Leviton announces Intertek-confirmed Category 8 connectivity system

The Atlas-X1 Category 8 connectivity system meets the latest draft specifications, and will be combined with Category 8 cable from Berk-Tek for an end-to-end system.

Feb 2nd, 2015

Leviton is using this image in the promotional campaign for Atlas-X1, its Category 8 connectivity system. The system, which has been confirmed by Intertek to meet current-draft Category 8 performance specifications, will be officially introduced at the BICSI Winter Conference in late February.

Leviton has announced its Atlas-X1 Category 8 connectivity hardware—a system of products it will formally introduce at the BICSI Winter Conference—and says the connectivity has been confirmed by Intertek to meet draft Category 8 performance specifications. "The Atlas X-1 is the industry's first system to support shielded applications from Category 8 to 5e and UTP applications from Category 6A to 5e, all from one unified connectivity platform," Leviton said when making the announcement.

40GBase-T."

Leviton further explained, "The Atlas-X1 system has been tested and confirmed by Intertek, an independent electrical testing lab, to meet the current draft 2.0E of the TIA-568-C.2-1 Category 8 proposed standard (October 2014). The pending standard defines performance and testing requirements up to 2 GHz for Category 8 cabling systems to support the operation of IEEE 802.3bq 40GBase-T applications up to 30 meters."

Antoine Pelletier, project manager for ICT cabling products testing with Intertek, commented, "Members of the TR-42.7 Subcommittee are working together toward the development of a new cabling category standard driven by end-user needs. The successful Category 8 draft standard compliance of the Atlas X-1 solution shows the technical feasibility of copper twisted-pair cabling bandwidth increase, and the achievement of a milestone toward the future 40GBase-T industry standard."

Ross Goldman, executive vice president and general manager of Leviton Network Solutions, added, "We are excited to announce the new Atlas X-1 system has been confirmed by a third party to achieve Category 8 performance. The unique, all-new Atlas X-1 connector platform gives the installer a consistent termination method across the board, from Category 8 to Category 5e for shielded and from Category 6A to Category 5e for UTP installations.

The Atlas-X1 Category 8 connectivity will be part of the Berk-Tek Leviton Technologies Category 8 structured cabling system, Leviton added. "The U.S.-made system uses pre-production Category 8 cable from Berk-Tek, supports a 30-meter channel, and has been independently tested to achieve Category 8 performance," Leviton said.

Paul Trunk, president of Berk-Tek, commented, "Through our intimate involvement in the development of the Category 8 standard, Berk-Tek and Leviton have used our extensive cable and connectivity expertise to create an end-to-end channel that meets and exceeds the new draft standards."

More information on the Atlas-X1 Category 8 connectivity system is available here.