



INVENTRUST WATER IMPACT OPEN CHALLENGES GUIDELINES

THE INVENTRUST WATER IMPACT CHALLENGES GUIDELINES COMMISSIONED BY UN CTCN AND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WIPO GREEN and NEWIN IS GOVERNED BY THESE COMPETITION GUIDELINES.

PLEASE SEND QUESTIONS RELATED TO INVENTRUST WATER IMPACT CHALLENGES TO dir_mktg@inventrust.com AND JOIN THE CONVERSATION ON OUR FORUM AT THE [KNOWHOW CAFE](#). INVENTRUST MAY REVISE THESE GUIDELINES DURING THE COURSE OF THE CHALLENGES TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE CHALLENGES. THERE MAY ALSO BE UNANTICIPATED ISSUES THAT WILL REQUIRE MODIFICATIONS TO THIS DOCUMENT. INVENTRUST RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE THESE GUIDELINES AS IT, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, DEEMS NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE. REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY REVISIONS.

OVERVIEW

InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges participants are equally encouraged to be innovative in their choice of the grand challenge to which they will apply their Water Technology Solutions. These challenges are some of the most significant problems that humanity currently faces. These problems, if left unaddressed, can give rise to significant negative consequences for humanity including loss of life, reduction in health, lack of access, lack of well-being, environmental degradation, and inequality. Consequently, addressing, or even solving, these challenges should have the potential to improve the lives of millions of people or other living beings. The InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges intend to open an opportunity to all innovators who have an idea that can make a difference in improving water scarcity levels that we face today. While Participants may not directly address these challenges, they are highly encouraged to solve meaningful problems that would contribute to address these challenges.

The InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges is a competition to develop innovative water technology solutions that solve real problems in this area. Semi-finalists will be selected from all entries, and each Semi-finalist's solution will be judged by the Judges panel. After rigorous review, the Judges will select Finalists to continue for the next phase. Each Finalist will receive prestigious awards and recognition. Awards and recognition will also be awarded to all Finalists producing significant improvements in solving real problems in water technology, and a Special Award will be awarded to the best solutions submitted by special categories such as an All-Students' Team, All-Women Team and more.





REGISTRATION

Participants must register on www.inventrust.com by May 01, 2018. Registration is free. Teams need to apply through a team leader. However, it is mandatory, that every member of every team registers individually on the platform.

CHALLENGES PARTICIPATION PROCESS

- a. Write a 100-word note on why the Participants have participated in these Challenges and what will they do if selected as Winners of these Challenges and post it on the *Respond* page of the Open Challenges webpage.
- b. Submit a Challenge Application to dir_mktg@inventrust.com. The last date for submitting this application is May 01, 2018. The Challenge Applications must include a description of:
 - a. A Problem statement and the impact opportunity the Participants intends to address
 - b. A Solution statement including milestones to be achieved, along with an explanation of the fundamental water technology areas to be used and developed by the Participants
 - c. An Evaluation proposal on how Participants have evaluated/assessed the milestones and performance of their proposed solution
 - d. Participant(s) description and roles, along with needed expertise – to match with external experts. Note that Participants can augment over time and there is no expectation that the Participants submit details of their Solutions to register for the competition. Only summaries are expected at this stage
 - e. Name(s), Occupation, City, Country, Contact Phone Number & Email Address
- c. A 5-7 minutes video presentation of Point (a) to be posted on Participants' Facebook ([@inventrust](https://www.facebook.com/inventrust)) + Twitter ([@InvenTrust](https://twitter.com/InvenTrust)) + LinkedIn ([@InvenTrust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/inventrust)) channels, tagging InvenTrust in the videos

After completing the registration and submitting the Challenge Application, Judges will select semi-finalists based on these applications. Selected semi-finalists will be informed through email. These semi-finalists will have to develop a detailed Challenge Plan. The detailed Challenge Plan (to be emailed to dir_mktg@inventrust.com) will include an in-depth explanation of the Challenge Application, along with a more extensive project design. It will include a description of the technologies to be used/developed and the test strategies for evaluating those technologies. Challenge Plans must result in deployed applications with measurable benefits that include some aspect of Water technology. The Challenge Plan may include either a standalone application or a component of a complex system, or a collaboration among multiple applications. The detailed Challenge Plan should be clearly articulated to cover all of the below points:

- I. The scope of the problem to be solved and its applicability on one or more domains





- II. The originality of the solutions and their applicability in real cases, and an overview of the Participant's proposed technology and development strategy
- III. Scalability/performance assessment of the solution
- IV. The test methods used to evaluate the solution, testing scenarios, and the data sets needed or available
- V. The metrics to measure the performance of the solution.
- VI. Impact that their solution may have on their chosen grand challenge
- VII. Participants who make a video presenting their experience in creating this solution will have an extra advantage. These videos need to be submitted on the InvenTrust Open Challenges page in www.inventrust.com. 20 best videos will be awarded.

EXPERT-SOURCED REVIEWERS

Participants will provide videos (only .mp3 or mp4 versions will be accepted) of the Challenge Application summary and, for Semi-Finalists, the detailed Challenge Plan. These may be posted/shared by InvenTrust in online forums. The Judges and Advisors panel will be a resource to Participants as they develop their application into a complete Challenge Plan, and Participants will benefit from the global expertise both in Water Technology and in Business Planning. After this phase of review and upon completion and submission of Challenge Plans, InvenTrust Judges and operations personnel will have the opportunity to request additional information from Participants. As a part of this process InvenTrust Judges may mandate additional or alternative dynamic demonstrations.

CHALLENGE PLAN CONTENTS – IN DETAIL

Each Semi-Finalist's Challenge Plan will provide its roadmap and criteria for the competition, and semi-finalists will be measured by the standards set. Each of these Challenge Plans must include the following components:

1. Problem Statement – Each Semi-Finalist will describe the opportunity and context for the problem they are solving. Using Water Technology to address the scope of the problem defines a specific approach, and Semi-Finalists are encouraged to clearly articulate how solving specific problems with Water Technology is timely and important. The Plan should explain how addressing the problem may have applicable impact in other domains.
2. Proposed Solution – Each Plan will include a detailed explanation of the approach the Semi-Finalist will use to achieve its proposed goal. Semi-Finalists may include explanations of technological approaches and development pathways. Solutions that achieve an exponential impact or shift or scalability will be weighted more highly than those that result in linear increases.
3. Water Technologies – Plans must include a detailed explanation of the Semi-Finalist's approach to Water Technology. What functions does the technology perform? What kind of technology is being





employed? How will the Semi-Finalist validate and test its technology as well as evaluate success? Semi-Finalists should describe related problems that can be solved by the same basic technical approach. Semi-Finalists are encouraged to provide an overall “metadata” of their approach so that Judges may appreciate the training time requirements and transference of capabilities to related tasks.

4. Evaluation Goals / Test Suites– Semi-Finalists will describe how they have evaluated/assessed their milestones and the performance of their solutions. Semi-Finalists must propose their own system for testing and assessing the quality of their water technologies and advancements based on fundamental limits, and should not compare them to human performance.
5. Annual Progress Plan – Challenge Plans must include the Semi-Finalists’ proposed progress plan, showing their expected annual progress toward their goal for the next 3 years.
6. Open Challenge Impact Goal – Based on the Open Challenge domain that Semi-Finalists have selected, they are encouraged to articulate the goal and the impact that their water technology solution will have. The goal will be evaluated by the Judging Committee to ascertain its importance/benefit to humanity and the potential of a water technology solution to meaningfully address the grand challenge.

USE OF TECHNOLOGIES

This is an open challenge that encourages innovation in any form and doesn’t preclude any approach or solution compliant with these Guidelines. InvenTrust will make its expertise available free of charge for non-commercial purposes to registered Participants. The use of InvenTrust’s expertise is not, however, mandatory for this competition. Participants should build the best solutions they can; the use of InvenTrust’s expertise is not a scoring criterion and will not be an advantage or disadvantage to Participants.

CHALLENGE STRUCTURE

The InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges is an online competition divided into two Phases, a Submission Phase and a Winner Announcement Phase. During the Submission Phase, registered Participants will have to submit their Challenge Applications, as described above. A panel of Judges will select Semi-finalists from all entries submitted. Those Semi-Finalists will each have their Challenge Plans, as described above, reviewed by the Judges panel. Judges will review and select the Finalists and declare winners from among the Finalists. Participants can also avail Mentoring/Guidance support from InvenTrust. The Grand Prize will be awarded to the Participant whose solution produces the greatest gains in water technology as decided by Judges. Achievement Prizes will be awarded to the Finalists, as mentioned above. Participants will own their ideas submitted in the InvenTrust Water. The entrant retains ownership of the idea. InvenTrust and its partners are only interested in helping to





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PRIZE PURSES

- Grand Prize – This Challenge will award and recognise the best innovations in the most appropriate manner. There will be a Grand Prize for the winner.
- Achievement Prizes - For Finalists
- Special Category Prizes - For Participants who can demonstrate the highest innovation and business gains in the field of water technology as measured by the Judges.

COMPETITION PHASES

The Phases of the InvenTrust Open Challenges in Water Technology is divided into stages.

- Phase 1
 - Stage 1 - Outreach to Sponsors and Respondents, Registration
 - Registration begins immediately after The InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges is announced. Participants can register till May 01, 2018.
 - Stage 2 – Challenge Application submission
 - All participants will get work on their submissions and submit the same on the InvenTrust water technology community in www.inventrust.com in this phase
 - Stage 3 –All submissions will be reviewed and assessed by Judges. In this phase, the Judges will select Semi-finalists based on the Competition Criteria
- Phase 2
 - Stage 1 – All Semi-finalists will further enhance their projects and submit their detailed Challenge Plans. Mentoring/Guidance support will be provided by InvenTrust to all these Semi-Finalists, free of cost.
 - Stage 2 – The Judges will evaluate the Submissions and select the Finalists. Only those participants assigned to the Finalists will be tested. The winning Participant(s) will be announced at an event that celebrates the successes of the Finalists and showcases the winning technologies.





GROUNDINGS FOR JUDGING PANEL DECISIONS

If one or more Participants are tied at any stage during the competition, the Judging Panel shall have the sole and absolute discretion to settle the tie. If no Entry meets the criteria for an Award, then the Judging Panel will retain sole and absolute discretion to declare or not declare a winner of the Competition and/or otherwise allocate or choose not to allocate one or more of the Awards and/or any other Award associated with the Challenge.

Decisions of Judging Panel Are Final - The Judging Panel shall have sole and absolute discretion: (i) to allocate duties among the Judges; (ii) to determine the degree of accuracy and error rate that is acceptable to the Judging Panel for all Challenge calculations, measurements, and results, where not specified in the Rules and Regulations; (iii) to determine the methodology used by the Judging Panel to render its decisions; (iv) to declare the winners of the Challenge; and (v) to award the Prize Purses and other Awards. Decisions of the Judging Panel shall be binding on Participants of the InvenTrust Water Impact Challenges. By participating in this Challenge, Participants agree not to dispute any decision or ruling of the Judging Panel, including decisions regarding the degree of accuracy or error rate of any Challenge calculations, measurements, and results. Participants shall have no right to observe other Participants' testing or evaluation, or to be informed of other Participants' calculations, measurements, and results.

