

PRESS RELEASE

IBC launches 2025 Innovation Awards with nominations now open across five categories

Awards honour cutting-edge projects and initiatives reshaping media and entertainment through technological and social advances

London – 22 April 2025 – <u>IBC</u> announces the launch of the **IBC2025 Innovation Awards**, which recognise pioneering advances in technology and social impact in the media and entertainment (M&E) industry – with nominations now open. The awards celebrate outstanding achievements across five categories: **Content Creation**, **Content Distribution**, **Content Everywhere**, **Social Impact**, and **Environment & Sustainability**.

Entries are open for projects, programmes and initiatives that exemplify innovation, collaboration and positive change. The **deadline for entries is midnight on Friday 30 May**. The winners' reception will take place on **Sunday 14 September** at the **RAI Amsterdam**.

"The IBC Innovation Awards remain crucial for recognition of pivotal industry advances at a time of significant uncertainty and turbulence in the global M&E ecosystem," says Fergal Ringrose, Chair of the IBC Innovation Awards Jury. "These awards highlight the myriad ways industry pioneers are reshaping media through technological and social progress. We look forward to showcasing the spirit of cooperation and creative accomplishments that positively impact both the businesses involved and the broader industry."

The Innovation Awards' three technology categories honour completed projects of any size that have overcome real-world creative, operational or commercial challenges through solutions that demonstrate inventiveness and collaboration among end users and technology partners. The social impact categories recognise innovative initiatives and campaigns that are making a difference within the industry in terms of social advancement and equality, or environmental responsibility and sustainability. For consideration, successful projects must have been **completed between 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025**.

The winners of the 2024 IBC Innovation Awards were:

- In Content Creation, Olympic Broadcasting Services and partners for live broadcast production with more than 200 smartphones contributing video for the Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony and a sea-based 5G network for sailing competitions in Marseille.
- In Content Distribution, the National Hockey League, in partnership with Verizon, AWS, Zixi, Vizrt, Net
 Insight and Evertz, for producing a 5G and Edge compute framework for assembly, control and delivery of
 live broadcasts
- In Content Everywhere, **LaLiga** for working with **Play Anywhere** and **Ease Live** to enable true fan interactivity for itself and its worldwide broadcast and streaming partners.
- In Social Impact, **Sesame Workshop** for its Watch Play Learn Distribution Hub, which allows government agencies and aid organisations to preview and request videos for children in crisis settings.
- In Environment & Sustainability, **France Télévisions** for reducing CO2 emissions by 300 tons via a pioneering 100% glass-to-glass cloud production and private 5G network, as it broadcast a 24/7 channel providing coverage of the Olympic Torch Relay for Paris 2024.

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Joining the 2025 IBC Awards Jury is **Jenny Priestley**, Content Director of *TVBEurope*, who brings a wealth of experience and insight to the evaluation process. She joins the judging panel of industry professionals that, in addition to Ringrose, also includes Vijaya Cherian, Managing Partner at CPI Trade Media; Christine Gebhard, Managing Editor, *Film, TV, Video*; Carolyn Giardina, Senior Entertainment Technology & Crafts Editor, *Variety*; Heather McLean, Editor at Sports Video Group (SVG) Europe; and Mike Short, former First Chief Scientific Adviser at the UK Department for International Trade.

For more information and to submit nominations, please visit: 2025 IBC Innovation Awards.

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About IBC

Delivering innovation and empowering people, IBC is where the future of the global Media and Entertainment industry is defined and actioned. Energising the market, enabling content everywhere and inspiring new conversations, IBC brings the creative, technology and business communities together to collaborate, learn and unlock new opportunities.

At IBC2025, exhibitors and speakers from around the globe will showcase game-changing innovations and tackle the media sector's most pressing trends and issues – changing perceptions and meeting the needs of the world-leading broadcasters, content owners, rightsholders, service providers and others attending the four-day conference and trade show.

With a focus on inclusivity, IBC propels change – driving thought leadership, sparking discussion, shifting expectations, accelerating creativity and enabling real business outcomes. IBC's mission is to empower our 250,000-strong global community to explore new opportunities, build knowledge, and play an active role in the technological transformation and broader change sweeping the industry worldwide.

For further information, please visit: https://show.ibc.org/

Media contact:

Platform Communications for IBC Hugh Filman / Nick Field / Molly Cole ibcprteam@platformcomms.com +44 (0) 20 3832 3690