



11TH ANNUAL

# Excellence in Reusable Packaging Award

## New in 2022: Two New Awards

In addition to the traditional Excellence in Reusable Packaging Award that recognizes a *reusable system* achievement demonstrating environmental and economic impacts, RPA is establishing two new award categories to honor breakthrough advancements in *design innovation* and *product technology*.

The three Excellence Awards offered in 2022 include:

1. Excellence in Reusable Packaging System. The long-standing *Reusable System* award recognizes primary (end) user companies and associated product suppliers that have developed and implemented measurable reusable packaging solutions in a business-to-business supply chain. Applicants are asked to provide quantified results in both environmental and economic impacts.
2. New: Excellence in Reusable Packaging Design Innovation. Offered to a packaging manufacturer and/or their primary user customer, the *Design Innovation* award celebrates the commercial use of a cutting-edge product design that led to a benefit in the market. Applicants are asked to demonstrate how the novel product design used a unique material or produced a desired feature that led to a performance improvement, overcame an obstacle, or created a new value in the supply chain.
3. New: Excellence in Reusable Packaging Product Technology. Products integrated with technology devices and/or optimized for use with automation equipment are yielding new levels of packaging intelligence and performance. The *Product Technology* award salutes the deployment of smart and automated systems with reusable packaging. Applicants are asked to explain the technology or automation and how it improved the reusable product's capabilities and operational gains in the supply chain.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 15, 2022**

Send your completed form to Tim Debus at [tdebus@reusables.org](mailto:tdebus@reusables.org)  
Winners will be announced in September 2022



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## All winners receive:

- Recognition and presentation of the winning submission at the RPA Learning Center at PACK EXPO International, October 25, 2022
- Commemorative trophy
- RPA website, PR, and Social Media Exposure
- Case Study posted on the RPA website



October 23-26, 2022  
McCormick Place  
Chicago, Illinois USA

## Primary (end) users receive:

- Complimentary RPA Membership for 1 year (\$1,500 value)
- Up to two hotel nights for one representative from each of the winning primary user companies who will attend PACK EXPO 2022 in Chicago and present their winning entry. (RPA will arrange for and pay hotel room and tax)

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## Submission Form

The Reusable Packaging Association's *Excellence in Reusable Packaging* awards recognize companies that have developed and implemented innovative products and impactful reuse systems in their supply chain. Submissions will be reviewed and the winners selected by an independent panel of judges.

The 2022 *Excellence in Reusable Packaging* awards are offered to primary (end) user and supplier companies of reusable transport packaging systems in three categories:

1. *Excellence in Reusable Packaging System* for business-to-business distribution of goods from point of production to point of use or sale.
2. *Excellence in Reusable Packaging Design Innovation* for a cutting-edge material use or product feature.
3. *Excellence in Reusable Packaging Product Technology* for advanced data capture/transmission or automated handling operations.

**Eligibility for Awards:** To enter, a company must:

Be a Primary User of a reusable transport packaging system.

- A Primary User is defined as an entity which uses rented or purchased reusable transport packaging in a closed or open-loop pooled system. This would include retailers, consumer product or service companies, industrial or original equipment manufacturers, non-profit or governmental organizations or other entities which reuse their packaging in the transport of goods.
- Have utilized a reusable transport packaging system as of January 1, 2022, or prior.
- Primary Users do not have to be a member of the RPA to enter.

**Or -**

- Be an RPA Regular Member and submit an entry *on behalf of and in conjunction with their Primary User Customer*

**And -**

- Attend PACK EXPO 2022 in Chicago, IL, October 23 - 26, if selected as a winner. The winners will receive the award in person and present their entry at the RPA Learning Center.



## Part 1:

**A.** Please enter the name and contact information of the person submitting this form.

First Name:

Last Name:

Title:

Company:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City, State, Zip:

Country:

Email:

Telephone:

Website:

**B.** Select the award category in which entry is being submitted:

Reusable System

Design Innovation

Product Technology

**C.** List the companies that provide your reusable transport packaging products and/or services:

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## Part 2: Complete for All Award Categories

### The Project Narrative (30% Scoring Criteria)

A. Provide an overview of the packaging situation that led your company to consider implementing a reusable system, develop a new reusable product design, or deploy a technology or automation solution with reusables. What were the goals of your project? What improvements were you looking to achieve, or what issues were you trying to resolve?

B. Explain the development and implementation of your reusable packaging system, design innovation, or technology solution. Who was involved, and how did you bring the system or product from ideation stage to commercial use? Please include the general timeline and dates of implementation.

**\* Please consider sending a photo of the product and use environment to accompany the written application. While not required, a visual representation could aid the judges in understanding the product innovation or system solution.**

## Part 3A: Complete for Reusable System Award Only

### Business or Economic Improvements (35% Scoring Criteria)

Select all areas of improved performance as a result of the reusable packaging system:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced packaging cost on a per-use basis                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings in time and labor in packing activities  | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved unit load and related transportation and storage efficiencies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better product protection and quality leading to lower shrink | <input type="checkbox"/> Savings in time and labor in handling activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved worker safety conditions                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other economic improvement. Please specify here:              |   |   |

For checked boxes, provide supporting evidence in the form of comparative impacts and financial results. Scoring is weighted to figures and data versus anecdotal observations. For example, "the reusable packaging system saved X dollars in packaging costs and Y dollars in labor time."

## Part 3B: Complete for Design Innovation and Product Technology Awards Only

### Benefit Description (35% Scoring Criteria)

Describe how the product design innovation or the technology deployed led to an improvement in the packaging's material, function, handling, management, or information access. If a design innovation, explain the unique design element and purpose. If a product technology, explain the equipment, hardware, and/or software used and purpose.

## Part 4A: Complete for Reusable System Award Only

### Environmental Improvements (35% Scoring Criteria)

Select all areas of improved environmental condition as a result of the reusable packaging system:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elimination of solid waste                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Elimination of pollution   | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of natural resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lower greenhouse gas emissions                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced energy consumption | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced water consumption         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other environmental improvement. Please specify here: |   |  |

For checked boxes, provide supporting evidence in the form of comparative environmental impacts. Scoring is weighted to figures and data versus anecdotal observations. For example, "the reusable packaging system saved X tons in solid waste and Y metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent." Consider using the U.S. EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) to quantify environmental impacts.

## Part 4B: Complete for Design Innovation and Product Technology Awards Only

### Quantifiable Impact (35% Scoring Criteria)

Provide any measurement of how the product design or the technology deployed led to a new business, operational, or environmental value such as cost-savings, handling improvement, information access, or pollution prevention. If a design innovation, show evidence of performance gains versus other commonly used products. If a product technology, show performance results from the data capture or automated environment. Scoring is weighted to figures and data versus anecdotal observations.