



THOMAS ALVA EDISON PATENT AWARD 2010 NOMINATION GUIDELINES

Established nearly fifty years ago, The Research & Development Council of New Jersey has sustained its core mission of advancing research and development in the State of New Jersey through various initiatives that support the R&D community. One Council initiative that has proven to be particularly invaluable to the Council's mission has been the **Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award** program. This annual awards program recognizes the outstanding work done by New Jersey scientists and inventors by honoring the most exceptional efforts.

Inventor, scientist, and businessman, Thomas A. Edison is revered for his numerous inventions, including: the phonograph, motion picture camera and electric light bulb. Interestingly, more U.S. patents were issued to Edison than have been issued to any other single person in history - an amazing 1,093 in total. Without a doubt, Edison is one of the most significant people in New Jersey's history, making it only fitting that The Research & Development Council of New Jersey honor this tremendous scientist and inventor by naming its prestigious patent award after him.

The Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award annual honors patents in several categories. Last year, 12 Thomas Alva Edison Patent Awards (55 New Jersey scientists in total) were honored in the following categories: Consumer, Emerging Technology/Small Company, Homeland Security, Industrial Process, Medical/Technology Transfer, Nutraceuticals, Pharmaceuticals and Telecommunications. To view prior years' winners, you may go to the Council website at www.rdnj.org and click on Patent Awards located on the sidebar. Note that depending upon submissions, more than one patent award may be awarded per category.

In order to be considered for a Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award, the patent must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Patent must be unexpired;**
- 2) Allowed patents are permitted, providing that there is a commitment that the patent will issue by the time of the Council's awards dinner (November 2010);**
- 3) Patent must have at least part of the technical/scientific work that comprises the patent (i.e. work pertaining to at least one Claim) done in New Jersey and submitter must be able to substantiate this;**
- 4) Patent must not have been selected by the Council for this award in prior years. Prior year nominations that were not previously selected for an award may be resubmitted; and**
- 5) Nomination applications must be submitted to the Council by June 15, 2010.**

Award winners will be announced this August and will be honored at the Council's awards dinner in November. If you should have any questions, please contact Council Executive Director, Kim Wozniak, via email at kwozniak@rdnj.org or at the telephone number listed above.



**THOMAS ALVA EDISON PATENT AWARD
2010 NOMINATION APPLICATION**

Please use this form as the **cover sheet** for each patent nomination for a 2010 Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award. Prior to filling out this application, be sure to review the 2010 Nomination Guidelines and make sure that your patent nomination fulfills the criteria set forth. If you should have any questions, contact the Council office at the number above.

Completed nomination applications must be submitted **by June 15, 2010**.

SUBMITTER/ORGANIZATION INFORMATION¹

Submitted by: _____

Title of Submitter: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Direct Telephone No.: _____

Direct Email: _____

Organization Website: _____

PATENT INFORMATION

Title of Patent: _____

Patent Number: _____

Date of Issue: _____

¹ If you need additional space in order to provide complete information as requested in this application, please include additional pages as necessary.

Inventor(s) Information:

- (a) Please provide the name(s) of the inventors who resided in New Jersey where the patent work was conducted:

- (b) Was any part of the work that comprised this patent done outside of New Jersey? _____
If yes, please substantiate that at least part of the technical/scientific work that comprises the patent (i.e. work pertaining to at least one Claim) was done in New Jersey.

Provide the following information, in the order listed, using no more than four single-spaced, 12 pt font, typewritten pages (please mark off each as you complete each requirement).

- _____ 1. Brief description of the invention;
- _____ 2. Describe background (e.g. statement of problem or motivation for invention);
- _____ 3. Describe originality and contribution to advancement of science and technology;
- _____ 4. Describe utility and/or socio-economic value;
- _____ 5. Describe commercial impact and significance to your organization;
- _____ 6. Other values (e.g. national security, telecommunications, healthcare):
 - a. Is this a small organization, single inventor patent?
 - b. Environmental aspects
 - c. Does this invention enhance reputation of your organization? Of New Jersey?
 - d. National economic/health impact
 - e. Any other pertinent factors
- _____ 7. Is this patent currently involved in litigation? If so, please explain; and
- _____ 8. Attach a copy of the patent.

NOTE: AVOID EN BLOC PATENTS; THE COMMITTEE HAS NOT REGARDED THESE FAVORABLY IN THE PAST. SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC INVENTOR(S) AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION(S), AS OPPOSED TO A SERIES OF PATENTS CONCERNING A PARTICULAR PRODUCT.

Submit 2010 Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award nomination applications and materials to:

**Kim Wozniak, Esq.
Executive Director
The Research & Development Council of New Jersey
45 Academy Street, Suite 503
Newark, New Jersey 07102**