Introduction to the National Medal of Technology and Innovation

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National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI)

America’s highest honor for technological achievement and innovation

- Awarded by the President at a White House ceremony
- **Honors** outstanding contributions to nation’s economic, environmental, and social well-being through:
  - Technological innovation
  - Development & commercialization of products, processes, or concepts
  - Strengthening technological workforce
Previous Laureates
Nomination requirements

Medal is awarded to:

- Living American citizens
- Individuals
- Teams up to 4 individuals
- Companies/divisions or non-profits

Nomination process

• Anyone can submit a nomination:
  – Online nomination form [www.uspto.gov/nmti](http://www.uspto.gov/nmti)
  – Minimum 1 and maximum 6 letters of recommendation
  – Nominations are valid for 3 years
  – Deadline May 26
National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI)

Nominations for 2023 are now open until May 26th.

Sign up for the USPTO Awards newsletter to receive announcements about the NMTI.

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation (NMTI) is the nation’s highest honor for technological achievement, bestowed by the president of the United States on America’s leading innovators.

The Medal is awarded to individuals, teams (up to four individuals), companies or divisions of companies for their outstanding contributions to America’s economic, environmental and social well-being. The purpose of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation is to recognize those who have made lasting contributions to America’s competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation, and to recognize those who have made substantial
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- U.S. citizenship is required.
- Nominations are valid for 3 years.
- We encourage nominations of candidates from traditionally underrepresented groups.

Nomination guidelines, sample nomination forms, and other resources can be found at [www.uspto.gov/nmti](http://www.uspto.gov/nmti).

Watch a webinar answering questions about the nomination process recording on March 16, 2023.

We encourage all nominators to get in touch with the NMTI program staff with your questions. We want to help you submit a quality application.

*Click here to log-in.*
What makes a good nomination?

- NMTI seeks to recognize outstanding contributions to nation’s economic, environmental, and social well-being through technological innovation, commercialization, or development of technological workforce.
- Completed nomination form and 3-6 letters directly address the contribution’s impact.
- Letters written by individuals who can describe the impact of the innovation.
- Letters written by individuals from varied organizations.

NMTI Medal. Photo: Jay Premack/USPTO
Evaluation criteria

- **Economic contributions**: e.g., importance and breadth of penetration of the technology, process or concept, including the number of industries/sectors benefited; U.S. job creation/wages; contribution to U.S. economic growth

- **Environmental contributions**: e.g., environmental stewardship; global climate change; biodiversity; sustainable development

- **Social well-being contributions**: e.g., U.S. global prestige and leadership; human health; safety and security; social cohesiveness; greater personal time and leisure activities

- **Development of technological workforce**: Economic (e.g., increasing workforce due to market demands or rapid development of education to meet demands) or Social Well-Being (e.g., increasing diversity)

- **Challenges faced and overcome**: technological, commercial, competitive, societal, and time

- See full Nomination Guidelines on [www.uspto.gov/nmti](http://www.uspto.gov/nmti)
Selection

NMTI Evaluation Committee

- Distinguished experts, including CEOs and executives, university presidents or faculty, former winners
- Reviews and evaluates all nominations
- Makes their recommendations to Secretary of Commerce who then makes recommendations to the President

Former Members

- Dr. Carol Dahl
  Executive Director, Lemelson Foundation, Retired
- Dr. Paul Horn
  Senior Vice Provost, New York University, Retired
- Dr. Cato Laurencin*
  University Professor, University of Connecticut
- Dr. Douglas Lowy*
  Deputy Director, National Cancer Institute
- Dr. Cherry Murray*
  Professor, Arizona State University
- Mr. Steven Sasson*
  Inventor, Eastman Kodak Company, Retired
- Dr. Telle Whitney
  CEO and President, Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology, Retired

* NMTI Laureate
Celebrating the Laureates

White House ceremony

• Laureates are honored by the President at White House ceremony and reception

Black tie gala

• Gala follows to celebrate with friends, family, colleagues, and dignitaries from US government

Gala dinner for NMTI Laureates. Photo: K. Makori/USPTO
Now for your questions

- Our goal is to help you submit a quality nomination!
- Nominations of candidates from historically underrepresented groups are encouraged
- Remember, deadline May 26
- Email: nmti@uspto.gov
- Website: www.uspto.gov/nmti