

2025 SCI® AUSTRALIA GROUP PLANT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Award was established in 1965, intended to be made annually, to recognize significant contributions in Australia to profitable manufacturing operations, including technical, scientific and technology aspects. No Award has been made in years when no applicants of a sufficient quality were submitted. A list of past recipients can be found [here](#).

AWARD FOCUS

The focus will be on the implementation of novel, profitable Australian innovation, with an emphasis placed on:

Recycling, recovery and re-use of materials;

Demonstrating how greenhouse gas emissions have been significantly reduced;

Demonstrating how other adverse environmental impacts have been minimized.

Plants and processes which convert waste into valuable commodities or components, will be favourably regarded.

TIMETABLE

Submissions need to be received by the SCI® HQ by June 30, 2025, to enable applications to be reviewed and assessed, with the aim of announcing the winning Plant of the Year by September 30, with the Award Dinner to be held before the end of the calendar year.

HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

Companies are invited to submit a brief outline (250 words maximum) of the plant/process they wish to submit for review to SCI® HQ in London at:

Committeesupport@soci.org

Submissions will be forwarded to the Australian Committee for review and follow up. A panel from the SCI® Australia Committee will visit the plant and assess the merits of the submission according to the judging criteria outlined above. The Award will be made by the SCI® Board of Trustees based on the final recommendation from the Australia Committee.

PRESENTATION & AWARD PRIZE

The Plant of the Year Award is presented at a formal dinner in Australia at a suitably convenient location. It comprises a bronze wall plaque and a certificate. The winning company can expect to receive global publicity and recognition for its achievements through the monthly magazine *Chemistry and Industry*, the SCI® website and other social media platforms.

ELIGIBILITY

No restrictions are placed on the scope, size or type of process nominated, but the Award will only be given for an entire plant or discrete section of a manufacturing operation which has been operating in Australia efficiently for at least 12 months.

JUDGING

Innovation

What is particularly innovative about the process and the facility which embodies the process? What is novel? Is the novelty entirely Australian, adapted for Australian conditions, or imported and used without substantial change?

What needs are met? What needs are addressed, what problems are the facility designed to solve, and how are they solved, what new products are made, and/or how are existing products being made more efficiently, with a reduced environmental footprint?

Occupational health and safety

How are best practice criteria being met (with appropriate data and statistics to back up claims)?

Contribution to the circular economy

How are renewable resources being used, how does the process focus on recycling, recovery, and re-use of materials, how have net greenhouse gas emissions been reduced, and how have other adverse environmental impacts been minimized?

Contribution to general health and well-being

Is innovation demonstrated in products or processes which have a positive impact on medical advances in Australia and globally? Does the plant produce products that can improve human (or animal) health, sustainably and safely enhance agricultural yield, or remove contaminants from the environment?

Contribution to general economy

How does the plant contribute to the local, national, and global economy and to stakeholders in the venture?

