What’s the Big idea? Inventor Competition 2014

Terms and Conditions

This joint competition organised by the Technology Transfer Offices in Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), Institute of Technology Tallaght (ITTD), Institute of Technology Blanchardstown (ITB), Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology (IADT) and the National College of Ireland (NCI) aims to recognise and promote innovation and creativity within these Institutions and is therefore only open to staff and students of those Institutions. To enter the ‘What’s the Big Idea? - Inventor Competition 2014’ you must have invented something that has not already been disclosed to the DIT, ITTD, ITB, IADT or NCI Technology Transfer offices. Invention descriptions will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be disclosed without your written permission. Participation in this competition denotes acceptance of the competition terms and conditions.

Making an application

Complete your institution’s Invention Disclosure Form (downloadable via the competition web-page) and email this to your relevant Technology Transfer office listed below;

- hothouse@dit.ie (DIT entries)
- jack.mcdonnell@ittdublin.ie (ITTD entries)
- shane.walsh@itb.ie (ITB Entries)
- dominic.mullan@iadt.ie (IADT Entries)
- bertie.kelly@ncirl.ie (NCI)

Ensure you complete the Invention Disclosure Form to the best of your ability. If you have a query with regard to completing the form, please email the relevant contact listed above.

You should provide evidence that to the best of your knowledge your idea/invention is not already on the market. The competition is open for entries from the 28th April 2014 to the 6th June 2014. The competition closing date may be extended if insufficient entries are received during this period.

Judging Panel

The judging panel will comprise the following IP and commercialisation experts:

- Tom Flanagan, Head of Commercialisation, DIT
- Jack McDonnell, Industrial Liaison Manager, ITTD
- Assumpta Harvey, LINC Centre Manager, ITB
- Bertie Kelly, Commercial Manager, National College of Ireland
- Dominic Mullan, Innovation, Commercialisation & Development Manager, IADT
- A representative from Hanna Moore & Curley

All panel members will be required to maintain absolute confidentiality in relation to all competition entries.

Judging Criteria

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the inventions:

- Originality
- Benefits
- Market potential
- Feasibility
- Commercialisation potential

The decision of the judging panel is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Awards

The competition prizes are:

- €1,000 cash prize for the Best Invention in the Clean Technology Category
- €1,000 cash prize for the Best Invention in the Industrial & Manufacturing Technology Category
- €1,000 cash prize for the Best Invention in the Food & Life Sciences Technology Category
- €1,000 cash prize for the Best Invention in the Information & Communications Technology Category
The winners will be announced and presented with their awards at a showcase being held in DIT later in 2014 (Date to be confirmed). We reserve the right not to award a prize in a competition category where insufficient applications are received.

**Winner Notification**

The winners of the awards will be notified by their technology transfer office by phone or email and their names will be published on the Institute websites and to the media after the event. To protect their intellectual property there will be no details provided about the winning inventions.

**Changes to Terms and Conditions**

DIT, ITB, ITTD, NCAD and NCI technology transfer offices (TTOs) have the authority to change or modify part or parts of these terms and conditions with due cause.

**Further contact**

The information collected by the TTOs is in relation to this competition only. However, by submitting an entry you give your consent to them to communicate with you in the future in connection with technology transfer activities. If you do not wish to receive any further communications from the TTOs please email one of the following:

- [stephen.davis@dit.ie](mailto:stephen.davis@dit.ie) (Marketing Officer, DIT Hothouse)
- [jack.mcdonnell@itndublin.ie](mailto:jack.mcdonnell@itndublin.ie) (Industry Liaison Manager, ITTD)
- [shane.walsh@itb.ie](mailto:shane.walsh@itb.ie) (Project Administrator, ITB LINC Centre)
- [dominic.mullan@iad.t.ie](mailto:dominic.mullan@iad.t.ie) (Innovation, Commercialisation & Development Manager, IADT)
- [bertie.kelly@ncirl.ie](mailto:bertie.kelly@ncirl.ie) (Commercial Manager, National College of Ireland)