**Call for Entries!
7x24Exchange New England’s 2016 Innovation Award**

Have you worked on an innovative project in 2016? If so, the 7x24Exchange New England Chapter would like to hear about it! We are accepting nominations for our annual award from now until November 1.

This is the third year that the 7x24Exchange New England chapter will be honoring an individual or team who has shown innovation in their work. The winner will be announced at our year-end meeting on November 30, 2016. We want to hear your experiences related to datacenter projects that have had a positive impact on your datacenter and your company! Not an end-user/datacenter manager? Maybe your company has worked with someone on an innovative project using your products or services, and deserves to be recognized. Please feel free to spread the word and nominate someone you think is deserving!

Have you worked on a project in 2016 that has:

* Improved availability of resources and uptime?
* Reduced waste/increased efficiencies?
* Saved your company money?
* Improved processes, including upgrades, maintenance, and decommissioning of equipment?
* Enabled your organization to serve customers better?

Please fill out and submit the form on the following page by November 1, 2016 to be considered for this award.

**Who decides the Winner of the 7x24 New England Chapter Innovation Award?**

A panel of datacenter professionals from the 7x24 New England Chapter Board will review every submission. To ensure a fair and unbiased selection, the nominees' names and company names will not be revealed to panel. The award will be decided based on factors including:

* The positive impact on the datacenter and the organization as a whole
* The nature and complexity of problem solved
* The ability for this solution to be replicated by others in the industry

Nominating yourself or someone else is very easy. Please use the attached form to provide us information. You may be contacted for further questions to describe the nature of your project and the impact on your organization.

**Nomination Form - 2016 Datacenter Innovation Award**

Email completed form to Jennifer Cooke at jcooke@idc.com

Name of nominee:

Nominee's Title:

Email and phone number:

Company name:

Team Members:

1. Please describe the nature of the innovation project:
2. Please describe any problems your organization was having that made you realize that a change or improvement was necessary:
3. How long did the project take to complete?
4. What challenges were faced in the project? (Could be challenges with people, technology, or process)
5. How were these challenges overcome?
6. Was this one portion of a multi-phase project? If so, please describe the longer-term project scope.
7. Was there a vendor or partner that helped you in this project?
8. How has the organization been impacted as a result of your project, in terms of affecting internal groups, or a combination of internal groups and end user customers? Please describe the "reach" of this project.
9. Please describe how your organization has been impacted in any of the following areas: economic savings, reduced waste, streamlined processes, labor savings, etc.
10. Please add any other details to support the nomination of this individual or team: