Introduction

The **"HSE awards by AISA 2026"** exist to recognize outstanding achievements in Health, Safety, and Environment practices across various industries. These awards highlight organizations and individuals (please check below the descriptions of nominations) that have excelled in promoting workplace safety, reducing environmental impacts, and driving innovative approaches to sustainability. By honoring excellence in **HSE**, these awards encourage industries to adopt best practices and lead the global transition towards a safer, more sustainable future.

The **"HSE awards by AISA 2026"** are managed by the Azerbaijan Industrial Safety Association team with the expert support from the British Standards Institution and related government bodies. All enquiries regarding the awards criteria and procedures and/or the awards ceremony should be sent to hseawards@aisa.az.

Applications deadline is **30 November 2026**.

HSE Award Nominations

Organizational Award Categories

1. HSE Innovation Award
Celebrates organizations that develop or implement groundbreaking technologies, methods, or strategies to enhance health, safety, and environmental performance, recognizing them as industry leaders in innovation.

2. Workplace Well-Being Award
Recognizes organizations that prioritize employee health and well-being through comprehensive physical, mental, and social wellness programs, creating healthier and more productive work environments.

3. Social Responsibility Champion Award
Honors organizations that go beyond business as usual to make a positive social impact, promoting inclusivity, equality, and corporate responsibility for safer, more equitable communities.

4. HSE Excellence Project Award
Recognizes organizations that deliver impactful health, safety, and environmental projects or initiatives demonstrating practical innovation, measurable outcomes, and sustainable improvement.

Individual Award Category

1. Rising Star Award
Recognizes emerging HSE professionals who, despite being new to the industry, have gained recognition through innovative ideas, impactful projects, and individual contributions, demonstrating strong potential for future leadership in HSE.

HSE Award Categories

SMEs - Small and medium businesses (50-250 Employees) - this category will recognize outstanding achievements in health, safety, and environment within smaller organizations to enable one of the outcomes for the selected award nomination (e.g. HSE innovation, workplace well-being, etc.). These businesses will be celebrated for their ability to implement impactful HSE practices with more limited resources, showing that size does not limit commitment to excellence.

Large Businesses (251 or More Employees) - this category will recognize larger organizations that have achieved significant milestones in HSE management. These businesses will be acknowledged for their influence and scale in driving health, safety, and environmental sustainability within their industries.

*Please note that nominees from both SMEs and Large Businesses must be nominated for one of the award nominations listed above; see below for further guidance about making nominations.

Evidence Required

The below evidence will need to be submitted with the awards application form which includes the option to upload documents. For all nominations we recommend you gather the necessary evidence / information prior to starting the online application form.

- What standard(s)/solution were selected to enable the chosen outcome for the selected award nomination
- Summary of how use of the standard/solution enabled the stated outcome
- Evidence of key benchmarks / data pre and postuse (adoption) of the standard/solution
- Proof of use of the standard/solution (e.g. internal process documents, communications etc.)

Nomination Rules & Process

Rules for all nominations

- The online nomination form must be completed in full and submitted in **English** by **November 30th, 2026, at 19:00** in order to be considered for an award.
- Nominees can only be nominated for two awards per year, but nominees not selected may be nominated again in the following year.
- Nomination forms must be completed in full (including provision of all evidence) according to the instructions here-in.
- It is the nominator's responsibility to ensure they are nominating for the most relevant award nomination and to give relevant evidence. Nominators will need to provide details about themselves and their organization and about their nominee (including contact information).
- AISA will review all nomination forms and contact nominators if the form they have submitted is incomplete or has been incorrectly completed but in order to be considered the nominator must correct / complete the form by the nomination deadline.
- Nominations submitted after the closing date will not be considered.
- All correct, complete nomination forms will be submitted to the HSE Awards by AISA Selection

Jury for their consideration.

- Nominees will be notified by AISA of their nomination and a public announcement to recognize all of the nominees will be made.
- AISA reserves the right to occasionally amend the award nominations, categories, and criteria for the HSE awards by AISA, so please ensure that you have downloaded the latest version of the criteria / guidance.
- AISA reserves the right not to make an award for one or all award nominations in a particular year, or to make multiple awards for a single nomination.
- Nominations are open to all businesses / organizations in Azerbaijan regardless of size (for companies over 50 employees), type, sector etc. or relationship to AISA.
- Organizations can nominate themselves / their own project, product or service for the HSE awards by AISA or they can be nominated by a third party.
- Nominators for HSE Awards may submit up 5 pages (10 sides) of A4 evidence withtheir nomination.

Nomination Process

Step 1

- Select the size of your company you are making a nomination for. SMEs and Large companies will be evaluated separately. (If you are nominating an individual, you can skip this part.)
- Select the appropriate award nomination (see list above) based on the most relevant standards-driven outcome.
- Please briefly describe a problem you faced in your organization and the solution or standard you implemented to address it. Include key details about the challenge and how your chosen solution improved the situation (min 50 – max 100 words).

Step 2

- Provide your details as the nominator.
- Provide details about your nominee.

Step 3

Respond to the questions on the application form to provide the required evidence as outlined above.

Step 4 - *Attach additional evidence to support the nomination*

The evidence must not exceed 10 sides (5pages) of A4 and may, for example, include:

- Testimonials / references from individuals at other organizations.
- Screen shots of intranet pages referencing the use of a voluntary standard(s) for the project, product or service, department, etc. being nominated.
- Copies of pages from guidance, operating, procedures, etc. type manuals referencing the use of a voluntary standard(s) for the project, product, service, department, etc. being nominated.
- Or other relevant / appropriate evidence.

Selection Process & Awards Presentation

Selection process

- HSE awards by AISA Selection Jury will be responsible for reviewing nominations and selecting award winners.
- The jury, consisting of both international and local experts, will be selected and confirmed by AISA. However, the identities of the jury members will remain confidential.
- The decision of the HSE Awards by AISA Selection Jury will be final.
- To select the award winners, the Jury will consider all of the information and evidence submitted.

Awards presentation

- ‘’HSE awards by AISA 2026’’ will be presented at the Industrial Safety Summit 2026 event beingheld on 15 December 2026 at ‘’Gulustan’’ Palace in Baku.
- All nominees are encouraged to attend the event by purchasing tickets for the summit. While attendance is preferred, it is not required for the acceptance of an award.
- The ‘’Industrial Safety Summit 2026’’ is open to all interested stakeholders.
- The full program for the day along with the booking form will be available online on www.stz.az

NB: We do not, as a rule, notify winners in advance but we do announce all the nominees and encourage all of them to attend. Under certain circumstances, we may tell winners about their award in advance of the event.