

2016 SmartWay Excellence Award – EPA Criteria

What are the SmartWay Excellence Awards?

The SmartWay Excellence Awards are EPA's means to recognize Partners that have optimized the environmental performance and efficiency of their freight management operations.

The SmartWay Excellence Award program recognizes approximately the top two percent of partners with superior environmental performance.

- To be eligible for consideration, qualified companies must be partners in good standing (i.e., timely and accurate submittal of required data in the 2015 reporting cycle for all partner categories and also a timely 2016 reporting cycle for carriers).
- EPA makes a full review each year of every partner's SmartWay Tool submission to assess qualifications for award consideration.
- Semi-finalists in selected partner categories will be contacted to submit an application.
- All Excellence Award finalists will be screened for any adverse environmental actions which may prohibit public recognition for their SmartWay achievements.
- EPA will notify those partners that are selected as Awardees.

Timeline and Notification

- **January:** The SmartWay Award process and data review commences EPA identifies candidates using data submitted via the 2015 SmartWay Tool, from all Partner categories.
- **February:** Shipper, logistics and multi-modal carrier semi-finalists are identified and invited to submit supplemental information. (Other carriers do not submit supplemental information).
- **April 1, 2016:** Submission deadline for shipper, logistics and multi-modal carrier semi-finalists supplemental information.
- **May:** Final reviews and adverse environmental actions screening.
- **July:** Awardees notification (no public announcement until fall).
- **September/October:** Announcement of Award recipients.

Carrier Criteria

Carrier (barge, rail and most truck sub-category) awardees will be selected based entirely on environmental performance criteria. Finalists who demonstrate top environmental performance based on a 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM weighting of g/ton-mile fleet level result from the SmartWay Carrier Tool. Exceptions for truck carriers are noted below.

Barge

- Barge carriers are assessed on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/ton-mile result.

Rail

- Rail carriers are assessed on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/gross ton-mile result.

Truck

- Drayage carriers are assessed on 25% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 50% PM g/mile result.
- Package and Less-than-Truckload carriers are assessed on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/mile result.

Multi-modal (applies to companies with an actual Multi-modal classified fleet)

- Package and Less-than-Truckload carriers are assessed on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/mile result. Eligible Multi-modal partners will be invited to submit a semi-finalist application.

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2016 SmartWay Excellence Award – EPA Criteria *Continued*

Awards will be given in carrier categories for truck, barge and rail. There are fourteen truck fleet carrier sub-categories which include: TL/Dry Van, Tanker, LTL/Dry Van, Specialized, Refrigerated, Package, Moving, Mixed, Heavy/Bulk, Flatbed, Dray, Expedited, Auto Carrier, and Multi-modal.

- **Large Truck Carriers:** annual miles traveled are greater than or equal to 1% of the total miles traveled for that category (Multi-modal, greater than or equal to five percent and Package Delivery, at 0.1 percent).
- **Medium/Small Truck Carriers:** annual miles traveled are less than 1% of the total miles traveled for that category (Multi-modal, less than five percent and Package Delivery at less than 0.1 percent).
- **Large Barge Carriers:** Greater than or equal to 25 million annual ton-miles.
- **Small Barge Carriers:** Fewer than 25 million annual ton-miles.
- **Large Rail Carriers:** Class I railroads.
- **Small Rail Carriers:** Class II and Class III railroads.

Shipper Criteria

About five percent of SmartWay shipper partners that demonstrate top environmental performance will be selected as semi-finalists, as described below, and invited to submit supplemental, qualitative documentation which demonstrates leadership efforts important to the Partnership and are in support of strategic SmartWay goals.

- **Semi-Finalist Criteria #1:** Demonstrate that effectively 98 percent of miles or ton-miles shipped are with SmartWay partners, using inputs to the shipper tool, based on actual activity data.
- **Semi-Finalist Criteria #2:** Demonstrate top environmental performance based on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/ton-mile output from the SmartWay Shipper Tool.

Awards given in three shipper categories based on relative size of freight operations.

- **Large Shipper:** Greater than 500 million annual miles shipped.
- **Medium Shipper:** Between 25 and 500 million annual miles shipped.
- **Small Shipper:** Fewer than 25 million annual miles shipped.

Logistics Criteria

About five percent of SmartWay logistics partners that demonstrate top environmental performance will be selected as semi-finalists, as described below, and invited to submit supplemental, qualitative documentation which demonstrates leadership efforts important to the Partnership and are in support of strategic SmartWay goals.

- **Semi-Finalist Criteria #1:** Demonstrate that effectively 80 percent of miles or ton-miles shipped are with SmartWay partners.
- **Semi-Finalist Criteria #2:** Demonstrate top environmental performance based on 50% CO₂ + 25% NO_x + 25% PM g/ton-mile output from the SmartWay Logistics Tool.

Awards given in two logistics categories based on size of freight operations.

- **Large Logistics:** Greater than 200 million annual miles traveled.
- **Small Logistics:** Fewer than 200 million annual miles traveled.

Semi-Finalist Evaluation Criteria

Shipper, logistics and multi-modal carrier semi-finalists may address leadership considerations important to SmartWay strategic goals, such as effective collaboration, advanced technology and operational practices, a robust system for validating and reporting their SmartWay data, communications and public outreach. This is a competitive process and submittal of the semi-finalist application does not assure award selection.

Applications will be judged on a point system that evaluates the:

- Clarity and completeness of application responses.
- Quality and substance of summaries and descriptions.
- Evidence, proof or documentation which substantiates submissions.
- Actual achievements and accomplishments, as well as activities, tasks and efforts.