



**ASSOCIATION OF POLISH ENGINEERS
IN GREAT BRITAIN**

STOWARZYSZENIE TECHNIKÓW POLSKICH W WIELKIEJ BRYTANII

Future Makers: PolishEngineers.UK Excellence Award 2026

Competition Rules

Purpose

The Future Makers: PolishEngineers.UK Excellence Award 2026 recognises an outstanding individual engineering contribution by a student **connected** with the Polish student community in the UK. It exists to give students a meaningful incentive to complete and showcase high-quality engineering work, and to strengthen PolishEngineers.UK's visibility and relationships within that community.

Organiser

The Future Makers: PolishEngineers.UK Excellence Award 2026 is organised by **the Association of Polish Engineers in Great Britain**, also known as **STP** and **polishengineers.uk**. STP is an independent, self-governing scientific and technical organisation that brings together engineers, architects, scientists, technicians and students living and working in the United Kingdom. Its membership includes people and institutions representing various disciplines of technical sciences, as well as enthusiasts of broadly understood science and technology.

STP is registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, number **1181306**.

What Qualifies

Eligible work may include a student project, dissertation, scientific paper, technical article, engineering design, prototype, experiment, analysis, working software tool, or student-led engineering initiative. This list is illustrative, not exhaustive.

Work is judged on:

- Engineering excellence and sound technical thinking
- A completed, tangible outcome
- Clear individual ownership and contribution
- Evidence of results, value, or significance

Delivery matters more than intention. An idea or proposal alone does not qualify — the work must be a finished piece of code, design, project, analysis, or research result. University and non-university work are both eligible, with neither given preference.

Team Projects

Work completed as part of a team is eligible if the entrant's individual contribution can be clearly identified and assessed (for example, submitting a chassis design from a Formula Student car). The entry must concern the student's own contribution, not the team's overall achievement.

Eligibility

- Open to students at British universities who are members of a Polish society at their university
- At universities without a Polish society, students may enter without meeting that membership requirement
- Both university and non-university engineering work are eligible
- Open to any level of study — undergraduate, postgraduate taught, or doctoral
- Entrants do not need to hold current student status on the submission deadline; anyone who was a student at some point during 2026, including those who completed their studies that year, qualifies
- Entries that have already received another prize or been previously published remain eligible
- Each participant may submit no more than one entry

Entry Format

Each entrant submits a short statement of no more than two pages, using the fixed entry template. Supporting evidence may be included where relevant — photographs, drawings, code, a report extract, a publication, test results, or links.

Confidential, commercially sensitive, or IP-protected work may be submitted as redacted extracts, provided the redaction still gives judges enough detail to evaluate the work's value.

The entry must explain:

- The problem or opportunity addressed
- The entrant's individual contribution
- The engineering approach taken
- The completed output
- The supporting evidence or results
- The work's significance, value, or potential impact

Timeline

Milestone	Date
Competition launches (submissions open)	12 October 2026
Submission deadline	14 November 2026
Judging completed	30 November 2026
Winners recognised	5th December 2026

Judging

A jury appointed by PolishEngineers.UK scores each eligible entry independently against an agreed rubric. Scores are combined to produce a ranking, with the Jury Chair resolving ties. Jurors must declare any personal or professional connection to an entrant and recuse themselves from judging that entry.

Authorship and individual contribution are taken on trust at submission — no additional verification (e.g. supervisor or academic sign-off) is required. The jury may ask an entrant to provide supporting evidence before finalising an award.

Judges have full discretion over the eligibility, validity, and disqualification of entries — including incomplete, late, or ineligible submissions — and their decision is final.

The competition uses a single open category. Entries are ranked first, second, and third overall rather than split into subject categories.

Prizes and Winner Experience

Place	Prize
1st	£1,000
2nd	£300
3rd	£200

- Every winner receives one year of complimentary STP membership, unconditionally. Standard renewal terms apply after the complimentary year.
- All three winners are guests at the STP Christmas event with complimentary tickets, and each gives a five-minute presentation on their work.

Intellectual Property, Consent & Conduct

Permissions and Use of Submitted Materials

Entrants retain full ownership and intellectual property rights in their submitted work. By entering, each entrant grants PolishEngineers.UK a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to reproduce their entry (in full or as extracts), name, university or affiliation, and any supplied photographs or media, for the purposes of judging the competition and promoting it — including the PolishEngineers.UK website, social media, newsletters, and the Christmas event. This licence does not transfer ownership and does not extend beyond these purposes.

Entrants are responsible for ensuring they hold the rights to submit their work and any supporting materials, including content involving third parties such as teammates, supervisors, or employers. Confidential or IP-protected material should be submitted as described under Entry Format.

Privacy

Personal data collected as part of an entry — name, contact details, university, and the content of the submission — is used only to administer the competition, including judging, contacting entrants, and awarding prizes, and is handled in line with UK data protection law. Winners' names, universities, and a summary of their work may be published as part of announcing results. Entrants may request that their other personal data be deleted once the competition cycle is complete.

Withdrawal

An entrant may withdraw their entry at any time before winners are announced by emailing the organisers. Withdrawal carries no penalty and does not affect eligibility for future competitions. An entry withdrawn after judging has started is removed from consideration and any provisional score is void. If a selected winner withdraws or becomes ineligible before a prize is awarded, the jury may choose an alternative entrant from the ranked list at their discretion.

Amendments to This Document

PolishEngineers.UK reserves the right to amend this document at any time, including its rules, eligibility criteria, timeline, judging process, or prizes. If an amendment is made after an entrant has submitted their entry, that entrant may withdraw their entry if they are not happy with the change, following the process set out under Withdrawal above.