

## SOLUTRANS 2023: ENTRIES FOR THE I-NNOVATION AWARDS IN FULL SWING!

SOLUTRANS, at the initiative of the French Bodywork Federation (FFC), has placed innovation at the centre of its priorities by once again organising the I-nnovation AWARDS. These accolades distinguish new products and solutions that provide a substantial and significant improvement and concrete benefit to the transport and urban logistics chain.

The I-nnovation AWARDS distinguish SOLUTRANS exhibitors for a technical innovation in the form of a product that has been on the market for less than a year or is soon to be launched, and that improves the performances of a body-built vehicle or a company. Its judging panel was extended in 2019, and now includes technical executives from commercial vehicle manufacturers, acknowledged industry professionals and specialist journalists. Each trophy is unique and is made by an artist.

### A NEW CARGO BIKE AWARD

The 2023 I-nnovation AWARDS comprise 15 awards in four different categories, including the new Cargo Bike category:

- 3 awards - Gold, Silver and Bronze - in the **Body Builders category**;
- 3 awards - Gold, Silver and Bronze - in the **Equipment Suppliers category**;
- **1 special Joseph Libner award** in the Body Builders and Equipment Suppliers categories, recognising an innovation with a specific environmental aspect;
- 3 "**Digital AWARDS**" to reward a winner in each of the categories of "software publishing" and "connectivity solutions". The judges also present their own "Special Award".
- 3 "**Cargo Bike**" awards, presented on an experimental basis, honouring manufacturers and suppliers of solutions relating to this sector. This award aims to demonstrate that cargo bikes now have their own place in a global logistics scheme, depending on vehicle GVW (under 150 kg, from 150 to 400 kg, and finally up to 650 kg).

### A GENUINE INNOVATION CATALYST

The I-nnovation AWARDS shine a light on the emerging technology in the sector and reflect companies' know-how, skills and innovations. As a true showcase for innovation, they offer a platform to innovations and give a boost to their market penetration, as the award winners from the 2021 show testify:

- **LECAPITAINE (Joseph Libner Special Award)** stood out with "URBAN by LeCapitaine", a range of refrigerated vehicle bodies dedicated to LCVs and addressing the challenges of urban distribution both today and tomorrow. "This award is a tribute to a team project, and comes as welcome recognition for all the company. It has enabled us to establish new contacts, as we are the only company on the market to offer such a high payload for LCVs. We therefore gained in visibility and reputation, and we demonstrated our know-how while continuing to innovate."

- **CVIM (Gold Award 2021 –Body Builders category):** “With our side extension platform, we drew the attention of many professionals in the sector, paving the way for new collaboration opportunities. Thanks to this additional visibility, we reinforced our reputation as an innovative company in the industrial bodywork sector.”
- **ALLISON TRANSMISSION (Silver Award 2021 – Equipment Suppliers category):** “Allison Transmission's eGen Power electric axle was unveiled for the first time in Europe at SOLUTRANS 2021 to manufacturers of commercial vehicles, transporters and drivers. The award we received is a very powerful tool for developing partnerships, and positions our brand as a key supplier to electromobility.”

To offer the future winners the highest possible visibility, the results of the Innovation AWARDS will be revealed at the SOLUTRANS evening held on Tuesday 21 November in the exceptional setting of the Groupama Stadium in Lyon.

**SOLUTRANS exhibitors can submit their entries up until the deadline of 29 September at 5pm CET in their online exhibitor area under “Communication / Declare your new products.”**

#### About SOLUTRANS

SOLUTRANS: THE GLOBAL HUB FOR HEAVY & LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

SOLUTRANS, bringing together market players from across the heavy and light commercial vehicle industry, will hold its 18th edition from 21 to 25 November 2023 at Lyon Eurexpo, France.

The event, belonging to the French Bodywork Federation FFC and certified by the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA), brings together, over 90,000 sqm, nearly 50,000 professionals along with 1,000 exhibitors and brands from all over the world, under a shared banner: “Energy transition: all players in a greener industry.”

SOLUTRANS is the two-yearly rendezvous of one of the most innovative sector verticals, from industry to services. Global economic conditions make SOLUTRANS a showcase for the exceptional performances of HGV builders, bodywork manufacturers, vehicle fitters, OEMs, manufacturers of workshop equipment, tyre professionals and distribution networks. SOLUTRANS also aims to echo the challenges of the sector, with a specific focus on energy sources, retrofitting, city centre deliveries and its constraints, etc. Moreover, this year the show will present its vision of the “last yard”, with an approach centring on city centre access restrictions, and low emission zones in particular. New delivery methods, notably cargo bikes, which are becoming a part of the transport ecosystem, will have a large educational and test area allotted to them in the centre of Hall 1.

With its status as a global industry event, SOLUTRANS has set itself the goals of supporting the industrial sector, promoting solutions to professionals, and anticipating the challenges that lie ahead.

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