

2024 FOOD AND DRINK ADVANCED INNOVATION AWARD

Kindly sponsored by Sysco Software and Birnie Consultancy



Entry Form Guidance and Questions

Category Criteria

To be eligible for the Food and Drink Advanced Innovation Award, applicants must:

- Be a food and drink business operating in Northern Ireland, including manufacturers, distributors, or retailers.
- Have implemented advanced manufacturing or data handling practices in the last two years.
- Be able to demonstrate a clear and measurable impact of these advanced practices, including improved efficiency, sustainability, product quality, or other relevant metrics.

Judging Process

The Food and Drink Advanced Innovation Award recognises and celebrates the food and drink businesses in Northern Ireland that are leading the charge in the adoption of advanced manufacturing practices. Judges will look for companies that are shaping the future of food production, driving efficiency, sustainability, and innovation, while also positioning Northern Ireland as a global hub for food and drink technology.

The deadline for completed applications is **Thursday 8th February 2024**.

Questions

Question 1. Identify and describe the Positive impact on Business Performance.

This may include:

- The extent to which advanced manufacturing practices have positively impacted the business's operational efficiency, production capacity, product quality, or overall sustainability.
- The delivery of measurable and quantifiable benefits, such as cost savings, increased margin, reduced waste, or increased sales.

Question 2. Describe the Innovation and Advancement.

This may include:

- The originality and creativity of the advanced manufacturing techniques employed.
- The pioneering nature of the approach, demonstrating a commitment to innovation within the industry.
- The adoption of cutting-edge technologies and strategies to stay ahead of national and/or international competition.

Question 3. Describe, providing supporting evidence, the benefits that have been delivered to producers as a result of the initiative. (10 Marks)