

On April 11-12, 2019, the Retail Analytics Council (RAC) will host its annual Retail Robotics and AI Conference in Evanston, IL.

New to the Conference this year is the Robots in Retail Competition. Interested firms are invited to apply for consideration (details follow). A group of judges will select those firms that offer the most significant, breakthrough use of robotics to create unique, relevant, and value-creating solutions for retailers. Winning firms will be invited to present at the Conference to a senior-level retailer audience of 150 individuals.

Applications for the RAC Robots in Retail Competition are available online, and must be completed by November 14, 2018 (available at [this webpage](#)).

The RAC Robots in Retail Competition is groundbreaking because it focuses on retail solutions and involves top retailers in the process. Entrepreneurs and solution providers who take part will have unparalleled visibility and direct access to top retailers looking for advanced technology solutions.

From the pool of applicants, 10 will be selected to present their solution on February 7, 2019, at RevTech Ventures, a Dallas-based technology accelerator that provides early stage funding to entrepreneurs and companies focused on retail solutions.

Based upon a review of these presentations at RevTech Ventures, three applicants will be chosen to present on April 12, 2019, at the annual RAC Retail Robotics and AI Conference in Evanston, IL. Attendees include RAC [Retail Advisory Board members](#) and other senior-level retailers. The winning entries will also receive extensive promotion related to the Conference and will be the subject of a press release created by the RAC Retail Robotics and AI Conference team.

While the criteria for selecting winners will not be divulged, the judging committee is looking for retail robotics solutions that best incorporate the following characteristics:

- Generate uncommon value for retailers.
- Generate uncommon value for retail customers.
- Creates or enables uncommon consumer experience features.
- Is highly defensible (significant breakthrough, difficult to duplicate).
- Indicates a direction that will advance the future of retail.

The Retail Analytics Council welcomes all participants in the Robots in Retail Competition. If you have any questions, please direct them to [Jeff Donaldson \(jeff@intriosity.com\)](#), the

Retail Robotics Initiative Advisory Board member who is managing the competition process, and copy RAC Research Director **Steven Keith Platt** ([stevenp@plattretailinstitute.org](mailto:stevenp@plattretailinstitute.org)).

### Important Dates

November 14, 2018      Last day to submit applications

December 14, 2018      Announcement of 10 finalists to present at RevTech Ventures in Dalla

February 7, 2019      10 finalists present at RevTech Ventures

February 22, 2019      Announcement of 3 finalists to present at Northwestern University

April 12, 2019      3 finalists present at Northwestern University