

2013 BIA Product of Excellence Awards Competition

*Recognizing “the best of the best”
in binding, graphic finishing, and
custom loose-leaf manufacturing.*

Entry form
inside!

Entry
Deadline—
February
22, 2013

Product of
Excellence
Awards
Best of
the Best
Product of
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the Best
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Excellence
Awards



www.bindingawards.com

For more than three decades, The Binding Industries Association (BIA) has shared your passion for excellence in craftsmanship, honoring the truly “best of the best” in the binding industry. The 2013 Product of Excellence Awards showcases these outstanding pieces from companies around the world that submit their best work to be judged against that of their peers.

It's time to see if your company has what it takes to reach the highest pinnacle in the industry—the Product of Excellence Award. Winning companies not only become part of an elite group of achievers but also earn industry-wide recognition that provides tremendous marketing opportunities.

The Product of Excellence Award is the most prestigious award in the binding industry. As this industry has changed over the years, it has remained the epitome of excellence and a symbol of accomplishment. Distinguish yourself and enter the Product of Excellence Awards.

First place award winners receive:

- Press releases announcing all winners to printing and related trade publications
- Widespread promotion to the 14,000 readers of *The Binding Edge*
- A prestigious personalized plaque
- Your company's name, with a link to your own website on www.bindingawards.com
- Recognition at the 2013 BIA Annual Conference
- Inclusion in *Printing Industries of America: The Magazine*—mailed to top printing executives across the county

This brochure contains everything you need to enter:

- Contest rules and judging criteria
- Description of categories and entry fees
- Entry form and other award information

POE Award Sponsors

The Binding Industries Association thanks the following sponsors for their generous support:



Rules & Eligibility

Please note ... entries not meeting the requirements will be disqualified.

- **Only pieces produced between February 2012 and February 2013 of the contest year are eligible for entry.**
- The pieces you submit should be free of obvious imperfections. **All entries become the property of BIA and are not returnable.** Entry constitutes approval for promotional use by BIA.
- The entry fee is \$65 per entry and \$50 for each additional entry for members of BIA; non-member companies are \$95 per entry. **Entries not accompanied with payment cannot be processed.**
- Entries must be received by the entry deadline.
- There are no limitations as to how many entries one company location can submit; however, a company can win only one award per category.
- Entries must be submitted in the appropriate category.
- Judges reserve the right to move an entry to a different category if they feel it better meets the criteria for that category.
- Entries must be accompanied by an entry form completely filled out with all the necessary information.
- Submit two copies of each entry and attach the entry form to one copy (do not staple).

Judging

The competition is judged by a team of distinguished professionals from the graphic arts community. These judges come from around the world and are chosen for their extensive knowledge and years of experience in producing graphic finishing and custom loose-leaf products.

In the finishing categories, judges look for superiority in the manufacturing and quality through:

- squareness
- lineup and a lack of cracking and wrinkles in folds
- exactness of the trim
- condition, location, size, and tightness of staples
- squareness of spine and backbone size
- overall cleanliness

For those pieces with stamped, embossed, debossed, or other decorative finishes:

- crisp, complete image
- exactness
- multiple or unusual techniques
- overall cleanliness

Awards

Awards:

Each category can have a number of awards bestowed by the judges.

Product of Excellence

The most outstanding of all entries in a category receives the designation of Product of Excellence. To win, an entry must be technically flawless. This is the pinnacle of success in the binding industry. Winning companies receive a handsome plaque to display, commemorating this outstanding achievement.

Award of Recognition

Finalists for the top honors in each category receive the Award of Recognition. Companies reaching this milestone receive a certificate to show customers and colleagues their achievement.

Certificate of Merit

Many of the entries in the Product of Excellence competition deserve recognition for their quality craftsmanship. To honor these entries, judges bestow a Certificate of Merit, which can be proudly displayed.

All entries must be received by February 22, 2013.

Need additional entry forms? Visit our website for more information. www.bindingawards.com. You may also contact Justin Goldstein at jgoldstein@printing.org or 412-259-1806.

Mail entries to:

Justin Goldstein, Award Coordinator,
Binding Industries Association, 200
Deer Run Road, Sewickley, PA 15143.

After completing the entry procedures and submitting your best work, watch your mail for award notification.

All those entering the competition will be notified by mail of the judges' decisions. Those receiving awards will be mailed a complete winner's kit detailing what they have won.



"I am always asked if I get my return on investment for the POE Awards, and I always say the same thing. Being an award-winning company develops new relationships which moves me ahead of the competition."

Richard Holum, President, Holum & Sons Inc.

Graphic Finishing Categories:

Category A1. Mechanical Folding

Any piece which demonstrates the following characteristics: squareness, lineup consistency, lack of cracking and wrinkles, gussets, smudging, marking, and scuffing.

Examples of entries—gatefolds, miniature folding, creative use of glue, map folding, special, unusual, or difficult folds.

Category A2. Stitching

Any piece which demonstrates exactness of trim, condition, location, size, tightness of staple, and overall cleanliness in appearance.

Category A3. Adhesive Binding

Perfect binding, notch binding, Smythe-sewn glued covers, side-wire-stitched glued-on covers, flush covers, lay flat, overhangs, diecut covers, stepped, or indexed products.

Category A4. Case Binding

Where pages, arranged in signatures, are sewn together and hard covers (cloth, vinyl, or leather cases) are attached.

Category A5. Mechanical Binding

Wire—both single and double wire, Plastikoil and plastic binding.

Category A6. Diecutting

Application of dies, glues, and other materials and techniques in achieving excellent or unusual effects.

Category A7. Foil Stamping and Embossing

Decorative techniques in finishing—foil stamping or embossing.

Category A8. Hand Work

Any work created by hand labor to achieve difficult or unusual effects.

Category A9. Gluing

Use of glue(s) for finishing other than binding, where the application is intrinsic to the purpose of the piece. Examples of entries—fugitive glue for closure or tip-ons, or remoistenable gum.

Category A10. Special Products

Other products or services, which are not covered in the categories above. Please supply details.

Category A11. Graphic Finisher Self-Promotion

A promotion advertising your own company: includes products, printed materials, binders, and the like. Entries must be manufactured in-house by your company for your company and should be a bound or promotional product. *Note: Entries may include more than one item if the material was mailed as a single unit or was part of a campaign. If the entry includes more than one item, please submit the entry in an envelope.*

Category A12. They Said It Couldn't Be Done—Graphic Finishing

This category recognizes trade binders who delivered against almost impossible odds. Not the everyday “We-need-it-fast” orders, but those emergency situations where you moved heaven and earth to deliver the job. Be sure to fully describe the situation on your entry form or attach additional sheets. *Entries not containing descriptions will be disqualified.*

Graphic Finishing Categories

Loose-Leaf Categories

Loose-Leaf Categories:

Decorative Techniques—Loose-leaf products that use the following in the production of the piece.

Category B1. Foil Stamping

Category B2. Screen Printing: single color

Category B3. Screen Printing: multi-color

Category B4. Screen Printing: 4-color process

Category B5. Litho: 4-color process

Category B6. 4-color process digital onto plastic

Category B7. 4-color process digital paper

Category B8. Applique

Category B9. Cut-Flush Binders

Poly, Lexide rigid vinyl, or other materials that have cut-flush perimeters.

Category B10. Turned-Edge Casebound

Cloth, buckram, leather, or other similar binding materials that are turned over the board and glued, sewn, or sealed.

Category B11. Sewn Products

Vinyl, leather, cloth or other materials that are sewn by machine or by hand for decorative or functional reasons (i.e., may be heat-sealed or turned; may have zippers or straps or edge binding).

Category B12. Boxes and Totes

Paperboard, vinyl, and poly material utilized for boxes or totes manufactured with unusual methods using any materials.

Category B13. Innovative Use of Materials

Innovative application of existing materials or use of unusual or new material in the production of a loose-leaf product. If appropriate, list names of material suppliers.

Category B14. Special Products

Other products or services demonstrating excellence or difficulty in manufacturing, which are not covered in the categories above. Please supply details.

Category B15. Product Design

Unusual or creative designs of loose-leaf products, including new concepts and techniques, new or unusual mechanisms, novel design approaches, etc.

Category B16. Loose-Leaf Manufacturer Self-Promotion

A promotion advertising your own company: includes products, printed materials, binders, and the like. Entries must be manufactured in-house by your company for your company and should be a bound or promotional product.

Note: Entries may include more than one item if the material was mailed as a single unit or was part of a campaign. If the entry includes more than one item, please submit the entry in an envelope.

Category B17. They Said It Couldn't Be Done—Loose-Leaf

This category recognizes loose-leaf manufacturers who delivered against almost impossible odds. Not the everyday “We-need-it-fast” orders, but those emergency situations where you moved heaven and earth to deliver the job. Be sure to fully describe the situation on your entry form or attach additional sheets. *Entries not containing descriptions will be disqualified.*



“Winning the ‘BIA Product of Excellence’ for Wrap-Ups has always been a testimonial to our commitment of providing the highest level of finishing services possible to the industry. This translates into Wrap-Ups being relevant and leading edge for our customers.”

Jonathan Niezing, President, Wrap-Ups Inc.



Entry Form

Contact _____ Name of Entry _____

Category Number _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal/ZIP code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

A. What special production problems did you face and how did you solve them?

B. What special methods did you use to achieve results?

C. Who were the suppliers of materials?

CHECKLIST

Before you mail your entries, did you:

- ✓ Fill out an entry form for each piece and include the correct category?
- ✓ Include your entry fees of \$65 per entry and \$50 for each additional entry for members of BIA; and \$95 per entry for non-members?
- ✓ Enclose two copies of each piece and attach the entry form to one of them?

PAYMENT:

Check in U.S. Funds made payable to BIA

VISA MasterCard American Express

Card No _____ CVV _____

Exp _____ Name on Card (Please print) _____

Signature _____

You can't win if you don't enter! Deadline for submissions is February 22, 2013.

Mail to: BIA

200 Deer Run Road, Sewickley, PA 15143

Save the Date

2013 BIA Annual Conference

April 8–10, 2013

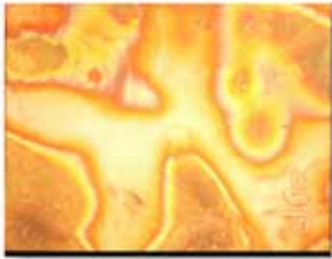
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown,

Indianapolis, Indiana

www.printing.org/biaconference



Entry Deadline—February 22, 2013



“The POE awards are a great forum to show off our best work, and it helps us take our marketing efforts to the next level.”

Cathy Elliot,
Silvanus Products Inc.



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