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Vol. X, Number 4

PUBLISHED FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN ELECTRONIC SECURITY INDUSTRY

APRIL 2021

Events are also highlighted

throughout The Sentry

Chime in on the NSA Public-Private Sector Partnership Award

SIAC encourages security companies to chime in on the NSA (National Sheriffs Association) Public-Private Sector Partnership Award. It is an excellent opportunity to show your community how you are working with law enforcement.

Please consider possible

nominations for this special award which will include an NSA Award acknowledgement, presentation and photo op with your local sheriff. NSA sends a board member to the sheriff's location to make the



presentation with a representative of your company participating.

If your company is not yet working with a sheriff's department, you should reach out to your sheriff and ask what you can

do to support them — providing funding for deputy training, supplies for kids/drug prevention, etc. SIAC, along with The Monitoring Association (TMA), are sponsoring the award.

Start now — this award application is not due until December 2021, so you can engage now. You may submit an application later after the program is in place. If you have any questions, please visit www.siacinc.org or contact Stan Martin/SIAC 972.377.9401 or email stan@siacinc.org.

National Training Program Offers FST 1 and CEUs

The National Training Program (NTP) in cooperation with the California Alarm Association and the WBFAA UATC has a launched a foundational 24-hour online training course for Field Service Technicians (FST 1) and a comprehensive package of CEU's.

FST 1 is a newly developed course developed by Shane Clary of Bay Alarm and Chuck Petrusha of Advanced Security Systems which is ideal for onboarding new employees and managing consistent installations. The 24-hour course is \$250 per student for members (\$350 non-members) and a companion 632 page textbook is available for \$95 (including shipping), or as a six-month online license.

Future offerings including an advanced installer course as will as a fire installation course. The course can be previewed at www.nationaltrainingprogam.com or you can call the NTP office at 800-201-2390.



More details can be found inside this issue.

CAA Palm Springs Convention Includes Golf, Meetings June 23-26, 2021

The California Alarm Association will host their CAA Palm Springs Convention June23-26, 2021 at the Hilton Palm Springs.

The first two people from each alarm installing company are guests of the sponsors for golf at Escena Golf Club, three hosted receptions, meals, ladies' lunch and more than 15 workshops and presentations.

The Hilton Palm Springs rate is \$149 per night. Registration, sponsorship and program information is available at www.caaonline.org or by calling 800-437-7658.



SSI Industry Hall of Fame Class of 2021

The SSI Hall of Fame announced their five inductees for 2021 and eachperson has contributed significantly to the growth of professionalism in the electronic security industry, The Class of 2021 includes a leading vendor's

relationship builder who for decades has been a friend to dealers everywhere; a man of the people who has guided trade associations toward industry betterment; a passionate advocate for customer care



who spread his message far and wide; an astute and driven businessman who built a monitoring empire; and a former law enforcement hero who became just as heroic fighting false alarms.

The newest SSI Hall of Fame recognition recipients are:

- · Keith Baird, senior director of sales, national accounts, Resideo
- · Dale Eller, owner, ITZ Solutions;
- Bob Harris (deceased), former principal of The Attrition Busters
- · Jim McMullen, president and COO, COPS Monitoring
- Ron Walters, formerly with the Security Industry Alarm Coalition (SIAC)

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Editorial: Copy is due the 15th of the month preceding publication. **Advertising**: Space reservations and copy are due the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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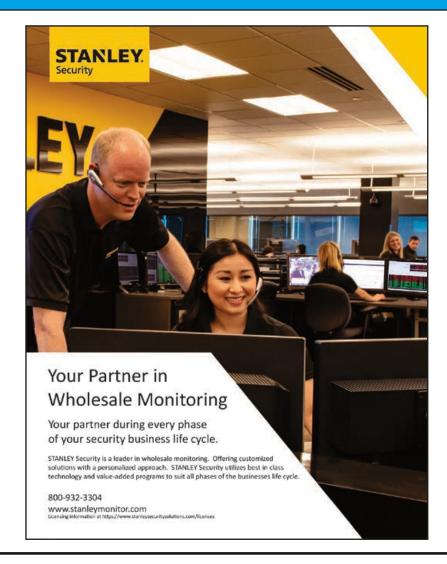
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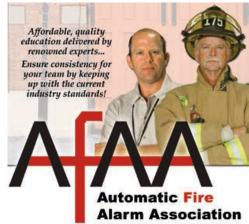
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2021 Annual Meeting and Codes Conference Information

The AFAA Annual Meeting will be held virtually **May 4-5, 2021** via Zoom with continued conference dates on May 12, 29 and 26. Elections will be held during our business meeting to vote on board candidates and proposed by-law changes.

Attendee Pricing for 10 Hours of continuing education is AFAA Members: \$150; AFAA AHJ Members: \$75; Non-Members: \$250. All registration fees include a \$30 Grubhub credit. For registration and sponsorship visit www.afaa.org.

THE SENTRY



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Membership Information

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Board Meetings are generally the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.



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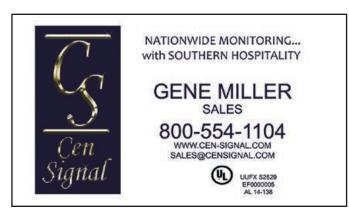


XAAP launched its inspection mobile app for Android devices, a new addition to the Xaap software suite that allows inspectors and technicians with Android devices to leverage the technology and bring more efficiency and accuracy to their inspection and reporting process. Xaap is an innovative building inspection reporting tool designed to make the lives of inspectors, technicians, facility managers, and building owners easier. Xaap empowers users with technologies that lead to more efficient and accurate inspections, and smarter compliance reports management. The Xaap web app provides users with a centralized view of all building systems and deficiency data. The Xaap mobile app allows inspectors and technicians to utilize out-of-the-box report templates, capture inspection data, easily collaborate and generate reports directly from their phones. "For businesses that provide inspection and maintenance services, Xaap helps you streamline your inspection process and improve customer experience," said Evan Bombino, Xaap Leader - Global Fire Detection. "For facility managers and building owners who manage their own inspections, Xaap is a powerful tool for a single, centralized view of safety and compliance across all buildings and inspection types so you can act, plan and budget with confidence." The Xaap Inspection Mobile App is now available on both the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. To learn more about Xaap, visit www.xaapbuildings.com.

MACGUARD SECURITY ADVISORS

welcomes Bill Graham as Senior Advisor: Bill Graham, a 45-year security industry veteran, joins MacGuard Security Advisors as Senior Advisor, Sales & Business Development. With his vast experience in the builder segment, Bill will be responsible for helping Dealers to take advantage of opportunities in this important vertical.









TNSI Training

Below is a schedule of training that TNSI will offer through December 2021.

TNSI accepts VISA and MASTERCARD. DEADLINE to register is two weeks prior to each course. Payment must be received before your attendance is confirmed. All courses require at least 10 students. Fees listed are for TNSI members, non-members pay an additional \$200/course.

QUESTIONS? Please call or e-mail the TNSI OFFICE: 615-791-9590 or ExecutiveDirector@theTNSI.org

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Two Tips for Business Growth That Have Nothing to Do With Marketing



By Brian Plant

If you want to expand your established security business but aren't sure where to start, try thinking like a startup. Although an alarm company that has been around for years is not a startup, it can still maximize growth with a startup attitude. This approach is catching on with many large companies that want to rebrand themselves, and with

great success in many cases. If it can work for them, it can work for you. Let's address two key characteristics of successful startup companies that seem to lend themselves to growth potential.





Accessible Leadership

The first thing that differentiates small startup companies from established corporations is a flatter structure. In other words, there are fewer managers, upper managers and executives to answer to when it comes to creative decisions.

In a large company or even just a long-standing small business, there may be a founder, president, various departments with their own executives or upper management, and then, way down at the bottom, the staff that is in the trenches: salespeople, marketers, technicians, etc.

Typically, the higher-ups spend most of their time out of the field because their job is to manage people. Being out of the field means being out of the loop – and it's hard to make good decisions when you're out of the loop. As a senior manager, try initiating a monthly breakfast meeting with different divisions of the company. It doesn't have to be elaborate - donuts and coffee "on the boss" will do the trick. The point is simply to connect with people and build relationships. You'll be surprised at much insight you can learn about the inner workings of various departments, and glean fresh insights about how to improve processes that will ultimately lead to better communication and a healthier company culture.

Excitement and a Little Chaos Are OK

The second thing that sets startups apart from established companies is their culture of controlled chaos. That sounds negative, but don't worry; it isn't meant to suggest an anything goes, frat house environment. It just means that there are tighter deadlines and an uncertain outcome, which forces the flow of creativity. Also, creating this kind of culture does not require established businesses to throw away their existing models – far from it.

Controlled chaos is an approach that a long-standing business can use anytime they are adding on a new product or service. In a nutshell, it is the company culture that comes out of trying something new. No one knows exactly how things will go, but they are excited to try it and have a measurable goal for success. Of course, there is a timeline for hitting that goal. See? Controlled chaos.



Just as there are many things that startups can learn from established businesses, there are many things that established dealers and integrators can learn from startups. Consider applying these two concepts to your security business; hopefully, they will help you maximize growth to the extent you have in mind.

Brian Plant is the Managing Director at Ignite Marketing Group: The Official Webmaster of the CAA and the WBFAA. He is a member of the Inland Empire Alarm Association, ESA, and SIA. He can be reached at 877-655-3779, ext. 1.or bplant@igniteleads.com



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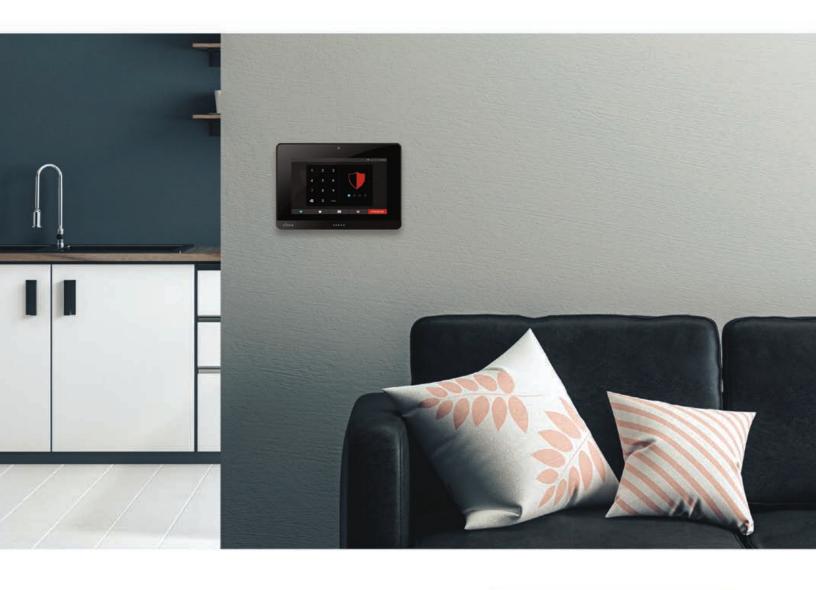
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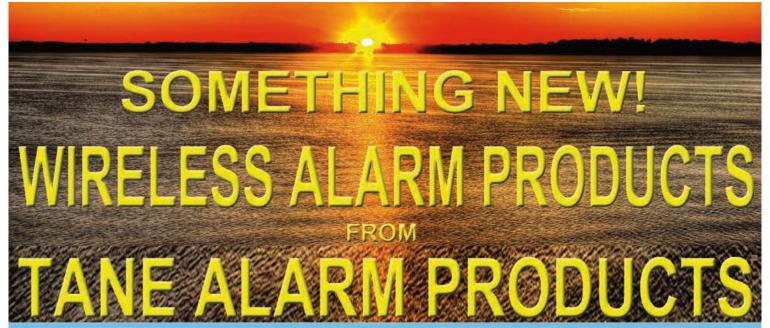
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The Louisiana Life Safety & Security Association will offer certification courses for Louisiana technicians and sales reps in the cities of Jefferson, Lafayette and Monroe. Students can attend class in person or participate via Zoom webinar. Registration is available at http://training.llssa.org/.





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07

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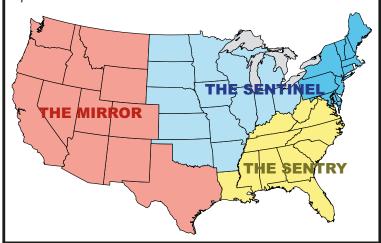
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