Ultrasonic and Multi-Technology Sensors and ADA/FDA Compliance or Certification

The marketplace has recently seen incorrect and misleading claims made regarding ultrasonic occupancy sensors. Many of those claims have to do with compliance or certification requirements for ultrasonic sensors by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The facts are as follow:

The **Federal Drug and Food Administration** currently *does not* examine, test, or certify sensors based on any type of sensing technology.

The **Americans with Disabilities** Act *does not* require any third-party certification for occupancy sensors based on any type of sensing technology. The ADA does require that hand-operated controls meet specific parameters regarding the amount of effort or pressure needed to activate them. As with manually operated lighting controls in general, Leviton's wallbox-mounted occupancy sensors fully conform to the ADA's requirements regarding the amount of pressure required to operate the manual override switch. Additionally, the ADA has promulgated a series of rules related to mounting heights and obstructions as part of dealing with issues of access for the disabled. Leviton's wallbox-mounted occupancy sensors use passive infrared (PIR) technology to detect motion in order to turn lights ON. The PIR lens' view is set for a 42" mounting height, but will work within the 36" to 48" mounting range required by the ADA for all switches. No listing or other requirements are stated by the ADA for lighting controls to be compliant.

The extensive use of ultrasonic and multi-technology occupancy sensors across a wide variety of applications, from occupancy sensing to security, has provided them with a proven track record as effective and compatible technologies.

