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The Organization Committee of the 14th International Technology Transfer Conference which will be held on  
7th – 8th October 2021 at the Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia

announces a

**PUBLIC CALL**  
**FOR THE BEST INNOVATION IN 2021**  
**AT PUBLIC RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS (PROs)**

**1. Subject of the call**

The public call is rewarding authors of the technologies with the best value proposition. The aim is to promote the technology transfer from public research organizations via licensing and spin-out business development.

The call is open to authors of inventive or innovative technologies with an idea for commercialization who are Conference participants and who will present their idea at the Conference.

**2. The purpose and objective of the call**

The purpose of the call is to support academia-industry technology transfer in the area of natural sciences.

The aim of the call is to promote inventiveness/innovation at PROs to be transferred into economy, primarily through commercialization of technology, products and services in the form of licensing and spin-out companies.

**3. Target group**

Eligible applicants for the call are individuals who plan to develop innovative scientific-research ideas and are employed in PROs. The proportion of the employment relationship is not restricted. It is allowed for more persons (individuals) to submit the same application for the same project/idea.

The PRO, where the applicant is employed, must be a co-owner or holder of the rights from the applicable ideas, know-how, intellectual property rights (any of the above is appropriate for the given example).

The applicable ideas, know-how or intellectual property rights must not yet be exclusively licensed out or commercialized in any other way (e.g. intellectual property rights exclusively transferred to a third party).

The applicant must participate in development of the applicable ideas as the author, coauthor, collaborator in the

development, but not necessarily the lead author.

## 4. Application

### 4.1 Application documentation

The application form is available at <http://ittc.ijs.si/awards/> and at the Center for Technology Transfer and Innovation, Jožef Stefan Institute, Jamova cesta 39, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

### 4.2 Submission of applications to the call

A complete application in accordance with instructions from the call must be delivered by e-mail to [tehnologije@ijs.si](mailto:tehnologije@ijs.si) (scanned forms A, B and C) no later than **31th August 2021** and **by mail** to the organizer (original signed forms A, B and C), including 31th August 2021 (post stamp of that day), to the address:

Institut "Jožef Stefan",  
Center for technology transfer and innovation – Public call for the 14ITTC Prize,  
Jamova cesta 39,  
SI-1000 Ljubljana,  
SLOVENIA

The application is received on time if it is sent no later than 31th August via regular mail (post stamp of that day) or if it is received by the Jozef Stefan Institute despatch centre (stamp of the despatch centre).

### 4.3 Date of opening of applications

Opening of the applications will be held on 1st September 2021 at 11 am.

### 4.4 Completeness of the application

The application is complete if it contains the following documents:

- Completed and signed applicant details (Form A), note: **it is essential to provide an e-mail address of the applicant that will be used to notify the applicant of the application being accepted or to request the application to complete the application**; if more persons applying for the same project simultaneously, it is necessary to complete the same number of forms as is the number of inventors.
- Completed content form (Form B).
- Completed and signed eligibility declaration of the call (Form C), note: it is necessary to complete the same number of forms as is the number of inventors.

**The application must be written entirely in English.**

For the same idea/invention, only one application is permitted.

#### **4.5 Completion of the application**

The organizer will, within three days of opening the applications, by e-mail notify and invite those applicants whose applications are not valid to modify them. Applications must be completed within three days from the request given to the applicant.

#### **4.6 Refusal of applications**

The applications that do not comply with the terms of the participation, or that are not completed within the period specified, or that are incompatible with the purpose of the call, will be discarded and the applicants will be notified within ten days by e-mail.

### **5. Criteria for evaluating the applications**

Criteria for evaluation of the applications are divided into six segments with different criteria weights. The criteria and weights are presented in Table 1; the maximum total number of points for all six criteria is 20.

Every application will be assessed by the members of the commission on the basis of predetermined assessment criteria. The evaluation of the project application will be one part of the final assessment; the second part of the final assessment will be a project presentation at the workshop that will be held on the Conference. The best rated project will be the winner of the Conference.

### **6. Notification of selection**

Applicants will be informed of the results of the selection at the Conference.

### **7. Awards**

#### **7.1 General provisions on selection and award prizes**

The evaluation and selection will be made if at least two complete applications are delivered by the deadline.

If by the deadline the organizer does not receive any application or none of the applications based on the commission's opinion is eligible for the prize, the prize will not be awarded.

The Commission shall decide about the number of awarded projects and the distribution of the award prizes.

The recipient of the prize will be announced to the public at a public award ceremony at the International Technology Transfer Conference.

At the public award ceremony, the organizer will describe the procedure of the selection, a brief outline of the expert committee, provide the number of requests, declare a winner and read the expert opinion.

## **7.2 The award fund**

The award fund for the best project after the Commission's selection is **€ 2,500**.

A maximum of two awards will be awarded.

## **8. Organizer and the Commission**

The Organizer of the Award Call is Jožef Stefan Institute (hereinafter referred to as the organizer).

### **8.1 The functions of the organizer are:**

- Preparing the Public Call for the award with instructions for participation;
- Establishment of the evaluation commission (the Commission);
- Reviewing all the applications received, elimination of incomplete applications, transmission of other applications to the commission members for assessment;
- Collecting all assessments from the members of the Commission and summing them;
- Notifying the Commission and inventors of the outcome of the preselection;
- Presentation of the awards at the International Technology Transfer Conference.

### **8.2 Functions and powers of the Commission:**

- Independent evaluation of each application received in relation to the assessment criteria;
- Independent evaluation and determination of applications, which inventors will have the opportunity to present at the Conference;
- Receives applications from the organizer and evaluates the applications on the basis of the assessment criteria;
- The best application is the one that collects the most points from the commission.

The evaluation will be performed in two rounds. The first round of evaluation will be based on written application. The second round of evaluation is based on live presentation to the Commission at the Conference.

Maximum 10 best evaluated applications from the first round of the evaluation will have the opportunity to continue to the second round of the evaluation.

If there are more than 10 formally correct applications, the Commission will select the 10 top-rated applications, which will continue to the second round of the evaluation.

If there is the same result in more innovation beyond the best nine place, the commission shall vote independently, which of these is the best and has the chance to advance to the second part as the tenth.

The order of presentations will be made by draw at the Conference. The time of each presentation is limited to 5 minutes for a presentation with slides (pitch) and 7 minutes to answer questions from the Commission.

The Commission assesses the presentation using the same criteria as in the preselection.

If there are several applications with the same assessment, the commission, according to the criteria for the winner, has the discretion to select a winner.

The Commission shall decide by a majority vote of all the members. The decision of the commission is final.

The Commission may also decide that no application is suitable for the award.

## **9. Additional information**

Organizing Committee of the 14<sup>th</sup> International Technology Transfer Conference, Center for Technology Transfer and Innovation at the Jožef Stefan Institute, e-mail: [tehnologije@ijs.si](mailto:tehnologije@ijs.si).

## APPENDIX: Evaluation criteria

Criteria	Short description of the criteria	Max number of points (min is 0)
Application	<p>Which problem is the technology solving? Has this been verified with end users? What is the Technology Readiness Level (TRL)?</p> <p>How many different applications can the technology be used for?</p> <p>Is there a well-defined end-user for this technology?</p> <p>Is there any barrier to the end-user adopting this solution?</p> <p>Is there a clear existing end user need for this solution?</p> <p>How well does this solution match the users needs?</p> <p>When will this solution be ready for market?</p> <p>Will this solution have a social impact or bring other benefits to people?</p>	10
Value chain	<p>Where does the technology fit in?</p> <p>How well does the technology fit the existing value chain?</p>	3
Market size and development costs	<p>How is the market size in relation to the development costs?</p> <p>How large is the potential customer community for this product? 1000 100K 1m 100m?</p> <p>How strong is the competition in this market?</p> <p>How receptive will the market be to your idea?</p> <p>What total market share do you expect to get in 5 years?</p> <p>How aligned are the market drivers to the proposed solution?</p> <p>What is the perceived value by the end user?</p> <p>What is the perceived Strength level overall?</p> <p>What is the perceived Weakness level overall?</p> <p>What is the perceived Opportunity level overall?</p> <p>What is the perceived Threat level in your overall?</p> <p>Only limited development is required before an investor will commit</p> <p>Funds are available to complete the development investor or other sources (eg. PoC)</p> <p>The time to market is shorter or comparable to the time scale for any competition</p> <p>For VC's: The costs associated with taking the product to market is at least 25 times smaller than the value of the market</p>	2
Competition	<p>What do the end users use today? Any other technology underway?</p> <p>Which is the expected competition level when you will hit the market</p> <p>How good is the present solution (not yours) in solving the problem?</p> <p>How good will any expected future solutions (not yours) be in solving the problem?</p> <p>How good will your solution be in solving the problem?</p> <p>How strong is your market differentiator?</p>	1
The team	<p>Are the inventors, members of the team, dedicated to the idea?</p> <p>The researchers have unique skills, have experience with tech transfer, and are enthusiastic about following the project through</p> <p>The team has the technical, business, marketing, financing skills needed to understand and develop the idea into a marketable product?</p>	3
IPR & Regulatory	<p>Can the intellectual property of the technology be protected?</p> <p>How strong is the patent likely to be?</p> <p>How dense is the IPR landscape in this technology area in terms of pending and granted patents?</p> <p>How strong is the IPR competition?</p> <p>How complex is the regulatory system in this area</p> <p>Is the technology ready for investment?</p>	1

Table 1: Criteria for evaluating the applications (source: TTO Triangle, Jon Wulff Petersen, TTO A/S, Denmark)