



2022 Plant Manager of the Year

★ ★ ★ Award ★ ★ ★

Nomination Guidelines

Deadline: Nominations Accepted Until June 17, 2022

The plant manager makes a tremendous impact in achieving business goals and objectives for each bottler member of the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA). It is the plant manager who makes sure, on a daily basis, that bottled water is a high quality and safe product for consumers and customers.

The IBWA Plant Manager of the Year Award recognizes the hard work and dedication that these individuals exemplify to their companies and the bottled water industry. Nominating one of your plant managers for IBWA's Plant Manager of the Year Award is a unique opportunity to acknowledge a valuable team member and enthusiastic employee whose role is essential to the success and growth of your company.

He or she should be a team leader who promotes plant safety and enhances employee morale. This person is an innovator and is able to implement new ideas, while meeting the demands of sales centers in terms of on-time delivery of finished products, as well as provide excellent internal and external customer support. The plant manager nominee must do the following:

- be employed by a current IBWA bottler member company
- be an IBWA certified plant operator (CPO) in good standing
- meet all regulatory FSMA GMPs and food safety program requirements and regulations for his or her company
- demonstrate his or her knowledge and capability in providing unsurpassed product quality assurance and food safety.

In addition, the bottler member's production facility, under the direction of the nominated plant manager, must have achieved IBWA's "Excellence in Manufacturing" recognition to be eligible for this award.

Submit your company's nomination for the IBWA Plant Manager of the Year Award by completing the following application. The nominee will compete with peers in the industry, in the following categories:

- **Level I Company:** Sales less than \$500,000
- **Level II Company:** Sales between \$500,001 and \$2 million
- **Level III Company:** Sales between \$2.1 million and \$8 million
- **Level IV Company:** Sales above \$8.1 million

The winners in the four company segments will be recognized during the IBWA General Session at the **2022 IBWA Annual Business Conference and Trade Show at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, October 24-27, 2022**. The winners will receive a \$500 award along with a certificate. In addition, the companies of award recipients will receive a press release for distribution to their local media. A national press release will be distributed by IBWA.

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Rules

General Rules

- Entry fee: There are no entry fees for IBWA's award program.
- Only plant managers are eligible.
- Each bottler member company and/or subsidiary company may enter only one nominee into the competition.
- Each entry must include the official entry form and a full-page narrative (up to 500 words) or a 3-minute (or less) video detailing why the nominee should be named IBWA Plant Manager of the Year based on the criteria given.
- Video Option
In place of the brief narrative describing the achievements of the nominee (see page 4 of this document), nominators may provide a 3-minute (or less) video describing why the nominee is deserving of the Plant Manager of the Year award. Provide the video to IBWA in either .mov or .mp4 formats. Videos can be emailed to ctorres@bottledwater.org. *(Note: Email attachments larger than 10 MB are not accepted by IBWA's office Outlook email system. You may have to use a service such as Hightail.com to email the file.)*
- One Plant Manager of the Year will be chosen from each of the following company categories:
 - **Level I Company:** Sales less than \$500,000
 - **Level II Company:** Sales between \$500,001 and \$2 million
 - **Level III Company:** Sales between \$2.1 million and \$8 million
 - **Level IV Company:** Sales above \$8.1 million
- Nominees will be judged within their company-size category, based on gross sales for the year ending December 2021.
- Selection of the IBWA Plant Manager of the Year will be based solely on the information submitted on the entry form and full-page narrative or 3-minute video.

Notification

Notification of all winners in the Plant Manager of the Year competition will be made to the plant manager's company no later than the week of August 29, 2022. When notified, each company will be asked to provide IBWA with the following:

- Photos of their plant manager.
- Additional narrative detail, if necessary, explaining why the nominee best exemplifies the highest standards of a plant manager.

2022 Plant Manager of the Year *Award Nomination Form*

Deadline for all entries is June 17, 2022. Information should be based on 2021 plant data.
(Please be sure to type or write clearly.)

Name of Nominee: _____

Name of Company: _____

Submitted By/Title: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Country: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Company Size (Check One)

- Level I Company:** Sales less than \$500,000
- Level II Company:** Sales between \$500,001 and \$2 million
- Level III Company:** Sales between \$2.1 million and \$8 million
- Level IV Company:** Sales above \$8.1 million

Questions

If you have questions, contact IBWA Communications Coordinator Chris Torres at 703.647.4608 or ctorres@bottledwater.org.

Deadline for Entries

Entries will be accepted any time up until June 17, 2022.

Submit Entries

Submit entries two ways:

- Via email to Chris Torres: ctorres@bottledwater.org
- Via mail to IBWA headquarters:

2022 IBWA Plant Manager of the Year Award
IBWA
1700 Diagonal Road
Suite 650
Alexandria, VA 22314

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Sample Narrative

Company-Size: Small

Mel Shearer

Shinn Spring Water Company

Mel Shearer has 30 years of experience within the bottled water industry. Mel is also a certified plant operator for over 16 years. Mel is a hands-on asset to our plant operations. Mel recently oversaw and assembled our distilled bottled water line. His knowledge and experience have been exemplary in the success of the distilled water line from the changing of the design of our facility to utilizing each square inch of our warehouse to maximize the overall performance and production of the plant. In addition to his hands on experience with our distilled line, Mel simultaneously handles our spring water line, ensuring a smooth transition with the production of our employees and equipment.

In addition to his plant manager duties, Mel also oversees the operations of our wholesale customers. Mel ensures proper allocation of materials available to fill wholesale orders, coordinating production to exceed our customer's expectations as well as working with our transportation department to ship the product as requested by our customers.

Mel demonstrates a professional demeanor that clearly is placed upon the work he provides our company. Mel's production teams rally behind him and follow the lead of a man with an outstanding work ethic as well as leadership abilities that far outreach any level of expectations.

Mel demonstrates his leadership by example and his hands-on approach to the service he provides our company. His initiative and proactive approach make it a pleasure to see the growth of which our plant experiences. With his hands-on approach, his team is provided with the knowledge he possesses as well as excel within their individual performance. Mel is a man of outstanding character who will always lend a hand as well as share his prior experiences.

Mel is also committed to quality. Mel oversees the quality reports, performs and teaches hourly water quality tests, all while consistently maintaining outstanding product to provide our customers. Ensuring only the best is shipped out our door, Mel places great pride in the Shinn Spring product that ships daily through our warehouse doors. Emphasizing our commitment to our company, product, and our customers by the service and product we provide.

During these economic times, Mel effectively researches raw materials, cost reductions, and efficiencies to ensure the company maintains our position in the market. His overall concern for the company is like no other. Mel is a man of value, integrity, and exemplary morals. Mel is an asset to our team. His approachable nature, leadership, hard work, and outstanding nature provide our team with the knowledge and guidance of the professional that he is, sharing his 30 years of insight for all to learn.