



**Press release**

**Date: November 26<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**2014 UK Energy Innovation Awards open for entries**

Businesses from the UK and abroad are invited to enter the fourth annual [UK Energy Innovation Awards](#) celebrating the projects, technologies and talent at the forefront of innovation within the energy sector.

The [Energy Innovation Centre \(EIC\)](#), the UK organisation behind the awards, expects to build on the success of the 2013 event which attracted a record number of entries from home and abroad, including Israel and the USA.

The 2014 awards will culminate in a high profile ceremony to be staged on Thursday 24 April 2014 at the Hilton Manchester Deansgate. Over 250 guests are expected to attend the event which will see leading figures from the electricity, gas and offshore renewables sectors rub shoulders with top innovators and small businesses.

The number of [entry categories](#) has been increased this year to twelve to reflect the diversity of energy innovation projects and expertise that is emerging in the marketplace. The new 'Rising Star' category recognises the best young talent in the industry who are influencing the innovation culture within their organisation.

The EIC is seeking entries from innovative businesses and individuals by encouraging them to [put themselves forward](#) for all the categories they might be eligible for. Third parties, such as clients and advisors, are invited to make nominations on behalf of eligible entrants within their professional networks.

Denise Massey, managing director of the Energy Innovation Centre, said: “We already know how vital innovation is to the energy sector as we strive to tackle the challenges of security of supply, rising costs and reducing carbon emissions.

“The UK Energy Innovation Awards highlight the work of the individuals and businesses that are enabling innovation today in pursuit of the challenges of tomorrow. Their contribution to the future of the energy sector and the economy should be celebrated, and EIC is proud to be able to host this event once again.”

Basil Scarsella, CEO, [UK Power Networks](#) said: “I look forward to seeing a wealth of quality award entries again this year to showcase the huge number of inspiring projects and technologies which are out there. The industry has a real commitment to innovation and a willingness to share these innovative ideas further which is good news in a world facing many energy challenges.”

The complete list of categories at the 2014 UK Energy Innovation Awards is:

- Best Energy Network Improvement
- Best Innovation Implemented or Adopted by a Utility Contractor
- New Energy Innovation Start-up
- Best Innovation Contributing to Customer Quality and Reliability of Supply
- International Trade Award
- Best Asset Security Innovation
- Best Safety Innovation
- Environmental Impact Award
- Best Smart Grid Innovation
- Best University Technology
- Best High Growth Company
- Rising Star Award

The closing date for entries is 8 January 2014, for further information visit: [www.energyinnovationcentre.com/uk-energy-innovation-awards/](http://www.energyinnovationcentre.com/uk-energy-innovation-awards/).