



## **BDA Awards 2026 – Categories and Criteria**

The **BDA Land Drilling Industry Awards** are open to entries from either individuals or land drilling industry contracting or support businesses who are members of the BDA.

There are 8 categories; entrants may submit an entry for as many of the award categories as they wish and may submit multiple entries for each category should they wish to. Each entry must be submitted individually.

### **Categories**

- **Health & Safety**

Candidates for this award shall demonstrate development and implementation of an operational process, behaviours, piece of equipment or safety feature/innovation that has clearly contributed to improving health and safety within the land drilling industry in the last 12 months. Candidates must demonstrate clear improvements to safety and risk reduction.

- **Best Audited Driller**

The "Best Audited Driller" award is designed to recognise a BDA audited driller, who consistently demonstrates exceptional performance in their day-to-day operations, as well as during the course of their BDA audit site visit. The award criteria are based on a comprehensive assessment of the driller's adherence to operational standards, safety protocols, and efficiency during audits.

- **Best Audited Support Operative**

The "Best Audited Support Operative" award is designed to recognise a BDA audited Support Operative, who consistently demonstrates exceptional performance in their day-to-day operations, as well as during the course of their BDA audit site visit. The award criteria are based on a comprehensive assessment of the driller's adherence to operational standards, safety protocols, and efficiency during audits.

- **Rising Star**

This category is open to up-and-coming individuals within the Land Drilling Industry that show exceptional potential having recently entered the drilling industry.

***NB. There is no age limit***

Candidates must show all round ability in the land drilling sector, demonstrating outstanding and exemplary behaviours, exceptional potential, and a forward-thinking approach to industry development with unwavering enthusiasm for working in the land drilling sector. Candidates must have entered the industry in the last 36 months.

- **Land Drilling Industry Contractor of the Year**

This category is open to all drilling industry contractors regardless of size; demonstrating outstanding performance and achievements achieved over the past 12 months; highlighting consistently high standards, commitment to safety and wellbeing, sustainability, quality, and the environment whilst demonstrating excellence in all aspects of their service provision and having shown value, innovation and business excellence.

- **Specialist Supplier to the Industry**

This category is open to businesses or independent individuals that provide support services or supply equipment, goods or materials to the land drilling industry. The award will celebrate land drilling industry suppliers that can demonstrate purposeful contribution to the success of a particular project or the land drilling industry as a whole. Purposeful contribution must have been made in the last 12 months.

- **Environment & Sustainability**

This Award recognises organisations, projects, or initiatives that demonstrate a clear commitment to reducing environmental impact and promoting sustainable practices within the drilling industry. Entries are typically assessed on their ability to deliver measurable environmental benefits, such as carbon reduction, waste minimisation, resource efficiency, biodiversity enhancement, or the implementation of innovative sustainable solutions. Judges look for evidence of effective planning, stakeholder engagement, measurable outcomes, and a positive contribution to improving environmental performance and sustainability across the sector.

- **Lifetime Contribution to the Industry**

This category is to recognise a land drilling industry peer, colleague that has shown outstanding contribution to the industry over a lifetime of service within the sector.

### **Important Information**

- Award entries **MUST** be on the entry template and submitted via email, to: [office@britishdrillingassociation.co.uk](mailto:office@britishdrillingassociation.co.uk). Each category is limited to a 500-word submission in direct response to the category criteria set out above.
- As part of the award entry criteria, applicants shall submit a 50-word summary of their entry.
- Each award submission must be accompanied a relevant jpeg photograph showcasing the award submission. In the case of 'Best Audited Driller', Best Audited Support Operative, 'Rising Star' and 'Lifetime Contribution to the Industry' entries, a jpg of the person(s) being nominated must be submitted.
- For "Best Audited Driller" and "Best Audited Support Operative" a summary of the most recent Audit report will be given to the judges.
- The winning entries will be showcased at the BDA Gala & Awards event, being held in November 2026. Details of the winners shall also be included on the BDA website, newsletter and shared across the BDA's social media channels.