

# 2026 CURT CISE Owner Safety Awards

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## Purpose of CISE Awards Program

The Owner segment of the Construction Industry Safety Excellence (CISE) Awards Program recognizes commendable safety management by Owners that have most effectively implemented the recommendations of:

- The Construction Users Roundtable Report R-807, Construction Safety Blueprint
- CURT Construction Safety User Practices
  - UP 801, Contractor and Craft Worker Prequalification
  - UP 802, The Owner's Role
  - UP 803, Pre-Bid and Bid Clarification Meetings
  - UP 804, Contract Terms and Conditions
  - UP 805, Monitoring Performance
  - UP 806, Improving Safety Programs

The definition of “Owner” for the purposes of this award program is a government entity or large Corporation that utilizes “constructors” to build or renovate their physical facilities regardless of membership in CURT.

The awards will be conferred upon the organizations who can demonstrate exemplary programs of contractor safety management that go beyond merely adopting a safety program. Programs must demonstrate a serious and persistent commitment and active collaborative involvement to make the program work. The objectives of the awards are to:

- Focus attention on improving construction safety.
- Recognize stellar performers.
- Increase understanding and implementation of CURT publications
- Publicize model owner safety programs.
- Convey to the construction industry CURT's full support of owner involvement in safety management.

To further these objectives, the CISE Awards Subcommittee shares feedback from the awards program during CURT's annual Awards of Excellence Gala. In support of this effort, award recipients may be asked to present information on their award-winning programs at CURT events.

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## Description of the Owners' Safety Award

Annual safety awards will be presented for Owner programs from the following categories:

1. A specific U.S. construction project, 12 or more months in duration
2. A specific outside the U.S. construction project 12 or more months in duration
3. A specific U.S. construction project, less than 12 months in duration
4. A specific outside the U.S. construction project, less than 12 months in duration.
5. An owner company operating entity, i.e., major functional group or plant/operating facility
6. A company-wide project portfolio or program

Projects must have completed main construction work by 31 Dec 2025. One or more awards will be bestowed annually depending on the merits of the applications received for each of the above categories.

Eligibility for the awards also extends to Owner companies who are *not* members of the **Construction Users Roundtable**. Each nonmember Owner Company may submit for consideration *one* application from any of the above owner categories; CURT Owner Company Members may submit an application in each category.

## Criteria for Application Evaluation

Applications will be judged by a panel of CURT Safety Committee members. Every application must contain all the information requested, including the following:

- Contact information
- Statistical report
- Safety program description, including:
  - Elements of the program (address the specific questions in the application)
  - Results (supporting statistical data)
- Key practice areas
- OSHA Severe Violator or if you are under any regulatory watch list, your submittal may not be accepted.

The panel will look for evidence that the owner has undertaken a supportive role as recommended by:

- The Construction Users Roundtable Report R-807, Construction Safety Blueprint
- CURT Construction Safety User Practices
  - UP 801, Contractor and Craft Worker Prequalification
  - UP 802, The Owner's Role
  - UP 803, Pre-Bid and Bid Clarification Meetings
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The panel will also look for evidence that the owner understands the content of the companion publication:

- The Business Roundtable publication 1620, The Workers' Compensation Crisis - Safety Will Make A Difference

The panel will also explore whether the owner pioneered any new, innovative approaches that go above and beyond CURT recommendations.

The panel will determine whether the Owner's safety program is infused with a "fire-fighting" mentality, addressing safety problems only when danger is imminent, or after damage has resulted, or whether the owner takes a vigorous, hands-on, proactive collaborative HSE Management System (HSEMS) approach to safety. The panel will look for an aggressive management style that pushes its safety program to anticipate and confront challenges and prevent safety problems before they become safety statistics. Consideration will also be given for any innovative practices implemented in the program.

The application should contain a ready-to-publish account of how the Owner company effectively contributes to the constructor's management of safety programs. **Demonstrated results are mandatory.** The applications for projects can only include projects that have been completed by 31 December 2025. Program applications should show demonstrated results over a one- to three-year period.

Specific instructions follow:

- Each application must include 3 parts:
  - Part 1: Owner CISE Award Application Form - General Owner Program Information (one page in length)
  - Part 2: Owner Statistical Report - Safety Performance Metrics (one page in length)
  - Part 3: Owner Project Information - Narrative description of key elements of safety success (a maximum of eight pages in length)
- The entry shall not exceed ten (10) printed pages, with a type font no smaller than 10 point
- Charts, graphs, or other illustrations may be embedded only in Part 3 and must be included in the page count
- The Owner should provide only the information requested
- Additional information *should not be attached* and will not be judged. **Any applications that do not adhere to the guidelines will be considered ineligible for review and discarded.**
- **The originator is responsible for any internal review or approval required by the originator's company.**
- Project award applications shall be limited to one per category (6) per Owner per year.

Applications can be found on the CISE Awards page on [www.CURT.org](http://www.CURT.org)

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## Important Guidelines for Applicants

CISE Awards recipients are determined by the Judging Committee and at the sole discretion of CURT. Reasons for disqualification of applications may include, but not limited to, the following reasons:

### Administrative Criteria

- Failure to properly complete an application. Examples include mathematical/computational errors, inappropriate answers, and/or incomplete answers.
- Failure to submit all required documents per CURT CISE instructions.
- Failure to submit an application within the required limitations per CURT CISE instructions (NOTE: This includes length, content, font size, and/or other submission requirements.)

### Safety Performance Criteria

- A workplace fatality any time during the submittal years. The only exception would be a fatality that was outside the control of the owners or their contract partners. The explanation would have to be part of the submittal, and the explanation will be reviewed by the judges. Examples – Chemical Release by a neighboring facility, 911 type terrorist act, etc.
- Failure of a company to act as a good Corporate Citizen in regards to safety. Examples include:
  - Receipt of a regulatory agency (OSHA, M.O.L., etc.) citation for an egregious safety violation(s).
  - Inclusion in OSHA's Severe Violator Enforcement Program (SVEP), or equivalent regulatory scrutiny in another country.
  - Acting in any way that, as judged by CURT, could cast dispersion on the CURT organization or the CISE Awards.
  - Note: CURT will review these criteria at a company level.

## Application Process

### Originate

It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that the originator of the application read and understand CURT Report R807, Construction Safety Blueprint, prior to completing the application.

### Submit

Electronic submissions only. Submit here: [gpalmer@curt.org](mailto:gpalmer@curt.org)

## Application Deadline

**Completed applications must be received in the CURT office by 02 July 2026.**

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## Awards Program Schedule

The schedule for this year's awards process is as follows:

- **17 March 2026** - Applications available on the CURT website.
- **02 July 2026** - Applications must be submitted to the CURT office.
- **07 August 2026** - Winner will be notified by phone.
- **06 October 2026** - Awards presentation ceremony at the Construction Users Roundtable Awards of Excellence.

**NOTE: To assist in underwriting the cost of the awards program and juror process, the committee has implemented an application fee in the amount of \$250.00, which is payable when the application is submitted. Payments by check should be payable to "Construction Users Roundtable – CISE". To pay by credit card, call Greg Palmer at the CURT office at 513.981.2770.**

## Selection Process and Awards Presentation

The CURT Safety Awards Panel will review applications that are complete, signed and meet eligibility requirements. The evaluation will be based on a consensus decision by the panel. They will take into consideration the factors enumerated above. In addition, the panel will look for the best-defined program, the program with the greatest probability of success and the program that is most likely to have a positive impact on the industry.

The recipients of the Owner Safety Awards will be recognized at an awards ceremony to take place at the Construction Users Roundtable Awards of Excellence, October 06, 2026. A representative of the winning organization must be registered and in attendance to receive the award.

Those applicants who were not successful winning an award can request feedback regarding their application by contacting CURT after December 1, 2026 by emailing [safety@curt.org](mailto:safety@curt.org).

## Eligibility

Owners can apply for a CISE Award in all categories for which they qualify. Award winning Divisions may not apply for the exact category the year after an award is received, but are encouraged to apply for other award categories. For example, if a Division wins an award for a >12-month US Project they can apply for a <12-month US Project the year after or any other category other than >12-month US Project.

Questions regarding eligibility can be submitted via e-mail to [safety@curt.org](mailto:safety@curt.org)