

Miami Dade Fire Rescue Radio Enhancement Systems (b/k/a BDA)



What Is A BDA?

A Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) is a signal boosting device that sustains two-way communications and amplifies the signal. BDAs work in both transmit and receive mode throughout a facility—including its stairwells, underground tunnels, parking garages, and other challenging areas. In short, it is a signal boosting solution designed to enhance in-building radio frequency (RF) coverage for public safety radios.

Why You Need A BDA?

Now that we've answered your question of "What is a BDA," we're going to explain exactly why you need to have one. During an emergency, reliable communication is critical to ensuring a safe solution. Staying both informed and connected with clear radio transmissions between first responders inside the building and emergency personnel outside the building can help prevent injuries and ultimately save lives.

However, emergency responders can easily lose communications when in-building radio signals are weakened by strong structures such as concrete, windows, and metal. Therefore, a BDA system is essential to maximize safety during an emergency by providing reliable communication.

Here are a few key benefits to having a Bi-Directional Amplifier:

- Peace of mind: In the event of an emergency, your building is well-prepared for emergency personnel to arrive.
- Reliable communication: Clear radio transmissions between first responders inside a building and emergency personnel outside the building can prevent further injuries and save more lives— the ultimate goal!

Who Needs A BDA?

Any building that is identified and inspected under local ordinances and/or is requiring public safety permits should have a BDA to ensure constant two-way communication. In fact, many facilities now require BDA installation with new or renovation permits and certifications.

Please visit:

https://www.miamidade.gov/global/permit.page?Mduid_permit=per1527604153410827 and choose the Radio Enhancement System Installations section.