

Vendor of the Year

Open to all vendors, this standalone award will go to the vendor who can demonstrate outstanding performance in terms of market penetration, revenue growth, customer feedback and the launch of innovative new products. Crucially, the vendor must clearly demonstrate a commitment to workplace diversity as well as IT excellence. They will have set up schemes to encourage and promote equality amongst staff, with opportunities provided to the most talented individuals regardless of their personal attributes or beliefs. The organisation will be able to demonstrate a solid record of both innovation (whether that's in their products, working practises or processes) and investment in the UK IT industry. Evidence of youth training and recruitment programmes, and charitable works will also be considered.

While it is recognised that organisations can be comprised of teams across many countries, entries should be able to demonstrate a very strong UK focus.

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Excellence: Consistently able to demonstrate leading performance in terms of market penetration, revenue growth, product launches and/or customer satisfaction.

Diversity: Encouraging and promoting diversity of all kinds in the workplace, both in terms of recruitment practises, and staff opportunities, training and retention policies.

Innovation: Demonstrating a true commitment to innovation, with the aim of providing the latest technology and services to customers, creating new products or even new marketplaces, and / or creating new routes to market and fresh ways to engage and communicate with the IT community.

Investment: Able to give strong evidence of investment in the UK, whether that's in terms of new hires, investment in research and development, opening new facilities and / or charitable works and donations. At its root an answer to the question: what have you done to make the UK a better place to live and work in?

Entrants should provide:

An explanation for how the submitted entry meets each of the four criteria, plus a maximum 250-word summary of why they believe they should win this award.

Each entry, therefore, requires:

- Organisational overview (80 words), which can be used for PR purposes
- Four sections detailing achievements (up to 500 words each) against each of the four criteria above
- A summary statement (up to 250 words)

Entrants are urged to ensure that their submissions follow the above format so that the judges can give the entry their fullest consideration.

Additional Evidence:

Any additional supporting information will be treated as confidential by the judges.

Please note that any additional documents provided should be brief and additive to the entry, and video material should be a maximum of 3 minutes in duration.