





## EP announces 24 finalists for the 2019 Product of the Year Awards

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*By Gina Roos, editor-in-chief*

Electronic Products has announced the finalists for the 2019 Product of the Year Awards. The annual awards, now in its 44<sup>th</sup> year, recognizes outstanding products that represent any or all of the following qualities: a significant advancement in a technology or its application, an exceptionally innovative design, a substantial achievement in price/performance, improvements in design performance, and the potential for new product designs/opportunities. EP editors evaluated nearly 150 products across 10 electronic component categories. Winners will be announced in EP's January/February 2020 digital issue.



### Interconnects

**Schurter, 400-VDC connector system (GP21 rewirable plug and the GS21 panel-mount socket outlet)**

Schurter claims that the GS21 socket-outlet and GP21 plug are the first 400-VDC connector system designed according to the IEC standard TS 62735-1 for a power level up to 2.6 kW, enabling a worldwide standardized approach to DC power distribution in data centers. Safety is key, said the company. The new IEC TS 62735-1 standard for DC power distribution requires a more complete design than traditional AC connector systems outlined in the IEC standard 60320. The DC connector systems must be designed while considering the increased potential for arcing when disconnecting the DC power supply under load.

The cost-intensive, failure-susceptible, and wasteful transforming of AC-to-AC or AC-to-DC conversion can be avoided with a complete DC power architecture, said Schurter. From source to load, a DC architecture improves the overall quality of the power being supplied by virtue of its design. Problems with harmonics and harmonic distortions are eliminated, and there is no longer the need for phase compensation or coupling synchronization to different sources and networks, thereby increasing operational reliability and improving efficiency.