

WINNERS SELECTED FOR THE PEN-CP GLOBAL CUSTOMS INNOVATION AWARD GCIA-2024

Last year PEN-CP, the Pan-European Network of Customs Practitioners, invited Customs Administrations from all over the world to share information on innovations they were developing or had been deploying, to meet customs challenges of all kinds. Now PEN-CP is awarding the Global Customs Innovation Award trophy to a handful of the most promising ideas and impressive solutions.

Epalinges, Switzerland — PEN-CP, the Pan-European Network of Customs Practitioners, recently announced the winners of the prestigious Global Customs Innovation Award (GCIA-2024). This annual award highlights cutting-edge solutions and forward-thinking innovations that address the evolving challenges faced by Customs administrations worldwide.

As the fifth edition of the GCIA series, first launched in 2019, this year's competition drew submissions from over sixteen innovation candidates. The winners were selected by a panel of PEN-CP Customs officers representing nine Customs agencies. The winning entries reflect a strong commitment to enhancing Customs operations and advancing technological solutions.

Summaries of the GCIA-2024 winning submissions will be published on the PEN-CP website at [www.pen-cp.net].

The award ceremony took place during the PEN-CP Final Meeting from January 21 to 23, 2025, where the winning innovators were honored for their contributions. This gathering provided an excellent opportunity for sharing knowledge, strengthening networks, and recognizing outstanding achievements in Customs innovation.

GCIA-2024 Track #1 — Innovations in Customs use today:

1st place: **Abu Dhabi Customs** — DHAFRA platform

2nd place: **Kenya Revenue Authority** — Non-Intrusive Inspection Imaging Sharing Project for East Africa Community Partner States

3rd place: **New Zealand Customs** — WCO Commendation Camera System

GCIA-2024 Track #2 — Ideas for innovations at Customs:

1st place: **UK Border Force** — ScanApp

2nd place: **Dubai Customs** — Customs Mega Scanner

3rd place: **Argentine Customs Administration** — AI Tool for the Recognition of Shark and Ray Fins, and Complex Fishery Products

Heartfelt congratulations to all the GCIA-2024 winners! Your exceptional creativity and dedication are driving transformative advancements in Customs operations. By pushing the boundaries of innovation, you are shaping a more efficient, secure, and forward-thinking global Customs landscape

About PEN-CP:

PEN-CP (Pan-European Network of Customs Practitioners) is an innovation-driven Customs network funded by the European Union under the Horizon 2020 program. The project fosters collaboration among forward-thinking Customs officials across Europe and the globe while advancing bold ideas and pioneering solutions. PEN-CP focuses on innovation areas such as data and risk management, detection technologies, and laboratory equipment. Its activities include technology grants, challenge competitions, innovation awards, expert reports, and annual studies.

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