

2026 INDUSTRY PROJECT AND PRODUCT AWARDS



SFIA  **AWARDS**

Details & Rules
March 30, 2026



2026 SFIA Industry Project & Product Awards Details & Rules

Overview and Judging Criteria

All projects must feature SFIA certified cold-formed steel (CFS) products to qualify for entry in the competition. Architects, engineers, manufacturers, distributors, contractors and others can enter projects, but they must be SFIA members to do so. A panel of industry representatives will judge entries using the following criteria.

Applications must be submitted by 8:00pm ET on Friday June 26, 2026.

Contact [Meredith Perez](#) with any questions.

Potential Award Categories: (at the Judges' discretion)

- Efficient use of cold-formed steel framing
- Conversion from another material to cold-formed steel framing
- Architectural design detail
- Sustainable project
- Interior project
- Panelized project
- Size of job – Low rise (1-3 stories), Mid rise (4-7 stories), Super mid rise (8+ stories)
- Judging panel's choice
- Innovative Product

Presentation:

The judging panel will consider the following when they are evaluating project entries.

1. Photo quality: clear, bright, professional.
2. Photo captions quality: descriptive, but without naming specific companies or products
3. Narrative quality: compelling storytelling that describes the design quality, installation complexity, manufacturing complexity, overall job quality, the conversion from another material (if applicable) or any unique feature about the project that the judges should know.

Deductions

Submissions should be agnostic for the judges. Companies, product names and the project itself should not be named in any materials submitted. In your project descriptions, do NOT use:

- project name
- material brand names
- company name



2026 SFIA Awards

Details & Rules

Quality of the project:

1. Design Quality: Did this project make efficient use of CFS products? How did it maximize the strength to weight ratio of the CFS? Did it involve a value engineering solution, and if so what was that solution? Was it a LEED® project?
2. Installation Complexity: Was this a standard installation or were special means and methods required? Did installation conflicts have to be resolved, and if so how? Did the project require special equipment, a limited construction timeframe, work at special heights or involving other complex conditions?
3. Manufacturing Complexity: Were the materials custom made or were they modified standard pieces? Was panelization involved? Was special material sourcing and supply involved?
4. Overall Job Quality: How did the completed system turn out from the standpoint of alignments, finish, fulfillment of the design intent, etc.?
5. Conversion from Wood Framing (if applicable): How was conversion from wood to metal framing achieved? Did CFS framing lower the weight of the structure, enable the addition of more stories, save on builders risk insurance, provide schedule savings, or accomplish any other cost or quality comparison benefit for the project?

Picture, Video and File Uploads

1. Please upload your project photos, videos and files in this section. Include images from during construction as well as completed project images. Reminder: blur out project or company names.
2. I understand that by uploading images, renderings and files, I grant permission to the Steel Framing Industry Association (SFIA) to use these images in any of their promotional materials, including but not limited to, use in presentations, case studies, on the CFSteel.org and BuildSteel.org websites, etc.

Extra Consideration

The judges will use the following information as extra consideration when breaking a tie between projects.

- Did the project involve 3 or more SFIA member companies (including your own)? Members can be from any SFIA membership category.
- Was the SFIA Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) submitted for the project?



2026 SFIA Awards Details & Rules

Terms and Conditions

1. All projects must feature SFIA certified cold-formed steel (CFS) products to qualify for entry in the competition.
2. All Innovative Products submitted must be an original offering from the SFIA member company or a product for which the SFIA member company holds exclusive manufacturing or distribution rights and must have been launched within the past 24 months.
3. All SFIA members are eligible to participate in the competition.
4. Applications must be submitted by 8:00pm ET on Friday June 26, 2026.
5. A winner and honorable mention can be awarded for each award category.
6. If suitable submissions are not received for each award category, a winner is not required to be determined. This decision will be at the judging panel's sole discretion.
7. Each submitted project is only eligible to win in 1 award category. Judges will determine most suitable award categories for each winning project.
8. By submitting images, videos, renderings and files, you are granting permission to the Steel Framing Industry Association (SFIA) to use these images in any of their promotional materials, including but not limited to, use in presentations, case studies, on the SteelFraming.org and BuildSteel.org websites, etc. If uploaded images, renderings and files come from other project partners or sources, you need to get their permission before submitting them.
9. It is the responsibility of the member submitting the project to ensure they have proper permissions to share the files submitted to the SFIA for use in promotional material.
10. By submitting an application, I understand and agree with all of the above terms and conditions and attest that all information contained within this application is true to the best of my knowledge.

The ideal SFIA Awards submission, the one that garners the greatest attention and favor from the judges, includes:

1. A complete narrative write up,
2. High-resolution construction photos and finish photos,
3. Design diagrams,
4. A video of the project during construction,
5. An SFIA EPD, and
6. At least two other SFIA members who also participated on the project.

[**SUBMIT APPLICATION FORM**](#)



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Tips & Suggestions from the Judging Panel

Our Judges provided the following tips and suggestions for those entering projects that they feel will help a project stand out.

1. The visuals are key. Projects with high-quality, visually appealing photos, videos and renderings allow the judges to better evaluate the project.
2. With so many of our products getting closed into the walls, in-process construction images are very important. If possible, visit the job site multiple times during construction to capture the full process and progress. Finished shots of the project (or a rendering as a last resort) are also nice to see the end result.
3. The judges want to know the story behind the project. Please be as descriptive as possible in as many of the fields/prompts of the application form. The more context you can give about the project, the better.
4. Tell the judges what's unique about the project! Alternatively if there were challenges during the project, tell us how you overcame them. We want to celebrate you and the great work you do so tell us how hard you're working!

Innovative Product Award!

Have a game-changing product for CFS framing? We want to know! For the Innovative Product category, you are able to submit products that have launched in the past 24 months.

Links to articles about the 2025 Winners:

- [The Steel Framing Industry Association \(SFIA\) Names 13 Recipients of the 2025 Industry Awards](#)
- [KHS&S Contractors Wins SFIA Award for a Newly Opened, Central Florida Themed Attraction](#)
- [Industrialized Construction Solutions Wins SFIA Sustainable Project Award for Las Vegas Industrial Park](#)
- [CEMCO Wins SFIA's Architectural Design Detail Award for the Interiors of Denver's Populus Hotel](#)
- [T.J. McCartney Wins SFIA's High Rise Category Award for Allston Labworks in Boston](#)
- [R.A. Smith Wins SFIA's Low Rise Category Award for Wind Creek Chicago Southland Casino](#)
- [CEMCO Wins SFIA's 'Conversion from Another Material' Award for Unique California Design Center](#)
- [Industrialized Construction Solutions Wins SFIA Award for 7-Story Apartments, Design Saves \\$1 Million](#)
- [9-Story Hotel Features Minimal Structural Steel with Cold-Formed Steel, Earns SFIA Award for raSmith](#)
- [SFIA Introduces Innovative Product Award, Honors StepStuds™ from Horizontal Base Studs as First Recipient](#)