm
- Talent
- Promise
- Commitment to personal development
- Commitment to team and corporate goals

*Rising Star entrants must be under 30 on the date of closing and their employer must support their entry

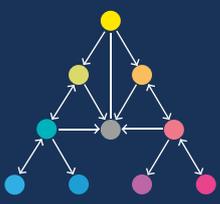
When judging the **'The Workforce Planning Award'** the judges are looking for:

- Quality of strategy, planning and analysis
- Evidence of effective outcomes/benefit
- Evidence of collaboration/cross company buy-in
- Quality of execution
- Evidence of innovation

Entry Tips

To make sure your entry has the best chance of winning, you must consider more than just the judging criteria. These useful tips can take your entry from good to great:

- 1. Include evidence** - Evidence, such as pictures, videos and statistics are a great way to clearly demonstrate to our judges what your project has accomplished. Visuals and impressive statistics are likely to leave a lasting impression on judges.
- 2. Be unique** - It's important you differentiate yourself from other potential entries. Make sure you highlight what sets your project apart from others in the industry.
- 3. Highlight teamwork** - The Awards celebrate joint success between logistics providers and clients from areas such as manufacturing, retail, hospitality, and the public sector. Involve your partners in your entry to show clear collaboration. Joint entries are welcome.
- 4. Be ambitious** - As long as your project is relevant, and each entry is distinct, you can enter as many categories as you like.
- 5. Be thorough** - Make sure you follow all of the supplied information, criteria and tips and double check your entry before submission. This is the best way to ensure you are shortlisted for an award.
- 6. Show off** - Don't be modest! Our judges want to hear all about the incredible things you and your team have accomplished.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Categories

Industry Sector Categories

The Food & Drink Supply Chain Excellence Award

This award is open to anyone working in food and drink supply chains across all temperatures, including grocery, supermarket, wholesale, restaurants and on- and off-trade procurement, sourcing and distribution, as well as wholesale and contract caterers and 3PLs or 4PLs working in partnership with such businesses.

It will look to recognise techniques, projects or processes; and where supply chains have improved business outcome.

The Manufacturing Supply Chain Excellence Award

This award is open to anyone working in a manufacturing and/ or engineering supply chain or to 3PLs and 4PLs working in partnership with such companies.

It will look to recognise techniques, projects or processes; and where supply chains have benefited the creation and supply of industrial equipment.

The Event Logistics Excellence Award

This award is open to any event organiser – in sport, entertainment, business, government or anything else - and 3PLs and 4PLs working in partnership with such organisations. It will look to recognise the vital contribution made to the success of events like Eurovision, Wimbledon and the Chelsea Flower Show by the excellence of their logistics planning and execution. Judges will be particularly interested to hear how plans flex and adapt to changing circumstances.

The Healthcare & Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Excellence Award - Private Sector

This award is open to any organisation working in the life sciences, hospital and health and medical devices supply chains, be it procurement, sourcing or distribution, or to 3PLs and 4PLs working in partnership with such organisations. It will look to recognise techniques, projects or processes; and where supply chains have benefitted patient health outcome.

The Public Sector Supply Chain Excellence Award

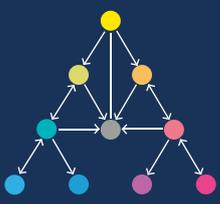
This award is open to anyone working in public sector supply chains, be it procurement, sourcing, distribution and 3PLs or 4PLs working in partnership with such businesses.

It will recognise techniques, projects or processes and where supply chains have improved public services. It will look to recognise techniques, projects or processes; and where supply chains have improved business outcome.

The *Logistics Reply* Retail Supply Chain Excellence Award

This award is open to anyone working in a retail supply chain, from fashion to consumer goods to e-commerce, be it procurement, sourcing, distribution and 3PLs and 4PLs working in partnership with such organisations.

It will look to recognise techniques, projects or processes and achievements in an omnichannel environment.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Supply Chain Categories

The Supply Chain Operations Award - Continuous Improvement

This award recognises projects that demonstrate excellence in the efficiency of a supply chain operation. This could involve warehousing, national and international transport by air, sea, rail or road – or any combination of these elements. Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The People Operations Award

This award recognises supply chain projects that demonstrate excellence in people and people management. This could involve elements such as exemplary teamwork, great leadership, or team empowerment.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Supply Chain Visibility Award

This award recognises projects that can demonstrate excellence in supply chain visibility right through the supply chain. Examples could include projects that have improved order processing, inventory, delivery and mitigated potential supply chain disruptions.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Supply Chain Operations Award - Partnership

This award recognises projects that demonstrate excellence in the efficiency of a supply chain operation. This could involve warehousing, national and international transport by air, sea, rail or road – or any combination of these elements. Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Supply Chain Strategy and Design Award

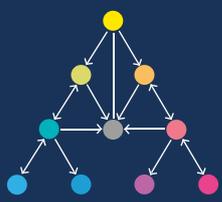
This award recognises excellence in strategic developments in an organisation's supply chain management and practice that have a quantifiable benefit to the business. Examples could include execution of risk management planning; centralising distribution systems, or large-scale investments in facilities as part of a strategic realignment of a logistics operation.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Best Use of Robotics

This award recognises projects where an organisation has used robotics to deliver fundamental changes to its logistics and supply chain operations. Examples could include pick and pack robotics or the use of AGVs in a warehouse environment.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Supply Chain Categories

The Customer Service Award

This award recognises companies setting the standard in delivering exceptional customer experiences through multiple channels, which increasingly encompasses social.

This category recognises companies striving to exceed customer expectations, implementing industry-leading standards of service, and looking to innovate their customer experience capabilities.

The Peak Technologies Digital Transformation Award - Systems

This award is open to businesses that have succeeded in helping their partners evolve their traditional supply chains into connected, smart, and highly efficient supply chain ecosystems through the implementation of hardware. It will recognise the key strategic hardware investments that have proven to bring in solid financial results and help move closer to customers, while at the same time driving operational excellence and ultimately enhancing overall supply chain performance. Entries from 3PLs, integrators, and software providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Sustainable Materials Award

This award recognises projects that use materials more efficiently to minimise waste in the supply chain. Examples could include reduced use of packaging and plastics or the introduction of new sustainable materials.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Digital Transformation Award - Software

This award is open to businesses that have succeeded in helping their partners evolve their traditional supply chains into connected, smart, and highly efficient supply chain ecosystems. It will recognise the key strategic investments in software that have improved supply chain visibility, efficiency, and overall supply chain performance, delivering benefits to customers. Entries from 3PLs, integrators, and software providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

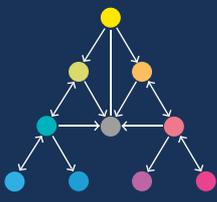
The Sustainable Supply Chain Award

This award recognises environmental projects throughout the supply chain that use resources more efficiently and minimise waste. Examples could include industrial property development, improved transport efficiencies, or a reduced use of packaging and plastic in the supply chain.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Allwood Recycling Sustainability Award For Recycling

The Supply Chain Recycling Award recognises innovative and effective projects involving the recycling or reusing of goods or materials, contributing to a more circular economy. Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Supply Chain Categories

The Kite Packaging Supply Chain Innovation Award

This award recognises projects that demonstrate how an organisation is driving change by the adoption of new, innovative supply chain practices.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Logistex Supply Chain Health & Safety Award

The Supply Chain Health & Safety Award recognises innovative and/or effective health & safety measures. This could be a strategy, an initiative, or use of equipment to improve health & safety.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Warehouse Initiative Award

This award recognises excellence in warehouse management, incorporating single-site operations or a multi-site strategy. Winning entries will demonstrate improvement in the efficiency of operations, be it through process, strategy and/or the advanced use of technology and/or automation.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Urban Logistics Award

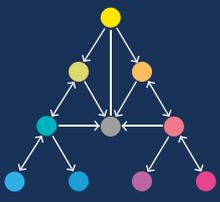
This award is open to home delivery and express delivery logistics operations in an urban environment. It will reward projects or changes to business processes that have adapted to the needs of urban logistics, delivering operational, environmental and/ or safety improvements across the business and the wider community.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.

The Procurement Award

This award recognises exceptional procurement processes and purchasing decisions in any sector, saving money, improving efficiency, and benefitting customers and/or business operations.

Entries from 3PLs, integrators and equipment providers are welcome, but should be in partnership with a customer.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

People Categories

The Workforce Planning Award

Not only is there an employee shortage in critical areas including drivers, warehousing operatives, and back-office staff, but there is also a digital skills gap that is threatening the growth of businesses in the supply chain sector.

The Workforce Planning Award recognises efforts to create a future workforce fit for purpose, mitigate the skills and talent shortages, enhance recruitment and retention, and attract new people into the industry through diversity and inclusion, as well as working with schools and colleges. The Award is open to companies and their partners that have accepted they need to adapt if they are going to succeed in what is a newly shaped, global economy.

The Rising Star

This award is for young people starting their careers in supply chain and logistics who demonstrate enthusiasm, talent and the promise of great things to come.

Candidates can come from all levels within the organisation from apprentices upwards. This award is open to any employee under the age of 30, based in the UK, in the logistics and supply chain sectors.

Transport Categories

The Clean Transport Award

With green and sustainable transport practices moving up the business agenda as the effects of climate change become more apparent, vehicle manufacturers and fleet operators must play a leading role in reducing carbon emissions and making transportation and logistics an environment-friendly business.

This Clean Transport Award is open to vehicle manufacturers, end-user brands and technology providers to showcase collaborations, technologies and policies aimed to cut carbon emissions, with the ultimate goal of making businesses more sustainable and establishing strategic advantages over the competition.

The Smart Mobility Award

The Smart Mobility category is open to companies and partners that are leveraging technology and innovation to manage multiple forms of transport in more efficient, resilient and sustainable ways, making best use of available capacity, ensuring continuous services despite disruptive incidents and encouraging the take-up of greener options.

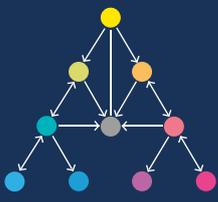
The connected and autonomous vehicles space, coupled with the digitalising of the retail market, has led to the emergence of new delivery methods, including ground last-mile bots, drones and other green home delivery options. This category therefore recognises those projects that are allowing products to be moved in an efficient, timely and cost-effective way.

Property

The Property Partner of the Year Award

Demand for industrial and logistics property remains robust and has continued with the enormous growth in online. But competition for well-located warehouses across the UK has never been greater, with occupier take-up hitting record levels.

Given these challenges, entries for the Property Partner of the Year are invited from agents, in the main, but also developers working closely with occupiers on innovative property strategies to support clients' short-, medium- and long-term business ambitions.



SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2026

Celebrating Excellence For 30 Years!

The ceremony for the 30th edition of our prestigious industry-leading awards will take place in the famed Great Room, at distinguished 5-star Mayfair hotel, Grosvenor House.



Entries Open: 23rd February 2026
Entry Deadline: 26th June 2026

For any enquires regarding entry & tables please contact:

Olivia McGregor - olivia.mcgregor@akabomedia.co.uk

Interested in joining our category sponsors? Please contact:

Michael Grimsley - michael.grimsley@akabomedia.co.uk

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