



NORTHEAST ACQUIRERS

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NEAA 2026 Showcase Showdown Program Overview, Rules, and Submission Instructions

1. Purpose of Showdown Showcase: To recognize and celebrate outstanding Sponsor and Exhibitor contributions in areas such as innovation, engagement, and overall industry impact.
2. By submitting this entry, the entrant agrees to each of the rules as published in this document.
3. ALL Sponsors and Exhibitors at NEAA 2026 are eligible to participate. Including “Roaming Exhibitors.”
4. Each entrant must submit their entry of the Showcase Showdown Product/Service entry form no later than 5pm Pacific time on Friday, January 9, 2026. Entries received after that time will not be accepted.
5. Each entry will be evaluated by the Investor judges. Twelve entries will be chosen as finalists. All finalists will be notified by email at the end of day, Friday, January 16, 2026.
6. Each finalist will appear before the Showcase Showdown panel of judges and the NEAA attendees at the NEAA opening General Session on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 (Session will be from 3:00pm to 5:00pm prior to the Opening Reception). The order of the finalists’ appearance will be determined by alphabetical order of finalist company. Each finalist will have 10 minutes to present his/her product/innovation.
7. Finalists have until January 28, 2026, to submit their PowerPoint presentation to NEAA.
8. Judges will rate the finalists on the following criteria:
 - a. Originality
 - b. Revenue opportunity
 - c. Presentation quality
 - d. Impact on the market
9. There will be three categories of judging and associated awards for the finalists:
 - a. Best of Show – AI Generated (coordinated by Speaker Team)

- b. Most innovative Product/Service (investor Judges) presented at Showcase Showdown Session on Feb 4, from 3-5pm.
- c. People's Choice Award (Attendees votes) (Voting until noon on Thursday Feb 5, 2026)

10. Judging Process:

- a. Best of Show – AI Generated
 - i. Presentations will be fed to Chat4Bot.
 - ii. AI selects the top three.
- b. Most innovative Product/Service
 - i. Four investor judges
 - ii. Exhibitors submit a summary of Product/Service on application form.
 - iii. Judges choose the top 12 to be presenter finalists.
 - iv. Finalists present to judges and NEAA audience at session on February 4.
 - v. Judges select the top three.
- c. People's Choice Award
 - i. Attendees vote based on visiting booths and attending presentation session.
 - ii. Top three vote getters receive awards.

11. Awards will be given out at the opening session (1pm) on Thursday February 5, 2026.

Submission Instructions:

- 1. Please fill out and save the form with your company name in the file name (by using SAVE AS, then adding your company name to the name of the file).
- 2. Email your form to donna@northeastacquirers.com no later than 5pm Pacific time, Friday, January 9, 2026.
- 3. By submitting the form, you are indicating your acceptance of the rules of the NEAA 2026 Showcase Showdown.
- 4. For more information, please go to www.northeastacquirers.com