

Call for proposals

“Best Thesis Award 2025 – Environmental Technology”



SWISSMEM | Environmental Technology industry sector

Are you writing a **Bachelor's** or **Master's** thesis at a university in the field of environmental engineering?

Then apply for the **“Best Thesis Award 2025 Environmental Engineering”!**

The Swissmem Environmental Engineering Industry Sector awards the “Best Thesis Award” for outstanding Bachelor's or Master's theses related to the field of environmental engineering.

The award is endowed with **CHF 3,000 (1st prize), 2,000 (2nd prize), and 1,000 (3rd prize).**

The call is aimed at prospective graduates from a university, ETH, or university of applied sciences who submit their written thesis in this calendar year and by the submission deadline.

Application deadline: **August 8, 2025**

Submission deadline: **September 12, 2025 (if accepted)**

Innovation deserves recognition!

Be part of the “Best Thesis Award – Environmental Engineering”!

The Swissmem Environmental Engineering Industry Sector looks forward to receiving your application and wishes you great success with your thesis!

Guido Schmucki
President – SIS-ET

Michael Koller
Group Head – SIS-ET



WE WANT YOU!



Registration & information

Registration By **Friday 8 August 2025 latest**
to: umwelttechnik@swissmem.ch

Information

- Subject of thesis
- Abstract/description
- Name of university of applied sciences/ university, department
- Supervisor's details (*incl. form of address & title*)
- Applicant's details: First name, last name/private e-mail / tel.*

** all participating degree candidates (multiple responses in the case of group work)*

Expert panel

The expert panel consists of research and industry representatives drawn from the members of Swissmem's Environmental Technology industry sector.

- Peter Hartmann, CEO, HFS Aqua AG
- Philipp Bader, Vice President Technology Group, Kanadevia Inova AG
- Prof. Dr. Michael Burkhardt, Institutsleiter, OST/UMTEC
- Siegfried Reithaar, Verkaufsleiter Kommunal, AIK Technik AG
- Dr.-Ing. Thomas Fundneider, Leiter Forschung&Entwicklung, Mecana AG



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Application

Admissibility / topics

Admissible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bachelor's or Master's thesis at a Swiss university, ETH, or university of applied sciences- Period of completion: 01.09.2024 – 31.08.2025- Relevance to process-related environmental engineering
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Materials management (<i>waste / combustion / recycling</i>)- Water treatment (<i>fresh water / waste water</i>)

Once an application is approved, an NDA (non-disclosure agreement) will be concluded between the expert panel and the participants/institution.

Thesis evaluation

Criteria & weighting

1. Creativity of implementation, development of solutions
2. Potential for industrialization (*link between theory and practice*)
3. Scientific content, derivations, quality of research/sources, own contribution
4. Quality of written work submitted, succinctness, explanation of complex issues
5. Final grade for thesis

Criterion 1: double weighting

Criterion 5: half weighting

Criterion 2/3/4: one single weighting

Disclaimer

All documentation submitted will be treated confidentially. The brief presentation will be made available to the members and other interested parties.

At no point is the expert panel obliged to give reasons for its decisions on admissibility and evaluation of theses.

The panel's decision is final.

Audio, image and video recordings will be made during the event. These will be processed, stored and publicly disseminated.

Submission of thesis (*on approval*)

Documents in G/F/I or E

Submission	By Friday 12 September 2025 latest to: umwelttechnik@swissmem.ch
Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Degree student's CV- Evaluation documents and final grade incl. signature of responsible supervisor- Complete thesis report in PDF format- Video presentation of the thesis (<i>max. 5 minutes</i>)- PPT presentation (<i>max. 5 min</i>) *

* the finalists will give a presentation on their submitted project in the course of the award ceremony. Presentations may not contain any content which is subject to confidentiality requirements!

Award / ceremony

order of events

The presentation of the “Best Thesis Award – Environmental Engineering” will take place on **November 26, 2025**, as part of AQUA Suisse at Messe Zürich on the Speakers Stage.

All participants and supervisors will be invited to this event. The finalists will give a short presentation on their theses to the event attendees (*max. 5 min*).

Organizer

Swissmem Environmental Technology industry sector

Michael Koller / Group Head

Pfingstweidstrasse 102, 8005 Zurich

Phone: +41 44 384 48 27

m.koller@swissmem.ch

[Environmental technology - Swissmem](#)

In case of queries or uncertainties, please contact the Group Head, Michael Koller, or sector President Guido Schmucki, g.schmucki@mecana.ch or tel. +41 55 464 12 00.



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