



9 March 2026

ALUMINIUM 2026: Nominations for Women with Metal Awards Now Open

The world's leading aluminium event welcomes back the popular Women with Metal Awards celebrating the groundbreaking work of women in aluminium production, processing and application. The winners will be announced at ALUMINIUM 2026 in Düsseldorf, with an official Awards Ceremony on the first day of the event, 6 October 2026.

Precision, expertise, innovation – there is no lack of brilliant minds in aluminium. Among them are many women who deserve a much bigger stage. The **Women with Metal Awards** deliver exactly that – and after a successful debut in 2024, they make their return at ALUMINIUM 2026. The second edition brings expanded award categories, a distinguished international jury, and a clear mission: to recognise, celebrate, and amplify the contributions of women along the entire aluminium value chain.

The official Awards Ceremony will again be organised and hosted in partnership with *Women with Metal*, the *UK Aluminium Federation (ALFED)*, and *Aluminium International Today*. **Nominations open on 9 March 2026** – in the spirit of International Women's Day – marking a shared commitment to driving diversity, equity, and inclusion in an industry that stands to benefit enormously from the full breadth of talent available to it.

With the aluminium sector facing a well-documented skills shortage, attracting and retaining women has become an economic imperative. The awards shine a spotlight on their achievements, aiming to inspire the next generation and demonstrate that aluminium offers rewarding, future-proof careers for everyone. Equally, they acknowledge those driving change alongside them, with two dedicated Champion categories honouring individuals and companies actively supporting women – whether through advocacy, mentoring, policy change, or inclusive workplace cultures.

Expanded Categories, Simplified Nominations

The 2026 edition features six award categories, refined to capture the full spectrum of impact and achievement:

- **Role Model:** Celebrating women who lead by example, inspiring others through integrity and influence, and creating a lasting impact across the metals industry.
- **Future Leader:** Recognising an emerging talent, standing out through innovation, ambition, and leadership potential.
- **Unseen Impact:** Honouring women whose work creates meaningful change behind the scenes.
- **Sustainable & Innovative Leader:** Celebrating women making waves and driving progress through sustainability and innovation.
- **Women with Metal Champion – Individual:** Celebrating an individual who actively advocates for inclusion, equity, and advancement of women across the sector.
- **Women with Metal Champion – Company:** Recognising an organisation demonstrating outstanding commitment to empowering women and fostering an inclusive, supportive industry.

Both self-nominations and nominations by others are welcome. The nomination process has been streamlined for 2026, making it simpler and quicker to put forward a deserving candidate or company.

An International Jury of Industry Leaders

A panel of eight distinguished professionals from across the global aluminium industry will evaluate all nominations:

- Kirsty Davies-Chinnock – Founder, Women with Metal
- Nadine Bloxsome – Chief Executive Officer, UK Aluminium Federation (ALFED)
- Duygu Saymen – Secretary General, Turkish Aluminium Industrialist Association (TALSAD)
- Dr Fiona Solomon – Chief Executive Officer, Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI)
- Angelika El-Noshokaty – Director General, Aluminium Deutschland
- Paul Voss – Director General, European Aluminium
- Patrick Herman – Event Director, ALUMINIUM, RX

Once nominations close on 15 June 2026, the Jury will vote on each category to select the shortlist of finalists.

Why It Matters: Recognition as a Competitive Advantage

Kirsty Davies-Chinnock, Founder of Women with Metal, is eager to build on the success of 2024: “Bringing Women with Metal to a global audience at ALUMINIUM 2024 with Women with Metal-The Aluminium Awards was an incredible opportunity to celebrate the amazing people in the sector who are driving diversity and inclusion. The nominees showed us just how much talent there is in the sector, and by showcasing these individuals and companies we can promote the industry to the next generation and highlight the career opportunities available. I am delighted to work with RX Global again for ALUMINIUM 2026 and I cannot wait to celebrate the progress that we know has been made over the last two years.”

Patrick Herman, Event Director of ALUMINIUM at RX, shares that ambition. “Our industry is in the middle of a profound transformation. We need the sharpest minds, the widest range of perspectives, and the courage to think differently. That is exactly what happens when we bring more women into technical and leadership roles: we don’t just become more equitable, we become more competitive. The response to the 2024 premiere of the Women with Metal Awards showed us that the industry is ready to acknowledge this. The Awards give us a platform to make role models visible, to retain talent by showing people they are valued, and to signal to the next generation of engineers, scientists, and leaders that this sector offers careers worth pursuing. That is not a nice-to-have – it is essential for the future of aluminium.”

Get Involved

Nominations are now open. Whether you know a trailblazing colleague, an inspiring leader, or a company setting new standards for inclusion – this is the moment to put them forward. Winners will be celebrated **on the first day of ALUMINIUM 2026 in Düsseldorf, 6 October, at the ALUMINIUM Conference stage in Hall 3**. For further information, and to enter your nomination, please visit the ALUMINIUM website.

-ENDS-

Issued by:

ALUMINIUM Press Office, RX
Email: service.aluminium@rxglobal.com
www.aluminium-exhibition.com

NOTES TO EDITORS:

About ALUMINIUM: ALUMINIUM is the world’s leading event for the aluminium sector. Every two years, it brings together industry leaders in Düsseldorf, Germany, for a dedicated exhibition and conference. Taking place 6–8 October 2026, this year’s edition focuses on sustainability, recycling, circular economy, and technological transformation. ALUMINIUM is organised by RX, a global leader in events and exhibitions. www.aluminium-exhibition.com

About Women with Metal: Founded by Kirsty Davies-Chinnock, Women with Metal is dedicated to advancing the visibility, confidence, and professional growth of women across the metals sector. The organisation connects women and allies through events, awards, and knowledge-sharing – championing an industry where diverse talent is recognised, supported, and empowered to lead. <https://womenwithmetal.com/>