

# 2024 Blue Flame Product of the Year Award



## Introduction and Purpose

New and improved appliances stimulate the life and growth of the food service industry. These benefits result from research, development and engineers' unique contribution. This award recognizes the results of those efforts and the foresight of the companies whose aggressive policies bring new foodservice **natural gas appliances and products** to the marketplace.

The purpose of the Blue Flame Award is to recognize the full spectrum of benefits that come from the development of new and improved appliances. These include added employment, economic development, strengthening of the nation's competitive position and contribution to the public's standard of living. Past recipients of this prestigious award are leaders in the foodservice industry and are unique in their commitment to excellence.

## Eligibility

Any new or improved natural gas foodservice appliance may be entered. The product must be available for North American sale before the **2024 NRA** show occurs.

## Entry Form

The nomination form is on the next page. There is no entry fee for this award.

## Judging

Nominations will be judged by the Blue Flame Alliance's (BFA) technical committee.

## Presentation

The award will be presented Saturday, **May 18, 2024** at the NRA show in Chicago, IL by Blue Flame Alliance Members.

## Publicity

News releases by the Energy Solutions Center and its utility members, as well as coverage in foodservice newsletters and magazines will be used to promote the winning appliance and company. This year's winner is featured on the Blue Flame Alliance website- [www.blueflamealliance.com](http://www.blueflamealliance.com).

## Rules

1. Foodservice equipment manufacturers must submit entries to BFA no later than **January 31, 2024**.  
Past winners are listed on: <https://blueflamealliance.com/press-release/>
2. Equipment manufacturers may enter a separate form for each appliance nominated provided the appliance meets the current criteria.

3. New applicants that do not win the 2024 award will automatically be eligible for the 2025 award.
4. The entry should include a detailed product description including: model number, features & benefits, photos, and a specification sheet. The appliance will be judged on the following criteria, please be as specific as possible.

## Sales and economic impact (20 %):

**Marketing**– Describe the success of any marketing efforts to date. Include any marketing plans for promoting the appliance. List any customers utilizing the appliance.

**Economic impact**– Describe the appliance's impact on the economy. Discuss the use of raw materials, productivity and efficiency gains, market share, etc.

## Innovative principles (40%):

**Creativity** – Describe how this appliance is unique from other appliances providing the same or similar functions.

**Technology** – Describe how new technology or existing technology is applied in a new way and/or how novel engineering principles have been incorporated into the appliance design.

**Quality** – Describe how this appliance is superior in its construction, reliability, maintainability, and how it impacts on equipment warranties.

**Environmental**– Describe environmental type impacts such as: reduced emissions, electric demand, water conservation, etc.

## Technology improvements (30%):

**Savings** – Describe financial savings in total costs over the life of the appliance, savings to end users, savings to the environment in its production or use, or savings over previous appliances performing the same function. Talk about installation savings, impact on operating labor costs, cleaning costs, etc.

**Productivity** – Describe design efficiencies and controls that improve food production. Detail increased efficiency or ease of use resulting from additional functions over that of a previous appliance.

**Energy** – Provide savings in use of energy during pre-heat, idle, production, or cool down (measured in Btu's). Include ASTM standard performance documentation, if available. Share how energy efficiency gains have been documented.

**Safety** – Describe improved safety measures and controls to end user of the appliance. (continued)

***Submittal (10%)***

Respond to every section above in a clear concise manner without unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response.

5. Supporting documentation should be submitted with each entry. This documentation becomes the property of BFA and will not be returned.

# 2024 Blue Flame Product of the Year Award Form

Please e-mail this form with supporting documentation on your natural gas fueled product: photo(s), specification sheets, brochures, etc. to BFA.

Entries must be submitted no later than **January 31, 2024** to Barbara Stinson, [bstinson@escenter.org](mailto:bstinson@escenter.org)

<i>Appliance Name</i>	
<i>Model #</i>	
<i>Date Marketed</i>	
<i>Sug. Retail Price</i>	

<i>Manufacturer</i>		
<i>Address</i>		
<i>City, State</i>		
<i>Zip, Country</i>		

<i>Brief Product Description</i>		
<i>Features and Benefits</i>		
<b>Will this product be on display at the NRA</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	

**Sales and economic impact:**

<i>Marketing</i>	
<i>Economic impact</i>	

**Innovative principles:**

<i>Creativity</i>	
<i>Technology</i>	
<i>Quality</i>	
<i>Environmental</i>	

**Technology improvements:**

<i>Savings</i>	
<i>Productivity</i>	
<i>Energy</i>	
<i>Safety</i>	

**Application submitted by:**

<i>Name</i>		<i>Organization</i>	
<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	
<i>Phone #</i>		<i>E-Mail Address</i>	
<i>Address</i>			

*\* Please attach/include photos and/ or specification sheet with submittal in electronic format.*

*Note: It is expected that winners of the award will be notified about 30 days prior to the award presentation*

The granting of an award by BFA is not intended in any manner to constitute an endorsement of any product or service.