

Supplier Decorating

Supplier Decorating categories celebrate the outstanding craftsmanship, successful delivery and creative service of promotional products suppliers. This area of the competition is open to PPAI Member Suppliers for submissions.

- [Sample Submission Form](#)
- [Sample Photo Do's and Don'ts](#)

Supplier Decorating Submission Requirements

- All entries must be regular catalog items provided for sale between April 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025.
- Proof of sale, PO, and catalog page MUST be submitted uploaded with each entry.
- Speculative samples or random sample stock are ineligible.
- Write-up MUST include an explanation of the development and/or production of the entry including details on:
 - manufacturing, printing, or specific special processes used achieve a specific look/feel
 - equipment and material(s) used
 - degree of difficulty involved in the design
 - functional aspect and creativity
- Copies of letters, electronic communications, screenshots, and other supporting collateral should be uploaded at time of submission.
- Photos and site images must meet provided guidelines and be upload at time of submission.

Supplier Decorating Categories

Casting/Molding

Multi-dimensional decoration utilizing a carved or poured mold and die to achieve fine detail and copy.

Combination Of Processes

A combination of decorating methods combined that deliver a different decoration method not achieved with a single process that creates a distinctive, dimensional appearance. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Customized Non-Catalog Product

Development of a completely custom product generated as a result of end-client need. Submissions MUST include specific application/decoration process and client sale price (not including set up charges).

Sub-categories of competition include:

Product \$1 to \$25

Product \$26 to \$100

Product \$101 and Up

Embroidery

Single or multi-color decoration in a single design as determined by total stitch count. MUST specify equipment used and total stitch count on entry.

Etching/Engraving/Laser

Decoration via one of these three technologies applied to metal, crystal, glass, wood, or other surfaces. The method MUST be specified on entry.

Large Format Printing

Decoration on large substrates such as banners, table runners, booth graphics and signage. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Mascot/Character Product

Custom development of three-dimensional (3D) product. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Metal Striking

Traditional decorating method using dies and pressure to achieve fine detail and copy in metal. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Print On Hard Surfaces

Single or Multi-color print on hard surfaces such as plastic, metal, PVC, or other hard substrates utilizing screen print, digital print, pad printing or sublimation methods. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Supplier Decorating Categories

Print On Textiles

Single or Multi-color print on soft woven, knit, or non-woven textiles utilizing screen print, digital print or sublimation methods. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Special Applications/Processes

Use of a decoration method not otherwise categorized. Submissions in this category can include but are not limited to: laser applications, doming, bar codes, QR codes, watermarks or variable data, embossing, de-bossing, foil stamping, offset print, weaving, flexography, letterpress, or holograms. MUST specify equipment utilized and processes used in submission.

Supplier/Distribution Collaboration

The product must be designed from an idea, or concept developed as a result of distributor opportunity.

All entries require a letter from a distributor to confirm the creative information provided, the client need and results. Detailed explanation MUST BE provided.

*Both supplier and distributor must be PPAI members in good standing.