interzum

# General Terms and Conditions interzum award 2027

**Preamble**
The overall project “interzum award” comprises a competition, a special exhibition, an online exhibition and the corresponding PR communications.

The “interzum award” is sponsored and organised by Koelnmesse GmbH (hereinafter referred to as the “Organiser”).

Taking part in “interzum award” gives the exhibitors at “interzum” the opportunity to prove their design quality and demonstrate their expertise. An expert jury assesses all of the competition entries in terms of their design and functional quality and their innovation potential. Alongside products from industrial series production, participants can also enter IT programs and innovative concepts in the competition. Entries may be submitted in the categories ‘Materials & Nature’, ‘Textiles & Machinery’, ‘Function & Components’ and ‘Strategic Resilience’.

The distinctions awarded as part of the competition are “Best of the Best” and “High Product Quality”.

**1 Scope**
The following General Terms and Conditions apply to all legal relationships between the Organiser and the competition participants (herein- after referred to as the ‘Participant’).

Only those exhibitors approved for “interzum” and that register for the competition are considered Participants.

The General Terms and Conditions of the Organiser apply exclusively. Conditions that deviate from the General Terms and Conditions are valid only if expressly confirmed by the Organiser in writing.

The location of the competition is the Organiser´s registered offices in Cologne. Part-presentations may also take place at other locations in Germany or abroad.

**2 Application / Admission**
Only entries that are submitted on time and meet the formal requirements will be admitted to the competition. Registration is carried out via an online registration form on the website www.interzum.com/en/award and must be received by the Organiser in full by the deadline (9 March 2027).

All exhibitors at “interzum 2027” are entitled to submit their entries (hereinafter referred to as ‘Entry’ or ‘Entries’) to the competition. To be eligible for entry, the product or concept must have been launched on the market no more than two years ago, but no later than the day before the trade fair takes place (cut-off date: 10 May 2027).

Each Participant can register as many Entries as they wish.

All details provided to identify the Entry, those involved in the project (e.g. manufacturer, designer) and the addresses of those involved as requested during the online registration process and provided by the Participants will be used as binding information for the certificates in the event that the Participant receives a distinction. These details will also be used as the master data for the exhibition at “interzum 2027”, the online exhibition and the PR communications. The Participant must ensure that the details provided are complete and correct. The Organiser will not be held liable in this regard.

In order to ensure the best possible presentation for judging, the Participant undertakes to submit, for each Entry, a description of the Entry in German and in English that highlights the special novel aspect of the Entry in a text comprising a minimum of 500 and a maximum of 1,200 characters (including spaces) as well as images (300 dpi for DIN A4 size). Renderings are not permissible; only images of the original products will be accepted.

For Entries that require explanation, we recommend submitting short videos that can be used during the judging and — if the Entry wins a distinction — for the digital presentation. The Organiser is under no obligation to use these videos. The Organiser may, at its own discretion, use only extracts from these videos.

Participants will receive confirmation of registration by e-mail. The closing date for entries is 9 March 2027 – the date on which the organiser receives them.

**3 Premature termination; exclusion from the competition**
The Organiser reserves the right to cancel or terminate the competition at any time without prior notice and without providing any reasons. In particular, the Organiser can avail of this option if proper implementation of the competition cannot be ensured for technical, legal or organisational reasons. These also include force majeure.

The Organiser reserves the right to use its discretion to exclude individual Participants from taking part. In particular, this may be the case if Participants breach these General Terms and Conditions or use improper means or third-party services to take part.

**4 Registration fee**
A fee is charged for taking part in the competition. The registration fee is EUR 990.00 plus VAT.

Each Participant can submit several Entries. A separate online registration form must be completed for each Entry. The registration fee is due only once and not for each separate Entry.

Payment is due upon receipt of the invoice. The invoice must be paid no later than 14 days after receipt. Otherwise, the Participant will be in default.

**5 Industrial property rights**
The Participant will assume responsibility for guaranteeing that the Entries submitted as well as any related documents submitted (for example photos, concepts, drawings, models etc.) are free from third-party rights. Entries that infringe on industrial property rights (trademarks, utility models, patents, copyrights or the like) will be excluded from the competition.

With the application, each Participant must inform the Organiser about any possible pending court proceedings (these include disputes under competition law, patent law, trademark law and copyright law related to the Entry submitted to the competition) with regard to the Entry to be assessed. This also applies to corresponding out-of- court proceedings.

In the event that the Organiser is held liable by third parties claiming that the Participant has infringed upon their rights, the Participant will indemnify the Organiser from any and all such claims. The Participant will be liable for any damages, especially third-party claims resulting from an infringement of these conditions and will indemnify the Organiser from any and all such claims to the same extent.

**6 Transport, liability & insurance**
The Participant will bear the risks and costs of the delivery and return of the Entries in the competition. The Participant will organise delivery and return and will also bear the costs of any storage needed. The place and timeframe for delivery and return will be specified by the Organiser; the Participants will be notified.

Entries delivered in separate parts can be assembled on site by the Participant or by persons appointed by the Participant. Dates must be agreed upon in advance. In exceptional cases, it is advisable to send a video showing the set-up instructions in advance, so that the effort involved and the time slot required can be taken into account.

The Organiser will not assume any liability for the assembly of Entries delivered in disassembled form. The same applies to any disassembly necessary for return. Any liability for the loss or damage of the Entries is excluded unless the Organiser, their legal representatives or performing agents are found guilty of intent or gross negligence. The packaging of the Entries will not be kept.

App-related or web-related Entries must be submitted with a smart-phone or similar device with the app preinstalled.

All entries set up on site by the participants themselves must be collected on 6 April 2027, the day after the jury. Otherwise, they will be disposed of at the expense of the participant or participants.

All other Entries can be collected from the forwarding agency DSV Fairs & Events GmbH from 7 April 2027 after prior consultation. The last day of collection is the last day of the trade fair (15 May 2027). After the deadline specified (15 May 2027), these Entries will also be disposed of at the cost of the Participant. The Participant will indemnify the Organiser from any liability.

The Organiser does not offer any insurance for Entries. The Participant is responsible for taking out any insurance needed for the Entries.

**7 Health and safety**
In the case of Entries being used or operated at the exhibition or in the case of a public demonstration of the Entries, they must conform to the requirements of law and trade associations, in particular to health and safety regulations, and must be equipped with the prescribed safety devices. The Participant will be held liable for any damage resulting from the items on display.

The Participant must indemnify the Organiser from any possible claims for damages by third parties unless the Organiser, its legal representatives or performing agents have caused the damage through intent or gross negligence.

**8 Judging**
The Organiser undertakes to present all duly registered Entries to the jury. The jury reserves the right to reallocate the Entries to a different category or to group several Entries if the category chosen by the Participant is not appropriate. On the basis of the Entries presented, the jury will decide whether to award a distinction. The assessment criteria for the decision are digitalisation, design, functionality, degree of innovation, material quality, sustainability, circularity and strategic resilience.
Judging will take place on the Organiser´s premises. The judging process will not be open to the public.
Jury decisions will be taken by simple majority of the votes cast.

The Organiser will notify all Participants whose Entries make it to the judging stage of the result of the jury meeting by email. The jury's decision is final. The jury is not obliged to provide grounds for its decision. There is no legal recourse.

**9 Distinctions**
Companies and designers whose products or concepts have been awarded a 'Best of the Best' will be honoured on 10 May 2027, the evening before interzum 2027.

The official handover of certificates to all winners will also take place on 10 May 2027.

The Organiser will determine the time and place and notify the participants.

If it is not possible for the winners to receive the certificates in person on 10 May 2027, they can pick them up at the Service Center Nord from 11 May to 14 May 2027, by 5:00 p.m. at the latest, unless there are valid reasons as per point 3. All certificates not collected by this time will be destroyed; it is not possible to send them to the exhibitors.

The award winners receive two certificates (one for the producing company and one for the designer responsible).

If the Entry receives a distinction, the Participant or the producing company and the developer (designer or engineer) responsible will be entitled to use this distinction in connection with the award-winning Entry. The Participant and any other parties involved will be allowed to use the distinction in the form of the label from 27 April 2027 onwards and only in connection with the award-winning Entry. The distinction will become invalid if the Entry is altered in the course of ongoing product updates and development.

The Participant is allowed only to use the label valid at the time. If applicable, the Participant must also impose this obligation on third parties (for example manufacturers and distributors) that may use the label when advertising on the Participant's behalf. It is the sole responsibility of the Participant or the producing company to check whether the distinction complies with rights of third parties, in particular with third-party trademark rights. The Organiser will not be liable in this regard. The Participant or the producing company will indemnify the Organiser from any liability resulting from the infringement of third-party rights, in particular third-party trademark rights.

The organiser shall determine the design of the label at its own discretion and reserves the right to adapt and/or amend it, in whole or in part, after the award has been made.

**10 Exhibition**
Entries awarded the "Best of the Best" distinction will be exhibited physically at "interzum 2027" (11 May to 14 May 2027).

Entries awarded the "High Product Quality" distinction will be exhibited as part of a special digital exhibition at "interzum 2027".

Entries awarded the "Best of the Best" distinction and Entries awarded the "High Product Quality" distinction will both be shown online on the Organiser´s website (www.interzum.com) and labelled in accordance with the details provided on the online registration form. The Entries will be presented for an indefinite period in the online exhibition. Additional promotional presentation of the Entry is excluded.

The Organiser will be liable for the damage, destruction or loss of the Entry exhibited only if the Organiser is guilty of intent or gross negligence.

Entries awarded the “Best of the Best” distinction must be delivered in good time (by 10 May 2027) before the exhibition date and must be collected after the end of “interzum 2027”, no later than 8 p.m. on 14 May 2027.

Entries not collected by the Participant will be destroyed at the cost of the Participant.

The design of both exhibitions (physical and digital) will comply with the Organiser´s concept.

**11 PR communications**
At press conferences accompanying “interzum 2027”, the Organiser will place special emphasis on the “interzum award 2027” competition. The Participant grants the Organiser the non-exclusive licence to the graphic materials made available, unrestricted by time or place and free of charge. This applies with regard to the following types of use in particular: the right to use it in other media, for example in commercials, videos or books and brochures as well as online; the right of reproduction and distribution, i.e. the right to reproduce and distribute the graphic materials at the Organiser´s own discretion; the right of archiving, i.e. the right to collect the graphic materials and, as the case may be, to edit them in the form of a collection; the right to transfer to third parties in part or in full the rights granted to the Organiser; the right to edit or otherwise change the graphic materials.

The Participant guarantees that all images provided to the Organiser are free of third-party industrial property rights and that they can be passed on to the Organiser and used by the Organiser without infringing upon any such rights. The Participant will indemnify the Organiser from any claims of third parties relating to the infringement of the aforementioned rights.

The Organiser is entitled to use the graphic materials free of charge for any other PR measures such as releases, publications in magazines etc.

**12 Embargo**
The award winner may not communicate news of the distinction to third parties until the Organiser has made a public announcement on 27 April 2027. The Participant/award winner is not permitted to publish the result notification.

**13 Liability**
Damages claims against the Organiser because of breaches of duty for which it is responsible that do not affect any essential contractual obligations will be excluded unless they are due to gross negligence or intent by the Organiser and/or its performing and vicarious agents. This limitation of liability is not applicable to the extent that the Organiser has mandatory liability by law for damage to life, body or health due to negligence or intent. The Organiser will not be liable for the loss or damage of items contributed by the Participants, attendees or other third parties involved by the Participants except in cases of intent or gross negligence. The Organiser will not be liable for damage sustained due to force majeure. The Organiser will not be liable for the activities and decisions of the jury members.

The Participant is advised to take out transport and exhibition insurance in order to protect against any damage, loss or theft during transportation, storage and judging.

**14 Privacy Policy**
Koelnmesse's privacy policy applies. The current privacy policy is available here:
https://www.koelnmesse.com/data-protection

**15 Final provisions**
The place of performance and court of competent jurisdiction is Cologne, Germany. The law of the Federal Republic of Germany is applicable.