Lighting & Homes for Tomorrow is focused on delivering a positive consumer experience with efficient connected technology. In the past few years, there has been an influx of connected devices and systems entering the market, and *Lighting & Homes for Tomorrow* sees an opportunity to ensure that residential products are delivering quality to customers as well as considering energy saving and management capabilities.

Open Category Scope

Manufacturers are encouraged to submit connected products with primary applicability in the residential sector, or in residential-style applications such as hospitality and assisted living environments. Please contact Kim Katz at info@lightingfortomorrow.com to discuss further before submitting entries. Without prior agreement, there is no guarantee that submissions will be fully evaluated.

Possible entries include, but are not limited to:

- Smart Home Automation Systems
- Connected Water Heaters or Controllers for Water Heating
- Security Devices with proven energy savings
- Appliances or Other Plug Loads
- Product Retrofits, such as add-on modules or controllers s

This category is intended to highlight connected devices and systems that are available for purchase in 2020. As such, products available or planned for introduction to the market between January 1, 2018 and January 31, 2021 are eligible to participate in the competition.

Desired Capabilities

LHFT is seeking connected devices and systems that demonstrate energy savings. Some qualities and capabilities that are desired include:

- Meet applicable CEE or ENERGY STAR® efficiency criteria
- Energy management, which encompasses features that reduce the product's overall energy consumption levels either through core product functionality or influencing customer behavior.
- The ability to receive and respond to a utility or third-party signal (i.e. pricing signal or curtailment signal).
- Demand response (DR) capabilities, defined as the ability to delay, curtail, or increase operation to enable load shifting from peak use or low supply periods to low use or high supply periods.

- Sensing capabilities to optimize product or system operation based on external inputs, such as temperature, light levels, and occupancy, likely achieved through temperature sensors, photosensor, geofencing, motion sensing, or infrared signal sensing.
- Customization, such as the ability for consumers to input preferences and parameters related to product operation.
- Customizable consumer notifications for events like system failures, power surges, planned device shutdowns, or upcoming DR events.
- Energy consumption information for users, including remote access via an app, website, or home energy management system.
- Data sharing with consumer-authorized third parties, including operational status and energy consumption reporting.
- Programmable settings, such as vacation, away, or nighttime modes that reduce energy use.
- Ability to seamlessly operate with other connected devices, systems, and platforms within the home.
- Continued functionality when cloud connectivity is lost.
- Ongoing, active management of settings through features like automatic scheduling or learning-based schedule creation based on customer preferences and habits.
- Ability to collect, aggregate, and analyze performance data that enables ongoing energy savings measurement and verification, while being mindful of consumer personal privacy concerns.

It is not expected that entries will include all of the above capabilities; rather, products should include measures that save energy and provide a positive consumer experience. Additional capabilities beyond this list will also be considered in the judging process. Products with greater functionality generally receive more points.