

2005 Editors' Choice Awards

> How to assess risk 52 Integrator demographics 58 Product research on data acquisition 64 Exclusive: Proximity sensors 36

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# Seal of Approval Best Technologies of 2005

Service to the industry, technological advancement, and market impact are *Control Engineering* editors' criteria for these 19<sup>th</sup> annual awards.

#### Control Engineering staff

orty-five Editors' Choice Award winners were selected from among products covered by *Control Engineering* during 2005. Winners are based on service to the industry, technological advancement, and market impact. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> year editors nominate, discuss, and select the products they feel best meet those criteria.

Throughout the year, editors cover thousands of products in the North American print edition, at www.controleng.com, and in monthly and weekly e-mailed newsletters.

*Control Engineering* subscribers again are being asked to vote for their own favorites among the editors' 45 selections to determine the winners of the third annual Engineers' Choice Awards. They will choose the top winner in each of eight product categories. The winners will be revealed during the Editors' Choice awards ceremony, to be held at National Manufacturing Week, March 20-24, near Chicago.

The eight award categories are: embedded control; human-machine interface; instrumentation and process sensors; machine control and discrete sensors; motors, drives, and motion control; networks and communications; process and advanced control; and software and information integration.

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#### NETWORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS

## Serial data encrypted, transmitted over Ethernet

### SecureBox<sup>™</sup> by Lantronix

A ES encryption of 128 to 258-bits ensures information within Lantronix's SecureBox can be securely accessed and transmitted over the network and Internet.

Using a method called serial tunneling, SecureBox encrypts and encapsulates serial data into packets and transports it over Ethernet. Using two device servers connected by a network, secure virtual serial connections can be extended across a facility or around the world.

Lantronix's approach to secure communications is reportedly transparent to attached devices and software. There is no need to change work methods or develop special software to encrypt/decrypt information over the network.

In modem emulation mode, the SDS2100 is used to replace dial-up modems. The unit accepts modem AT commands on the serial port and establishes a secure network connection to the end device, eliminating dedicated modems and phone lines.

Flash memory enables maintenance-free, non-volatile storage of Web pages, and facilitates future system-software upgrades.

www.lantronix.com/device-networking/external-device-servers

- AES-certified 128-256-bit encryption
- Remotely monitor, control serial devices
- Eliminates dedicated modems, phone lines
- No special software
- Two RS-232 DTE serial ports
- 10/100 Ethernet Interface

