

Microsoft Australia  
Partner Awards 2014

# Awards Rules and Regulations

**MAPA  
2014**

## AWARDS RULES AND REGULATIONS

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is your sole responsibility to review and understand your employer's policies regarding your eligibility to participate in trade promotions. If you are participating in violation of your employer's policies, you may be disqualified from entering or receiving awards. Microsoft disclaims any and all liability or responsibility for disputes arising between an employee and their employer related to this matter, and awards will only be awarded in compliance with the employer's policies.

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES:** Microsoft is committed to complying with government gift and ethics rules and therefore government employees are not eligible.

**If you do not agree with these Official Rules, please do not enter this Contest.**

### COMMON TERMS USED IN THESE RULES:

These are the official rules that govern how the Microsoft Australia Partner Awards 2014 (MAPA) contest promotion will operate ("Contest").

In these rules, "we", "our" and "us" refer to Microsoft Pty Ltd, the sponsor of this Contest. "You" and "Company" refers to an eligible Contest entrant.

### CONTENTS

- A. Contest Description
- B. What are the Start and End Dates
- C. What constitutes an eligible entry
- D. How will my entry potentially be used
- E. How do I enter
- F. Finalist And Winner Determination And Awards
- G. Contest Awards
- H. What Other Conditions Am I Agreeing To By Entering?

### A. CONTEST DESCRIPTION:

This is a skill-based Contest.

The object of this Contest is to recognise the best Solution(s). For purposes of this Contest, "Solution" means a product application or implementation that: (i) uses the most recent versions of Microsoft technologies; and (ii) alleviates customer pain or solves a related business problem.

Partners will be asked to describe their successful implementation of a Solution for a specific customer and show how the Solution added business value. For purposes of this contest, each "solution" you create will be called an "entry". All eligible entries received will be judged using the criteria described below to determine the winners of the awards described below.

**NOTE: If your customer has any proprietary rights in and to the Solution you submit, as a condition of being named a winner in this Contest, your customer must be willing and able to grant to you and Microsoft the right and permission to feature and otherwise describe the Solution in a case study and to use the case study for promotional, editorial, demonstration or any other related purposes. If your customer is not willing to and/or is unable to grant such permission, then you should not enter the Solution in this Contest.**

### B. WHAT ARE THE START AND END DATES?

Entries for the Microsoft 2014 Microsoft Australia Partner Awards can be submitted from 12:01.AM Australian Eastern Standard Time on May 1, 2014, ends at 11:59 P.M Australian Eastern Standard Time on June 5, 2014 ("Entry Period").

### CAN I ENTER?

You are eligible to enter this contest if you meet the following requirements at time entry:

- You are a company with a registered office in Australia and an Australian Business Number (ABN) and actively enrolled in the Microsoft Partner Network (MPN), or as it was previously known, the Microsoft Partner Program (MSPP) with a valid ID; and
- No member of your staff is an employee of Microsoft Corporation, Microsoft Pty Ltd or any other Microsoft subsidiary; and
- No member of your staff is involved in any part of the administration and execution of this Contest.

The Contest is void outside the geographic area described above and wherever else prohibited by law.

### C. WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ELIGIBLE ENTRY?

To be eligible for judging an entry must meet the following content / technical requirements:

- Submit entries using the [Microsoft Australia Partner Awards 2014 Submission Tool](#).
- Submit entries in the English language [Please note that the Solution may be developed in any language but the entry itself must be submitted in the English language].

- Solution must have at least one commercial customer and the solution must have been delivered after January 1, 2013 OR has been significantly changed or upgraded since January 1, 2013.
- Solution must be developed primarily using Microsoft software and/or hardware.

While some of the Contest Award categories are open to all entrants without restriction, many category awards may include more strict entry requirements, including the earning of pre-requisite Microsoft competencies. Entrants can view complete awards descriptions and eligibility criteria. Answers provided in the Microsoft Australia Partner Awards 2014 [Submission Tool](#) remain confidential and are not made public without the partner's consent.

In addition:

- your entry must be your own original work; **and**
- you must have obtained any and all consents, approvals or licenses required for you to submit your entry; **and**
- your entry must not otherwise violate the rights of any other person or company by using their trademarks, music, logos, names or images without their express written consent.

Your entry must disclose any immediate family (partner, sibling, spouse or child) relationship or household relationship between:

(a) any member of your staff; and

(b) any person that is either:

- an employee of Microsoft Corporation, Microsoft Pty Ltd or any other Microsoft subsidiary, or
- involved in any part of the administration and execution of this Contest.

Entries may **NOT** contain, as determined by us, in our sole and absolute discretion, any content that:

- is sexually explicit, unnecessarily violent or derogatory of any ethnic, racial, gender, religious, professional or age group; profane or pornographic;
- promotes alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, firearms/weapons (or the use of any of the foregoing) or a particular political agenda;
- is obscene or offensive;
- defames, misrepresents or contains disparaging remarks about other people or companies;
- is misleading or deceptive; or

- communicates messages or images inconsistent with the positive images and/or good will to which we wish to associate; and/or violates any law.

We reserve the right to reject any entry, in our sole and absolute discretion, that we determine does not meet the above criteria.

#### D. HOW WILL MY ENTRY BE POTENTIALLY USED?

Other than what is set forth below, we are not claiming any ownership rights to your entry. However, by submitting your entry, you:

- are granting us an irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide right and license to: (i) use, review, assess, test and otherwise analyse your entry and all its content in connection with this Contest; and (ii) feature your entry and all content in connection with the marketing, sale, or promotion of this Contest (including but not limited to internal and external sales meetings, conference presentations, tradeshow, and screen shots of the Contest entry in press releases) in all media (now known or later developed)
- agree to sign any necessary documentation that may be required for us and our designees to make use of the rights you granted above;
- understand and acknowledge that Microsoft may have developed or commissioned materials similar or identical to your submission and you waive any claims you may have resulting from any similarities to your entry;
- understand that we cannot control the incoming information you will disclose to our representatives in the course of entering, or what our representatives will remember about your entry. You also understand that we will not restrict work assignments of representatives who have had access to your entry. By entering this Contest, you agree that use of information in our representatives' unaided memories in the development or deployment of our products or services does not create liability for us under this agreement or copyright or trade secret law;
- understand that you will not receive any compensation or credit for use of your entry, other than what is described in these **Official Rules**
- Please note that following the end of this Contest the details of your entry may be posted on a website for viewing by visitors to that website. We are not responsible for any unauthorised use of your entry by visitors to this website. While we reserve these rights, we are not obligated to use your entry for any purpose, even if it has been selected as a winning entry.

If you do not want to grant us these rights to your entry, please do not enter this Contest.

## E. HOW DO I ENTER?

In order to participate in this Contest, you must go to the Contest Web site at [www.australiapartnerawards.com](http://www.australiapartnerawards.com) and complete and submit the online entry form, including submission of your entry, as instructed.

You may submit more than one entry in any category and you may be chosen as a finalist and/or winner in more than one category.

We are not responsible for entries that we do not receive for any reason, or for entries that we receive but are not decipherable for any reason.

We will automatically disqualify:

- Any incomplete or illegible entry; **and**
- Any entries that we receive from you that are in excess of the entry limit described above.

## F. FINALIST AND WINNER DETERMINATION AND AWARDS

On or around the close of the Entry Period, a panel of judges will review all eligible entries received and select three runner-up finalists and one winner for each of the Contest Awards described below. Finalists will be contacted in late-July, 2014, to the e-mail address, the phone number, or mailing address (if any) provided at time of entry and must agree at that time to participate in the Awards Program. Winners will be announced during the Australia Partner Conference Opening Keynote on September 2, 2014. We will make three (3) attempts to contact each finalist to confirm their participation. If we are unable to make contact in three (3) attempts, we will notify the next runner-up finalist and give that company the opportunity to verify their participation. PLEASE NOTE that agreeing to participate as a finalist or winner does not mean that you are required to attend the Australia Partner Conference in person.

Finalists, winners and their guests who choose to attend the Australia Partner Conference in person are responsible for all registration, travel and personal expenses associated with attending the event.

## G. CONTEST AWARDS

The Microsoft Australia Partner Awards 2014 are:

### COMPETENCY AWARDS

#### Application Platform

Application Development Partner of the Year (Web Development, ISV, Software Development)

Business Intelligence Partner of the Year

Data Platform Partner of the Year

#### Business Productivity

Collaboration and Content Partner of the Year (Search, Content Management, Content Collaboration)

Communications Partner of the Year

#### Core Infrastructure

Devices and Deployment Partner of the Year

Datacentre Partner of the Year

#### CRM and ERP

Customer Relationship Management Partner of the Year

Enterprise Resource Planning Partner of the Year

#### Cross Platform Solutions

Hosting Partner of the Year

Learning Partner of the Year

Cloud: Package Solutions Partner of the Year

### SEGMENT AWARDS

Small Business Partner of the Year

Hardware Partner of the Year

Distribution Partner of the Year

Education Partner of the Year

Enterprise Partner of the Year

Health Partner of the Year

Licensing Solutions Partner (LSP) Partner of the Year

CityNext Partner of the Year

**Microsoft 2014 Partner of the Year Award benefits:**

- Customised logos and web banners that help you showcase your company as an honoured Microsoft partner.
- Custom public relations templates to help promote your award-winning status.
- Trophies (winners) to signify your success.
- Congratulatory letters from Microsoft Australia's General Manager for winners
- Photo opportunities (winners) with Microsoft executives at Australia Partner Conference.
- Winners are recognised onstage at the Australian Partner Conference in Gold Coast.
- Winners will feature on the Australia Pinpoint Home Page for a short period of time over the 12 months following the Australia Partner Conference.
- Winners are also invited to an exclusive awards celebration during APC. The event is a unique opportunity to network with Microsoft executives

**H. WHAT OTHER CONDITIONS AM I AGREEING TO BY ENTERING?**

By clicking the "Accept Rules" button in the Microsoft Australia Partner Awards 2014 **Submission Tool** process for submitting an entry, you hereby acknowledge and agree:

- To abide by these **Official Rules**; and
- To release and hold harmless Microsoft and its respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, employees and agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with this Contest, or any prize won; and
- That Microsoft's decisions will be final and binding on all matters related to this Contest; **and**
- That Microsoft may use of your proper name and state/country of residence online and in print, or in any other media, in connection with this Contest, without payment or compensation to you, except where prohibited by law.
- Finalists should be prepared to provide additional materials required for editorial or promotional purposes and to help promote the 2014 Microsoft Australia Partner Awards Program. Additional materials may include, but are not limited to, screen images, photographs of the development team, company logo (both on disk and a high-resolution printout), and video source.

**I. WHAT IF SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS AND THE CONTEST CAN'T RUN AS PLANNED?**

If someone cheats, or a virus, bug, catastrophic event, or any other unforeseen or unexpected event that cannot be reasonably anticipated or controlled, (also referred to as force majeure) affects the fairness and / or integrity of this Contest, we reserve the right to cancel, change or suspend this Contest. This right is reserved whether the event is due to human or technical error. If a solution cannot be found to restore the integrity of the Contest, we reserve the right to select winners from among all eligible entries received before we had to cancel, change or suspend the Contest.

If you attempt to compromise the integrity or the legitimate operation of this Contest by hacking or by cheating or committing fraud in ANY way, we may seek damages from you to the fullest extent permitted by law. Further, we may ban you from participating in any of our future Contest, so please play fairly.

**J. HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHO WON?**

We will post the names of contest winners at **APC 2014**. This list will remain posted for twelve (12) months after September 2, 2014.

**K. WHO IS SPONSORING THIS CONTEST?**

Microsoft Pty Ltd  
1 Epping Road  
North Ryde, NSW 2113

Entry information is collected on computers located in Australia and in the United States. This Contest will be governed by the laws of New South Wales, and you consent to the non-exclusive jurisdiction and venue of the courts of the New South Wales for any disputes arising out of this Contest.

**Questions?** Please email the [2014 Microsoft Australia Partner Awards team](#). Please allow two (2) business days for a response.