



## 2018 Sustainability Award Application Guidelines

The Sustainability Award is given to private, public companies and or Non-profit organizations that implement leading sustainable techniques or technologies that have significantly improved the sustainable performance of their organization, or enhanced communities. Exemplary programs related to raw material and solvent substitution, preventive maintenance programs, beneficial reuse of by-products, waste reduction and recycling, employee engagement efforts, and comprehensive environmental management systems or governing policies have all been considered in the past.

**2018 Award applications accepted: May 1 thru June 30, 2018.**

**CONSIDERATION.** *The nominated company must be a current AIM Member.* Activities to be described must have been completed or have shown considerable progress by December 31, 2017. Only one application will be accepted per facility or campus. Each application will be judged on its own merit and organizations are not limited to the number of times that they are permitted to apply for and receive the Sustainability Award.

**PROCESS.** Application process takes place in May and June of each calendar year with a June 30, (xxxx) deadline. A committee of evaluators from the AIM Sustainability Group reviews applications with nominees identified in early August. Sustainability Award winners will be recognized at AIM's Regional Events in the fall. Applicants are evaluated primarily on their implementation of sustainability activities (see below). The results should be significant when evaluated against the organization's size and available resources.

**QUALIFICATIONS.** Applications must address one of the three areas of sustainability; economic, social and/or environmental. Here are some of the qualifications we look for:

- Description and significance of sustainability activities, targeting multiple impacts
- Significance of activities to your organization's primary function/product
- Waste volume or emissions reduction, use of green materials, natural resource conservation, etc.
- Reductions in water, energy, solvent, and toxic chemical usage
- Waste reduction or beneficial reuse of discarded materials
- Economic benefits, including cost reductions or jobs created or retained
- Employee/member involvement
- Benefits to employees, community, and environment
- Materiality of initiatives to your industry

**ACTIVITIES.** Activities for award consideration may include, but are not limited to:

- Technology changes (e.g. layout changes, improved equipment, new process)
- Input material changes (e.g. material purification, substitution of less toxic materials)
- Product changes (e.g. redesign for less environmental impact, increased product life)
- Energy conservation
- Supply Chain sustainability
- Governance and employee engagement