

SPE Stephen A. Holditch Visionary Leadership Award Nomination Process

The Holditch Award nominations may only be made by current members of the SPE Board of Directors. A current board member must champion the candidate. Nominations cannot be made by members through the WizeHive portal.

Nomination

Candidates for the Holditch Award must be SPE professional members. The nomination for the Holditch Award is a set of letters:

- one letter from the champion board member proposing the candidate including justification and reasoning why the candidate deserves the recognition
- Several supporting letters for the candidate from colleagues familiar with their body of work.
- Support letters may be from SPE members or non-members and should represent a reflection of the SPE membership.
- Letters must include reference to how the candidate meets the award requirements:
 - significant time, effort, thought, and action
 - demonstrated exceptional visionary leadership
 - lasting and momentous impact on the Society of Petroleum Engineers and/or the oil and gas industry

Adjudication Process

- The letters are collected by the Awards Team at awards@spe.org.
- The Awards team will add a cover sheet and the candidate's current SPE member record
- The nomination will be presented to the Board Committee on Member Programs (BCMP) for adjudication at the summer board meeting.
- After thorough review of all candidates under consideration, the BCMP will make a recommendation to the full board.
- The full SPE Board of Directors makes the final decision.

Timeframe

All letters for the nomination package must be received by the Awards Team prior to the posting for the summer board meeting or 1 June, whichever is earlier.

Candidate Eligibility

- Award nominees must demonstrate the impactful visionary leadership and broad significant influence exemplified by Stephen A. Holditch.
- Candidates must be living professional members of SPE.
- Members of the SPE Board of Directors are ineligible during their term and for 2 additional years.
- SPE Honorary Members are ineligible to receive this award.

What the judges seek

The proposal should reflect the award criteria: devotion of significant time, effort, thought, and action and demonstrated exceptional visionary leadership resulting in a lasting and momentous impact on the Society of Petroleum Engineers and/or the oil and gas industry.

The guidance for making an effective nomination found on the [SPE.org/awards](https://www.spe.org/awards) page apply here. Visionary leadership should be the main theme of the nomination, although technical and service contributions may be part of the justification.

- Letters should include a brief introduction and discuss the relationship between writer and candidate.
- Provide significant information regarding the professional and industrial leadership achievements exhibited by the candidate that make he or she worthy of the award.
- Explain how the candidate's leadership has influenced SPE, the technology, and the O&G industry.
- Provide measurable results of the candidate's visionary leadership. How have they been a "game changer"?
- Give details regarding the originality of the candidate's visionary leadership and its impact. What sets them apart?
- The letters of support must also address specific examples of the candidate's work that meets the award criteria.
- "Because he/she is a great leader" must be followed up by concrete evidence of why.
- Letters copied from other sources may not do justice to the nomination. Do not encourage multiple identical endorsements from colleagues.