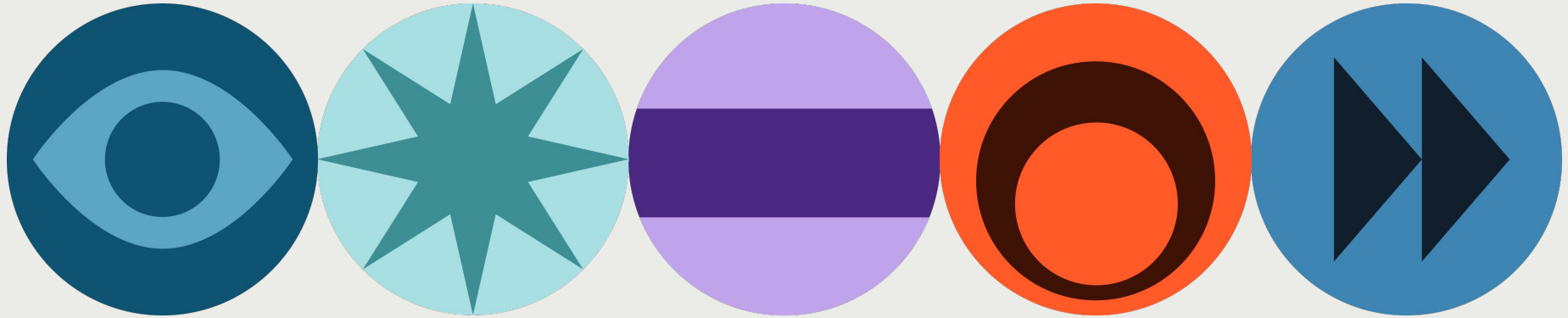




The Connector Awards



SUBMISSION GUIDE 2026

Overview

We're thrilled to announce the **Optro Connector Awards**, created to recognize and celebrate the innovators who are shaping the future of audit, risk, compliance, and infosec. This is your moment to showcase the groundbreaking work you and your team are doing.

Why apply?	
Industry Recognition	Be celebrated as a leader in your field
Visibility and Influence	Winners will be featured at CRX, gain PR/social media exposure, and be highlighted as a success story
Exclusive Access	Participate in an invite-only customer panel and access VIP experiences at CRX 2026!

Instructions

01

REVIEW GUIDE

Refer to this guide for a complete list of award categories and criteria.

02

SELECT CATEGORY

Identify which category(ies) you'd like to apply for.

03

FILL OUT FORM

Submit your application through the [awards portal](#) linked here.

General questions

(Applicable to all categories)

1. Provide a short description of what your company does and its mission statement.
2. Please describe your company's business pain points, technical challenges, and goals that led you to evaluate and select Optro solutions over other solutions.
3. Please list any integrations you leverage with Optro.
4. Please describe how your company is using Optro AI capabilities to enhance efficiency and drive innovation.
5. If you've worked with an advisory firm to develop your program and implement Optro, please provide the firm's name and describe how they supported you in implementing, building, and optimizing your program in Optro.





Visionary

This award celebrates the forward-thinking architects of the modern audit, risk, infosec, and compliance function. This award recognizes the teams that are fearless in adopting new technologies—specifically Optro AI and automation—to change how work gets done. These pioneers aren't just managing risk; they are using intelligent insights to see around corners, automate the routine to focus on the critical, and prove that technology is the ultimate force multiplier for human expertise.

CATEGORY QUESTIONS

1. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how your team shifted from manual processes to a modern approach using Optro AI. Specifically, how have you leveraged AI capabilities to automate time-consuming workflows—such as evidence collection, fieldwork testing, or sample annotation—to move faster than ever before.
2. Please provide 1-3 examples that showcase your ability to turn fragmented data into a clear, actionable narrative. How have you used advanced Optro AI insights to identify trends across the business and spot potential risks before they escalated into significant issues?
3. Please explain how you or your team have used Optro AI technology to elevate the role of your department within the organization by providing real-time, data-driven insights. In your response, please include specific KPIs or performance improvement percentages that demonstrate this impact (e.g., time savings, cost reductions, improved testing accuracy).

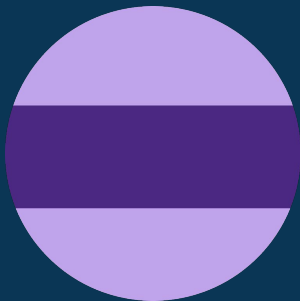


Excellence in Action

This award recognizes customers who have demonstrated substantial business impact through their use of Optro. From increased operational efficiency to significant business growth, these customers have showcased the power of leveraging Optro to meet and exceed their goals. Their ability to achieve key milestones, improve business performance, and expand operations is a testament to the platform's role in their success.

CATEGORY QUESTIONS

1. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of key challenges you faced before implementing Optro, and how you overcame them. Provide a before-and-after comparison, including specific metrics that highlight improvements in efficiency, reduced costs, or increased business performance.
2. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how Optro has helped you scale and achieve ongoing success (e.g., streamlined workflows, integrated more seamlessly across teams, or created a multiplier effect that has driven continuous improvements).
3. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how Optro contributed to your expansion, including specific measurable outcomes that demonstrate the tangible impact of your efforts (e.g., improved cost savings or enhanced decision-making).



Bridge Builders

This award highlights customers who have excelled at integrating Optro into their organization, driving cross-team collaboration and scalability. These customers have demonstrated how Optro empowers audit, risk, and InfoSec teams to work as one, breaking down silos and enabling more effective decision-making. Their use of Optro's connected risk platform ensures that their operations are future-ready, and they have harnessed its full potential to manage risk across their organization.

CATEGORY QUESTIONS

1. Please describe 1-3 specific use cases that show how you use Optro to unify audit, risk, compliance, and infosec teams. Describe how breaking down silos and improving cross-team collaboration has led to stronger decision-making and organizational success.
2. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how you scaled Optro to meet the needs of your growing or evolving organization. Describe how the Optro platform helped you stay resilient and adaptable during times of change.
3. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how you've implemented a connected risk approach, such as building a unified GRC framework, increasing visibility across teams, or improving stakeholder engagement. Provide the specific measurable impact that this had on your organization.



Cyber Resilience

This award recognizes the security and IT leaders who have built a dynamic defense strategy, transforming compliance from a checkbox exercise into a driver of cyber resilience. This award honors teams that proactively mitigate cyber and vendor risks, leveraging automation to stay ahead of a rapidly changing threat landscape. These defenders utilize a unified data approach to ensure the business is not just compliant but continuously secure and ready to weather any storm.

CATEGORY QUESTIONS

1. Please provide 1–3 specific examples of how your team practices adaptive risk management to rapidly identify and respond to emerging cyber threats. How have you demonstrated the use of continuous data feeds and risk assessments within Optro to adjust your security posture in real-time and stay ahead of the evolving threat landscape?
2. Please describe how your organization leverages Optro’s automation capabilities to move from reactive, manual checks toward a continuous assurance model. Specifically, provide 1–3 examples of how automated control testing or continuous monitoring has strengthened your security posture and reduced operational friction.
3. Please provide 1–3 examples of how you have leveraged Optro to act as a business enabler. Specifically, describe how providing a unified view of cyber or third-party risk has reduced friction for business stakeholders and supported more informed, data-driven security decisions across the enterprise.



Agent of Change

This award recognizes an exceptional leader who has strategically championed the use of Optro to drive meaningful change within their organization and the broader industry. While not necessarily involved in the day-to-day use of the platform, they witness the impact Optro has had on their organization and champion their team's use of it. This individual is a true thought leader who not only influences their team, but also works to elevate the role of audit, risk, compliance, and infosec through their leadership and vision. They inspire others to embrace new ways of working, empower their teams to drive transformation, and are recognized within the community for their contributions to the industry.

CATEGORY QUESTIONS

1. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how this leader drives the strategic adoption and impact of Optro within their organization. In what ways have they influenced teams to embrace the platform and its value?
2. Please provide 1-3 examples of how their leadership advances audit, risk, compliance, and infosec within their organization and the industry. Describe how they have built momentum for new initiatives, influenced business decisions, or shared their expertise to shape new approaches to solving challenges.
3. Please provide 1-3 specific examples of how this leader contributes to the broader industry. Consider their participation in speaking engagements, media features, or other thought leadership efforts that have elevated the profession and driven conversations around innovation.