IoThinkTank | IOT AWARDS

OPERATIONS & SMART SPACES

IoT Smart City Solution Award

Shaping the Future of Urban Innovation

ENTRY GUIDE

Award details, dates, and past winners: iothinktank.com/iot-smart-city-solution-award/



About the award

The IoT Smart City Solution Award recognizes innovative technologies that help cities operate more efficiently, safely, and sustainably through connected infrastructure and intelligent data systems. As urban environments grow more complex, IoT solutions are becoming essential for managing transportation networks, infrastructure, utilities, environmental systems, and public services at scale.

This award highlights the platforms, devices, and integrated technologies that enable cities to collect real-time data, optimize operations, and improve quality of life for residents. From mobility systems and infrastructure monitoring to urban analytics platforms and environmental sensing networks, these solutions form the backbone of modern smart city ecosystems.

The IoT Smart City Solution Award celebrates the organizations building the technologies that will define the next generation of connected urban environments.

Why IoT matters in smart cities

Cities generate enormous volumes of operational data across transportation systems, utilities, public infrastructure, and environmental services. IoT technologies allow this information to be captured and analyzed in real time, enabling city leaders to make faster, more informed decisions while improving operational efficiency.

Smart city IoT deployments support applications such as traffic optimization, connected public transit, infrastructure monitoring, smart lighting, environmental sensing, and location intelligence for mobility services. These technologies reduce congestion, improve safety, enhance sustainability efforts, and help cities adapt to changing demands.

The IoT Smart City Solution Award recognizes the technologies making these capabilities possible.

Who should enter

- Smart city platform providers
- Transportation and transit technology companies
- Environmental and sustainability IoT innovators
- Location and positioning technology developers
- Urban mobility technology developers
- Infrastructure monitoring solution providers
- Urban data and analytics platforms
- Public safety and emergency response systems

Entries are welcome from organizations developing or deploying IoT solutions that help cities improve infrastructure, mobility, sustainability, public services, safety, and quality of life.

What to include

Describe the public challenge, connected infrastructure, deployment area, agency and community stakeholders, data governance, operational integration, and measurable public value. Explain the solution's technical approach, implementation maturity, integrations, scale, security, reliability, and practical value.

- Quantified improvements in service quality, safety, response time, resource use, emissions, reliability, cost, accessibility, resident experience, or operational visibility
- Deployment details, including locations, devices, users, systems, operating conditions, and implementation timeline
- Customer, client, or end-user identification when the entry relies on a real-world deployment
- Supporting evidence, including case studies, performance data, dashboards, customer validation, images, videos, technical documents, or information URLs
- Any confidentiality, regulatory, embargo, or publicity restrictions

Supporting collateral should make the entry easier to verify and evaluate. Include the strongest evidence available, and clearly distinguish measured results from estimates, projections, or planned outcomes.

Eligibility

The award is open to organizations and individuals developing or deploying connected technologies in cities, counties, municipalities, campuses, districts, public infrastructure, utilities, transportation networks, and regional programs. Commercial products, platforms, public-sector programs, research-led deployments, pilots, and customer implementations are eligible when the entry includes enough evidence for meaningful evaluation.

Submitted work should be active, deployed, launched, or meaningfully advanced during the current awards cycle. Entrants may submit their own solution or a customer deployment with appropriate authorization.

Each product, platform, deployment, or project requires a separate submission and entry fee.

How it's judged

Every entry is scored out of 100 on five criteria. This award uses the Product & Technology weighting, so evidence of real-world results counts most.

Innovation & Differentiation	25
Evidence & Measurable Impact	35
Execution & Scalability	25
Category Fit	10
Leadership & Industry Contribution	5

For this award, judges look for

- Innovation and originality of the smart city technology
- Demonstrated impact on urban infrastructure, services, mobility, safety, sustainability, or operations
- Scalability across municipal environments, departments, systems, or regions
- Reliability and security for public-sector, infrastructure, or mission-critical deployments
- Operational value for city leaders, agencies, residents, commuters, or community stakeholders
- Contribution to smarter cities through safer, more efficient, more resilient, or more sustainable urban systems

Tips for a strong entry

Lead with the problem and the result.
Open with what wasn't working and what changed because of your solution. Judges should know why it matters by the end of your first paragraph.

Put numbers on it.
Evidence carries the most weight in scoring. Give before-and-after figures, and say which results are measured and which are estimates.

Name the customer.
A real deployment with a named customer is the strongest proof you can offer. If the name can't be published, tell us in writing when you submit.

Show it working.
Case studies, dashboards, screenshots, short videos, and technical documents help judges verify what you describe.

Write for this award.
Explain why your work fits this category specifically. A strong entry for one award can score poorly in another if the fit isn't clear.

Keep it tight.
Clear, specific answers beat long ones. Cut anything that doesn't help a judge understand the solution or its results.

How to enter

1. **Prepare your entry.** Gather the required organization, contact, product, deployment, and supporting information before beginning the application.
2. **Complete the application.** Describe the solution, connected technology, deployment environment, integrations, measurable outcomes, and supporting evidence.
3. **Submit payment.** The entry fee is charged when the application is submitted. Entries are not complete until payment is received.

You can save a draft and finish it anytime before the deadline. Deadlines close at 11:59 pm Pacific.

Current dates and fees

Entry dates and fees change each cycle. Find them, and get an email when entries open, on the award page.

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Past winners

2025 WINNER

Quectel

Quectel received the 2025 IoT Smart City Solution Award for its LG290P (03) high-precision GNSS module, which delivers centimeter-level positioning accuracy for smart city applications.

2024 WINNER

Connectpoint

Connectpoint earned the 2024 IoT Smart City Solution Award for its Digital Bus Stop®, a solar-powered ePaper transit display that provides real-time arrival information, alerts, and route details directly at bus stops.

What winners get

- ✓ Recognition across IoThinkTank digital channels
- ✓ Official winner badge
- ✓ Dedicated winners page and newsroom coverage
- ✓ Visibility within the broader IoT community

Entry fees are charged at submission and are non-refundable. Customer or client identity should be included in your submission. If you need names excluded from public materials, notify us in writing at the time of submission. By submitting, you agree to the **Submission Guidelines**, **Privacy Policy**, and **Terms and Conditions**. IoThinkTank Awards are independent and unaffiliated with other award programs. Questions? Contact **awards@iothinktank.com**.