



Information Management's 2010 Innovative Solution Awards Entry Guidelines

Entries Due: July 22, 2011

Information Management is the market-leading publication for data and content management, business intelligence, analytics and data warehousing across business domains and industries. *Information Management* readers know that our interest is often cast in the context business process management and aspects of technology integration, which are interdependent in today's business landscape.

Information Management's Innovative Solution Award was created to recognize solutions that are groundbreaking and provide quantifiable business value. Innovation is partly about adapting to changing environments. *Information Management* is looking for solutions that respond to dynamic business goals or introduce a new approach or idea to a company or an industry. Projects might involve new technologies, adapting existing technology in a new use or different domain or in combination to create new value. Products might be used in ways that the implementer never originally intended, yet delivered new benefits. *Information Management* wants to highlight these stories because they are creating competitive advantage and positively affecting the bottom line.

The entry categories for the 2011 Innovative Solution Awards are: Business Intelligence/Analytics; Business Process Management; Performance Management; Data Integration; Data Management; Data Warehousing; Enterprise Content Management; and Other Innovative Solutions.

Rules of Entry

Deadline: Friday, July 22, 2011.

Submission Process:

1. **Please send completed entry forms as Word documents via email** to Valerie Valentine (valerie.valentine@sourcemedia.com).
2. **The Entrance Certification form** (page 5) may be returned to Valerie via scanned .pdf or .jpg at (262) 546-0794.
3. **There is a limit to the number of entries** by a vendor. One submission per vendor allowed per category.
4. **All software used must be generally available versions** (not beta).
5. **Entries improperly submitted may be rejected.** Reasons can include not following instructions, not providing requested information and materials, or submitting entry in the wrong category. Judging decisions are final.
6. **All entries become property of SourceMedia** and may be reprinted as submitted.
7. **Entries must be dated no later than July 22, 2011.**

8. **All entries must adhere to the format requirements and entry guidelines** in order to provide a consistent base for the judges. Entries that do not adhere to requirements and outline will not be considered. Please do not send additional marketing materials.

Winner Notification:

- Finalists will be notified via email before announcements are made.
- Status notification will be directed to the individual who submitted the entry.
- Winners will be announced to the public in early November. See the *Information Management* Web site for more specific dates going forward.
- A complete list of winners will be posted at info-mgmt.com.

Issue Featuring Winners: Winners will be featured in the November/December 2011 issue of *Information Management*.

Contact:

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ENTRY CATEGORIES

Category	Category Description
Business Intelligence (BI)/ Analytics	BI solutions provide individuals with the ability to easily access information for monitoring, analysis, reporting and decision-making purposes. This category includes OLAP, analytic applications, predictive analytics, data visualization and data mining.
Business Process Management (BPM)	BPM can be defined as the methods, techniques and tools to model, deploy, optimize and analyze operational business processes (repetitive business processes performed by organizations in the context of their day-to-day operations as opposed to strategic decision-making processes) involving humans, organizations, applications, documents and other sources of information. The activities which constitute BPM can be grouped into three categories: design, execution and monitoring, and include modeling, business rules, BAM and workflow management.
Performance Management	Performance management solutions enable an organization to understand, act on and influence its business performance through software, business processes and measures of business success (metrics, key performance indicators). This category includes planning, budgeting, financial consolidation, reporting, strategy planning, dashboards, data visualization and scorecarding tools.

Data Integration	Data integration solutions provide the capability to acquire, integrate and reconcile dispersed data for analytic purposes that organizations have maintained in multiple, heterogeneous systems. Data needs to be accessed and extracted, moved and loaded, validated, cleaned, standardized and transformed. This category includes ETL, EII, data quality, customer data integration and data transformation.
Data Management	Data management consists of software that converts data into a unified format by taking derived data to create new fields, merging files, summarizing and filtering data; it is the process of reading data from operational systems. This category includes metadata management, data modeling and databases as well as master data management, data profiling, data validation and data cleansing solutions. Other topics in this category include governance and centers of excellence.
Data Warehousing	Data warehouses are often at the heart of the strategic reporting systems used to help manage and control the business. The function of the data warehouse is to consolidate and reconcile information from across disparate business units and IT systems and provide a context for reporting on and analyzing. This category includes modeling, design, methodology, performance, change management and appliances.
Enterprise Content Management (ECM)	ECM consists of the technologies used to capture, manage, store, preserve and deliver content and documents related to organizational processes. ECM tools and strategies allow the management of an organization's unstructured information, wherever that information exists, including text mining, digital rights management, data asset management, search, taxonomies and ontologies.
Enterprise Application Integration (EAI)	EAI transcends the simple goal of linking applications and attempts to enable new and innovative ways of leveraging organizational knowledge to create further competitive advantages for the enterprise. Solutions regarding integration servers, application servers, enterprise service buses, enterprise services and service-oriented architectures will be considered.
Other Innovative Solutions	We will accept Innovative Solutions from other categories. Please query us to make sure it is appropriate

Please refer all questions to Valerie.Valentine@sourcemia.com, (262) 681-2539.

Judging Criteria

Innovative Solution Award judges are well-versed in the field of business intelligence/data warehousing, performance management and process management. The number of awards in each category is up to the determination of the judges – if the judges determine that there is more than one Innovative Solution in a given category, they will present more than one award in said category. Conversely, if the judges believe that none of the entries in a category is an Innovative Solution, no award will be given in that category.

This award is for Innovative Solutions, not products. Entries must describe the solution provided to a corporation and give specific examples of how the solution functions within said organization. We are not looking for product brochures or white papers. Entries using marketing boilerplates do not fulfill the judging criteria and will be rejected.

Judges will evaluate the entries based on completion of the following questions.

Complete the following items 1-6. Responses provided may be published if the implementation is selected as a winner. Please limit responses to a maximum of 250 words per question.

1. Explain the problem you were intending to solve. Describe the business drivers for initiating this solution.
2. Describe the successful solution, including time required to implement and its scope (including information regarding users of the solution and project team). What products were used and what function did they perform?
3. Innovation: Why should this solution be considered an Innovative Solution? What makes it unique, groundbreaking and superior? What unintended results did you realize?
4. Quantitative results: How was the effectiveness of the solution measured (metrics, ROI, etc.)? Please provide a quantitative analysis of the benefits of the solution.
5. Qualitative results: What “soft” or intangible benefits has the organization received as a result of this solution?
6. Sustainability: How does the solution adapt to changing business requirements and deliver long-term sustainable value?

Information Management Innovative Solution Award Submission Form

Please indicate the category that best fits your Innovation Solution:

	BI/Analytics		Data Integration		Enterprise Content Management
	Business Process Management		Data Management		Enterprise Application Integration
	Performance Management		Data Warehousing		Other Innovative Solutions

Name of Solution Provider (vendor)

Company name _____

Mailing address _____

Web address _____

Name of submitter/contact _____

(Please print)

Title of submitter _____

Submitter's email address _____

Submitter's phone _____

Innovative Solution Implementer

Company with Innovative Solution _____

Contact name and title _____

(must be available for interview by our judges if chosen as a finalist)

Contact's phone _____

Contact's email address _____

We certify that all entry information is true and that the entry content has been approved by all individuals/companies mentioned for submission to *Information Management's* Innovative Solution Award competition. *Information Management* and associated judges may retain all entries, and any part of this entry may be published in *Information Management* and *Information Management.com* if the entry is selected as a winner.

Signature _____ Date _____

(Signature of individual submitting entry)