SBC 2021 First Annual Member Awards Nomination

The Safer Buildings Coalition wishes to recognize outstanding member products and projects through a new juried evaluation.

About the Safe Inside Product and Project of the Year Awards Program

SBC's **Safe Inside Product of the Year** award recognizes new products in the in-building public safety communications market.

This program will provide SBC's audience with information about the top new product in their fields.

SBC's **Safe Inside Project of the Year** award recognizes outstanding projects in the in-building public safety communications market.

This program will spotlight projects for their impact, quality of workmanship, innovation, and contribution to reducing noise and interference.

2021 Program Schedule

- August 1: Entries open
- Sept 1: Entry deadline
- Sept 27th: Finalists announced @ SBC Member's Dinner
- October 25th: Winners notified
- Nov 10th: Winners Announced @ IWCE In-Building Forum

Rules:

1. Entries may be submitted by SBC Current Member Organizations only.
2. You may submit a Product, a Project, or both.
3. One entry per category per member organization.
4. Entries must be submitted on behalf of the original manufacturer or project system integrator, and not on behalf of another organization.
5. Entries will be screened for compliance to rules.
6. All entries that meet eligibility requirements are
7. All information requested must be provided. An incomplete form or a form providing misleading or false information will result in disqualification.
8. An authorized representative of the member organizaiton must complete the entry form verifying all information.
9. SBC will convene a cross-functional panel of its choosing to judge the entries.
10. Entry Fee: Waived for 2021

Eligibility requirements

Products entered into the 2021 program must meet the following criteria:

1. Products must specifically pertain to the in-building public safety market.
2. Products should demonstrate an innovation that furthers the mission of making buildings Safer Inside.
3. Products must have been made first available for purchase in the North American market between August 1, 2020, and August 1, 2021.
4. If the entry is a new version of a previously available product, the entry must represent a major modification or redesign of the product.
5. New versions of software must offer new capabilities and significant enhancements.
6. Products must be available for purchase in the United States.
   All information fields on the entry form are completed and accurate regarding the product and the manufacturer.

Projects entered into the 2021 program must meet the following criteria:

1. Projects must have been completed in the North American market between August 1, 2020, and August 1, 2021.
2. Projects must specifically pertain to the in-building public safety market.
3. Projects should demonstrate their impact, quality of workmanship, innovation, and contribution to reducing noise and interference.

How to Enter:

Use the form below to submit your entry(s).

Submitter Verification

- This information is necessary to ensure each Organization makes no more than one nomination per category

Name   Mike Brownson

Email   mbrownson@westell.com

Your Organization	Westell
Your Title	Director Biz Dev

Product Nomination

Name of Product	ProtectLink Series Public Safety BDA & Fiber DAS
Date first available in the North American Market	Monday, May 17, 2021
Product Description	Increasingly, networks continue to change, evolve, and expand. The health, safety, and improved quality of life within our communities depend upon the deliverability, reliability, flexibility, and scalability of communication networks.

Westell's ProtectLinkTM represents the next revolution in Public Safety DAS design, offering the most flexible, cost-effective, intelligent, and robust platform available on the market – with safety and reliability at the heart of its' design from inception.

•   Flexibility: This UL2524 Listed platform includes 700/800 MHz band support, 1 Watt and 2.5 Watt RF output options, Class A or Class B operation, single-band or dual-band operation, all easily software license upgradeable.

•   Scalability & Deliverability: With the addition of an Optical Master Unit, the same BDA can expand to support up to 8 optical remote units to expand the coverage area. Westell's ProtectLinkTM public safety BDAs features one of the smallest form factors of any BDA on the market.

Please describe the innovative nature of this product	ProtectLink Keeps Your Options Open

This product's ability to grow as the application requires reduces the chances of a rip and replace scenario. Through available license keys the product can easily be upgrade to increase power, add additional frequency bands or enable Class A operation. Through the addition of an optical master chassis and optical remote(s) coverage can be extended to other buildings or building spaces without losing the original investment. Our unique architecture also eliminates the need for an additional remote since the master BDA includes an RF service port to feed local antennas.

ProtectLink Plays Well with Others
Integrated Radio Network Friendly Features:

•   Intelligent Oscillation Management
•   Reduced Uplink gain
•   Channelized AGC and squelch
•   Independent Firstnet filter optimized for operation on

LTE networks
- Integrated remote annunciator data link
- Integrated EPO contacts
- Integrated battery charging and alarming

Intelligence & Self-Management Built-In
ProtectLink's proprietary Intelligent Oscillation Management assures the BDA will operate at maximum performance level possible without interfering with the radio network.

In situations where something changes in the building environment that causes oscillations the ProtectLink will reduce gain to find its optimal performance state without causing harmful interference, and helps to assure that harmful noise rise will not occur at the donor site.

Firstnet, (how included with ProtectLink?) our band 14 filter, is optimized to perform over LTE networks by allocating half of total 700 band BDA power to that filter to assure adequate peak to average range for LTE signals. Additionally uplink muting is not featured on that filter so allow optimal uplink performance on LTE handset which utilize automated TX power control.

Integrated into the BDA is a serial data connection allowing the addition of remote annunciators. Installation is easier by utilizing standard CAT5/6 cable, while annunciators can be located up to 3000 feet away from the BDA. Small and attractive, the remote annunciators work well with most architectural styles in public environments.

As more AHJs require an Emergency Power Off capability we included a simple 2 wire input that when connected to an industry standard EPO switch will immediately disable all RF in and out of the BDA. This provides one of the lowest cost, easiest to install EPO solution on the market.
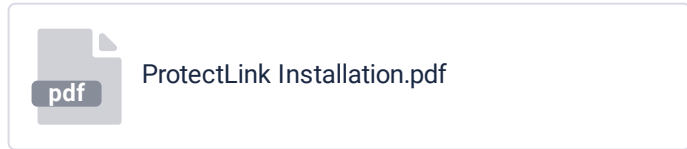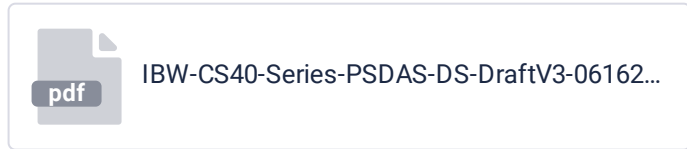
Streamlined Design for Form and Function
With the in-unit BDA integration of the battery charging and alarming features, installation is easier, and costs and required wall space are reduced. By including these key features within the design, redundancies were eliminated -- reducing the overall footprint of an install to a quarter sheet of plywood -- making this product one of the most compact complete installations in this industry. This also gives the integrator a single point for all alarm connections further simplifying installation. Eliminating redundant circuitry also helps keep this product competitive within the marketplace.

The innovative, forward-thinking, and sustainable nature of the ProtectLinkTM Series solution eases the installation process, provides both AHJ and radio authority features that assure optimal performance in a variety of operating conditions, and is future flexible - allowing for upgrades without having to rip and replace. As networks continue to expand and evolve, and guidelines and requirements increase ¬− ProtectLink was designed to allow us to grow together.

Web link to product page (if any)   https://www.westell.com/products/cs40-series-protectlink-class-a-b-bdas

Attach any spec sheets or other materials (if any)

| pdf | IBW-CS40-Series-PSDAS-DS-DraftV3-06162… |

| pdf | ProtectLink Installation.pdf |

Project Nomination

Name of Project   N/A

Date completed in the North American Market   Friday, August 20, 2021

Please describe the innovative nature of this project   N/A

I attest that I am authorized to submit on behalf of my organization   Attest