

Intelligent ICT Awards Africa 2025 Criteria
Thursday 8th May, Katy's Palace Bar, Sandton,
Johannesburg

Leadership

We are looking for individuals or teams that have demonstrated excellence in their profession during the past 12–18 months. These awards seek to reward individuals who have contributed to the development and deployment of innovative IT systems that improve business operations.

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Role Model – Provided an example of how they serve as a role model within their organisation and across the IT sector. Demonstrating the standards expected of IT professionals and continuously looking for new areas of personal development.

Measurable Success – They made a considerable contribution and led a team to the completion of a project that has delivered quantifiable benefits to the organisation through involvement with IT initiatives. They can demonstrate that the implementation has enabled the business to scale and resulted in long-term cost benefits.

Sustainability – The project or implementation they have led has considered the sustainable quality of a product, innovation or implementation. They act as an advocate for sustainability across the tech industry.

Innovation – They have used imaginative approaches combined with working technological practices to enhance and evolve their organisation.

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

ICT Team of the Year

An award that recognises an outstanding ICT team in their efforts to implement a project that has been exceptionally well-managed, setting them apart from others in the market.

Outstanding Woman in Tech

This award proudly recognises the outstanding achievements of a woman in the technology industry, celebrating her leadership, vision and impact. It highlights projects or initiatives that have driven meaningful change, achieved sustainable success and exemplified innovation, while honouring the values and approach that define her inspiring leadership journey.

Channel Personality of the Year

This award honours an individual that has made an impact within the channel community, demonstrating influence and innovation to help their business to scale. Examples could include new partner enablement programmes, sustainable and Green IT projects, ecosystem expansion or new regional appointments and growth.

Rising Star

The Rising Star award has been introduced this year to recognise up-and-coming talent in the field of technology leadership. It honours an outstanding professional from mid-level to advanced who stands out in their organisation as a high performer in the application and management of IT.

CIO of the Year

This award recognises an exceptional individual who has utilised technology to support and grow their business. The winner will have been responsible for leading their team's strategic vision to align technology and business goals to drive organisational transformation. This individual embraces and encourages innovation while managing the responsibilities of this C-suite role and contributing significantly to overall business strategy.

CISO of the Year

This award identifies and celebrates the dedication of an exceptional Chief Information Security Officer who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, strategic vision and a commitment to improving their organisation's cybersecurity. This individual has successfully navigated complex security challenges, implemented innovative solutions and driven a culture of resilience and awareness within their organisation.

Enterprise

End User Implementation Awards – We’re looking for organisations across all verticals who have implemented new IT initiatives into the business or a particular project.

We encourage IT vendors to nominate their customers.

Vendor Awards – We're looking for vendors who can demonstrate outstanding performance in terms of market and revenue growth, customer feedback and the launch of new products.

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Excellence (Vendor awards only) – Provided an example of customer wins, notable achievements and customer experience initiatives. Able to demonstrate market penetration and revenue growth or customer satisfaction.

Measurable Success – They can demonstrate that the implementation has enabled the business to scale and resulted in long-term cost benefits.

Sustainability – The project or implementation they have led has shown thought in the sustainable quality of a product, innovation or implementation.

Innovation- Used innovative approaches, working practices of technologies to enhance their organisation.

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

Intelligent Education Implementation of the Year

This award is given to an institution or learning platform that has implemented an IT solution in the past two years. An example would be the implementation of a new solution that has enhanced the current infrastructure by modernising its systems and operations.

Intelligent Telecom Project of the Year

This award is given to a Telecom organisation that is driving transformation across the continent and is bridging the digital divide. An example of a recent project that includes business growth, technological achievement or product innovation.

Intelligent Hospitality Implementation of the Year

This award is given to an organisation within the hospitality industry that has implemented an IT solution in the past two years. An example would be a new APN connectivity to provide a seamless and reliable service to guests.

Intelligent Banking and Finance Implementation of the Year

This award is given to a banking and finance organisation that continues to transform their financial service offerings in the payments, lending and banking space through implementing new solutions and innovations.

Intelligent Public Sector Implementation of the Year

This award celebrates the delivery of a transformative public sector project that leverages technology to address complex challenges. It celebrates innovation, impact and the successful implementation of solutions that drive sustainable efficiencies, enhance citizen services and contribute to long-term organisational benefits.

Intelligent Build Implementation of the Year

This award recognises how an organisation has implemented a new building innovation e.g. automation, cloud, networks, green technology, security etc. Nominations are open to the following verticals: Architecture, transport, planning and design, oil & gas, surveying, manufacturing and engineering. Read an example here [Here](#).

Intelligent Healthcare Implementation of the Year

This award celebrates a healthcare project that leverages intelligent technologies to transform patient care, streamline operations and improve outcomes. It celebrates innovation, strategic execution and the impactful integration of digital solutions that advance the healthcare industry while prioritising quality, accessibility and sustainability.

AI Project of the Year

This award will be presented to an organisation/team or individual that has positioned themselves as a leader in the field, driven by a commitment to developing industry-leading solutions that set new standards.

Intelligent Energy Implementation of the Year

This award recognises the best innovative technological implementation of a technology with the power to become a gamechanger in the industry, either on the demand or supply side, and in particular contributing to the net zero/extending universal access to energy.

Intelligent Digital Transformation Vendor of the Year

This award recognises an organisation that has consistently proven itself as a transformative force in the digital landscape, pushing boundaries of innovation and delivering exceptional value to its clients across industries.

Intelligent Cloud Solutions Vendor of the Year

This award will be presented to a vendor whose cloud-native solutions are a game-changer for telco operations, enhancing customer satisfaction and providing a competitive edge

Intelligent Software Vendor of the Year

This award recognises a software vendor that has demonstrated innovation, reliability and impact in delivering intelligent solutions. It celebrates their commitment to empowering businesses through cutting-edge technology, seamless user experiences, and transformative results that drive success in an ever-evolving digital landscape:

Intelligent Networking Vendor of the Year

This vendor is a provider of networking solutions that ensure seamless operations for organisations as they digitally innovate. It recognises a vendor which has adapted to changing market requirements and has demonstrated notable customer success stories.

Data Centres

We are looking for both end-users and vendors that ensure the smooth-running of facilities and where sustainability has been at the forefront of their strategic vision.

The awards in this category will be judged against three key criteria:

Excellence – Provided an example of customer wins, notable achievements and customer experience initiatives. Able to demonstrate revenue growth, a high degree of scalability or customer satisfaction.

Sustainability – The data centre has adopted renewable energy sources, improved energy efficiency or aimed for carbon neutrality.

Innovation - Used innovative approaches, working practices of technologies to enhance the data centre

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

Intelligent Cabling Partner of the Year

This award celebrates a company who has delivered innovative, high-performance cabling solutions that enable intelligent and scalable infrastructure. The winner will have demonstrated exceptional expertise in designing and implementing cutting-edge cabling systems that enhance connectivity, reliability and efficiency. By driving innovation and supporting future-ready networks, this partner sets a standard for excellence in intelligent cabling.

Intelligent Storage Partner of the Year

This award celebrates exceptional innovation and leadership in delivering intelligent storage solutions. The winner will have showcased expertise in optimising data management, scalability and performance, empowering organisations to harness the full potential of their data. By providing cutting-edge, sustainable and future-ready storage technologies, this partner sets the benchmark for excellence in intelligent storage.

Intelligent Power Partner of the Year

This award recognises the efforts of an organisation that has demonstrated exceptional expertise and innovation in delivering intelligent power solutions. The winner will have showcased a strong commitment to optimising energy management, enhancing reliability and supporting sustainable practices. By leveraging cutting-edge technologies and providing outstanding support, this company has empowered clients to achieve efficiency and resilience in their power systems, setting a benchmark for excellence in the industry.

Intelligent Infrastructure Project of the Year

This award celebrates an outstanding infrastructure project that showcases innovation, intelligence and transformative impact. The winning project will have demonstrated exceptional design, advanced technology integration and sustainable practices to deliver cutting-edge solutions. By addressing complex challenges and enhancing efficiency, connectivity and scalability, this project sets a new standard for intelligent infrastructure development, paving the way for future advancements in the industry.

Green Data Centre of the Year

This award celebrates a data centre that shows an unwavering commitment to sustainability and environmental excellence. The organisation will be able to demonstrate sustainable innovation and the implementation of energy-efficient materials, reducing harm to the environment. The winner sets itself apart through the use of sustainable materials and eco-conscious infrastructure design.

Intelligent Operations Project of the Year

This award recognises a project that has displayed innovation and excellence in operational intelligence. The winning project will have demonstrated the successful application of advanced technologies, data-driven strategies and smart automation to optimise processes, enhance efficiency and deliver measurable outcomes.

Security

We're looking for organisations which are playing a key role in securing modern businesses against cyberthreats.

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Excellence – Provided an example of customer wins, notable achievements and customer experience initiatives. Able to demonstrate market penetration and revenue growth or customer satisfaction.

Measurable Success – They can demonstrate that the project/solution/implementation has enabled the business to scale and resulted in long-term cost benefits.

Sustainability – The project, solution or implementation has shown thought in the sustainable quality of a product, innovation or implementation.

Innovation- Used innovative approaches, working practices of technologies to enhance their organisation.

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

Intelligent Training and Awareness Initiative

This award honours a business that has designed and delivered an impactful training programme to enhance organisational cybersecurity awareness and resilience. This could include using gamification, AI-driven simulations and other creative tools and techniques to drive a strong cybersecurity culture.

Intelligent Network Security Implementation of the Year

This award celebrates an organisation that has harnessed innovative technologies in advanced network security deployment to safeguard critical infrastructure, protect sensitive data and ensure seamless, secure operations.

Intelligent Cloud Security Implementation of the Year

This award goes to an organisation that has implemented cloud security solutions to enhance protection and empower Digital Transformation. It celebrates the successful deployment of intelligent, cloud-first strategies that enable businesses to thrive securely.

Intelligent Software Security Partner

This vendor is a cybersecurity software solution provider supporting organisations to safeguard their digital operations. From anti-malware to ransomware prevention, threat hunting to apps, the winner of this award will be a leading innovator in the field of software security.

Intelligent Secure Digital Transformation Partner

This award goes to a vendor which is a trusted partner in securing Digital Transformation initiatives. The submission should demonstrate how this vendor's solutions are empowering organisations to seamlessly transition to modern digital ecosystems while ensuring robust protection, operational efficiency and business resilience in an evolving cyber threat landscape.

Intelligent AI Cybersecurity Partner

This award celebrates innovative solutions that leverage Artificial Intelligence to detect, prevent and respond to cyberthreats. It honours contributions that enhance organisational security, streamline operations and build resilience in an increasingly complex digital threat environment.

Channel

We're looking for IT distributors that excel in supplying a diverse range of products and services and maintaining efficient supply chains in the channel ecosystem.

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Excellence – Provided an example of customer wins, notable achievements and customer experience initiatives. Able to demonstrate market penetration and revenue growth or customer satisfaction.

Measurable Success – They have made a considerable contribution to a partner or end user. They can demonstrate that their achievements in the ecosystem have enabled end users or partners business to scale and resulted in long-term cost benefits.

Sustainability – The project or implementation they have led has shown thought in the sustainable quality of a product, innovation or implementation.

Innovation- Used innovative approaches, working practices of technologies to enhance their organisation.

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

IT Distributor of the Year

This award acknowledges expertise and achievements in IT volume products distribution that includes all types of hardware, such as PCs, notebooks, networking kit, tablets, servers, displays panels, printers, consumables, components, peripherals, PC accessories and security appliances.

Value Added Distributor of the Year

The award honours the distributor that has excelled in delivering value-added services, that include solutions design architecture, pre-sales consulting, training, channel

enablement programmes, post-sales implementation and technical support, financing schemes and adding value at every stage of the product life cycle.

Cloud Solutions Distributor of the Year

This accolade goes to the distributor that has made a remarkable commitment to developing their cloud business by providing tools to partners that help them meet the demands of the cloud computing and cloud services market.

Systems Integrator of the Year

This award recognises the systems integrator who excels at delivering multi-vendor solutions, scale for the future and yields client satisfaction.

Training Provider of the Year

The award recognises an authorised IT training provider that is advancing skills development in the regional channel. In addition, the award pays tribute to the provider's commitment to helping the broader IT industry with quality (online and instructor-led classroom style) training programmes.

Cybersecurity Distributor of the Year

This award celebrates the channel partner that has gone above and beyond to ensure companies have a robust cybersecurity strategy. Whether its helping companies select vendors, implementing the strategy or providing continued support, this partner will leave no stone unturned to make sure a business is secure.

Business

We're looking for organisations

The awards in this category will be judged against four key criteria:

Excellence – Provided an example of customer wins, notable achievements and customer experience initiatives.

Business Impact– The business has shown a forward-thinking approach that drives profitability, market expansion, and competitive advantage

Sustainability - The project or implementation they have led has shown thought in the sustainable quality of a product, innovation or implementation.

Innovation- Used innovative approaches, working practices of technologies to enhance their organisation.

The evidence must show the project/solution operating in Africa or serving African markets.

Awards

Start Up Project of the Year (Within the last two years)

This award is designed to recognise and celebrate an innovative startup or entrepreneurial project that has demonstrated outstanding achievements in its industry within the past two years.

Customer Experience Provider of the Year

This award is presented to an organisation that focuses on innovative solutions and customer-centric approaches.

Tech for Positivity

This award is to recognise non-financial contributions to society through the use of technology. The company would have harnessed the power of technology to deliver beneficial social, cultural and/or environmental outcomes.

Workforce Management Project of the Year

This award recognises an organisation or team that has successfully implemented a workforce-related initiative or project delivering outstanding results that includes advanced technologies

Innovation for Business Growth

This award recognises forward-thinking approaches that drive profitability, market expansion, and competitive advantage. It honours an organisation that has developed and implemented innovative strategies, technologies and processes that significantly contribute to business growth.