

The logo for Point2Point Communications features the words "Point2Point" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The number "2" is stylized as a blue circuit board trace. Above the "i" in "Point" and the "i" in "Point" are blue wireless signal icons. A blue horizontal line with a circuit board trace pattern runs underneath the "Point2Point" text. Below this, the word "Communications" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Point2Point Communications

**What you should know about
Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) solutions
for multi-family developments**

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When emergency personnel respond to a crisis, they need clear and consistent communication to effectively address the emergency. The right communication capacity reduces damage to your multi-family property and tenants while maintaining order.

Bi-Directional Amplifier Solutions (BDA) not only meet local codes and Emergency Responder Radio Coverage (ERRC) codes, but they also offer multi-family development property owners and emergency response personnel peace of mind. Investing in a BDA solution adds value to your development and fulfills your responsibility to make your property safe.

Keep your multi-family property compliant and lower your risks with BDA solutions from Point2Point.

The Challenge of Poor Radio Frequency Coverage

The size and structural components of a building or property challenge communication systems leading to dead zones that block or limit radio frequency (RF) signals. When first responders and other emergency response teams enter a multi-family building, they often lose communication capabilities. Loss of two-way radio communication limits response times and necessary action to prevent the loss of lives and property damage.

Certain building materials absorb or block RF signals, including concrete, metal and Low-E glass windows. In addition, large multi-family buildings and underground areas also limit RF capabilities. For example, stairwells, underground tunnels, parking garages and basements especially limit RF signals and reliable communication.

Consider if a fire occurs in a multi-family development where the fire department can't communicate with each other once inside. Their ability to do their job becomes limited. Instead of clear communication that reduces losses and protects the fire response team, the risk to both inventory and people increases.

A BDA system solves this problem by creating the right communication to enhance safety and allow emergency responders the right communication tools to work effectively.

What are BDA Solutions?

BDA solutions are signal-boosting systems designed to resolve poor coverage with in-building radio frequency for public safety radios and other two-way radio communication. These signal boosters sustain two-way radio communication with customized BDA components developed to meet code requirements and enhance safety.

BDA systems act as an in-building solution; however, a BDA system also works as part of a Distributed Antenna System (DAS). The amplifiers or repeaters of a BDA system act in concert with the DAS network of separate antenna nodes connected to a common transport medium for a maximized safety solution.

Customized BDA Solution Factors:

- Radio frequency requirements
- Number of frequencies
- Size and location of building or property
- Construction components for the exterior and interior structure
- Local and ERRC code requirements

We conduct a detailed analysis of the property to determine the specific BDA solution needed to resolve the communication barriers.

Who Needs BDA Solutions?

Any multi-family property experiencing communication issues needs a BDA system. BDA systems are required to comply with local codes and ERRC codes for defined commercial buildings and properties. Plus, BDA solutions work for many types of development to meet safety and legal responsibilities.

Candidates for BDA Solutions:

- Buildings that require public safety permits to pass inspection and meet local ordinances
- New construction or remodeled buildings that must meet code requirements to pass inspection
- Properties or businesses where emergency crews may need to maintain two-way RF communication
- Properties where employees need to communicate regularly with two-way RF communication

Common types of properties that invest in BDA systems include:

- Hospitals
- Senior Living Communities
- Hotels
- Schools and Universities
- Parking Garages
- Airport Terminals
- Stadiums and Convention Centers
- **Multifamily Housing**
- Underground Transportation Systems
- Manufacturing Plants
- Retail Shopping Centers
- Government Buildings
- Commercial Buildings
- And More

Any property or operation that wishes to provide adequate communication for emergency personnel and front-line response teams benefit from a BDA system.

What Are the Benefits of BDA Solutions?

A BDA system offers dual benefits. First, emergency response teams have reliable communication to ensure they can respond accurately and timely. However, a BDA system also serves the internal operations team, including maintenance, security and other employees that use two-way communication.

In addition, investing in a BDA system limits your risks of non-compliance. Florida now requires BDA systems for new construction buildings to meet specific requirements for fire department radio communications.

In addition, existing multi-family buildings must now at least have applied for a permit for installation of a system that allows for minimum radio strength for fire departments. Plus, they must comply by 2022.

Finally, existing apartment buildings will also need to apply for a permit by 2022 and comply by 2025. A customized BDA system meets local regulations for compliance.

BDA Benefits:

- Ensure two-way radio communication for emergency responders
- Improve internal communication for normal business operations
- Increase productivity by eliminating communication inefficiencies
- Enhance safety for employees, clients, residents and emergency responders
- Comply with local codes and government regulations

Who Can Help Implement BDA Systems?

The process to implement a BDA system requires a certified team to assess the property and do an on-site evaluation. Expert knowledge of code requirements ensures the installation complies with government mandates and code compliance.

Plus, you need a company with the training, equipment and experience to customize the BDA system to meet your property's specification. Point2Point Communications offers BDA solutions to meet requirements and improve two-way communication for emergency personnel and your team.

What Are the Next Steps to Comply with BDA Requirements?

To start the process to implement a BDA solution, contact Point2Point Communications. We walk each client through the process from start to finish to ensure compliance with local BDA requirements. We know the required permits and code details and stay current on changes.

Our first step is to access your property to determine the scope of the project and the communication limitations. We then develop a customized plan for your BDA solution. Our team of expert and certified professionals installs the BDA system in accordance with the project plan.

Depending on the type of multi-family property and where you are in meeting the current regulations, we advise on your first action and installation timeline. Our goal is to help you become compliant while resolving the communication challenges for your property.

Point2Point Communications – Trusted BDA Solutions

Contact Point2Point Communications to discuss trusted and reliable BDA solutions for multi-family developments. We pride ourselves in exceeding our clients' safety expectations!