Integrated Control Technology

Protege System Comparison Guide

Protege WX / Protege GX



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Last Published: 22-May-25 11:51 AM

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Introduction

The Protege GX and Protege WX systems by ICT provide access control, intrusion detection and automation solutions for a wide range of industries, from small businesses to large enterprises.

At the heart of each system is the system controller, an intelligent module that is responsible for all access, alarm and automation decisions on site. Each controller can function standalone but is programmed and monitored differently depending on the system it is connected to.

This document outlines the basic architecture of the two systems and compares their key features to help consultants, architects, integrators and clients determine the solution that fits their project.

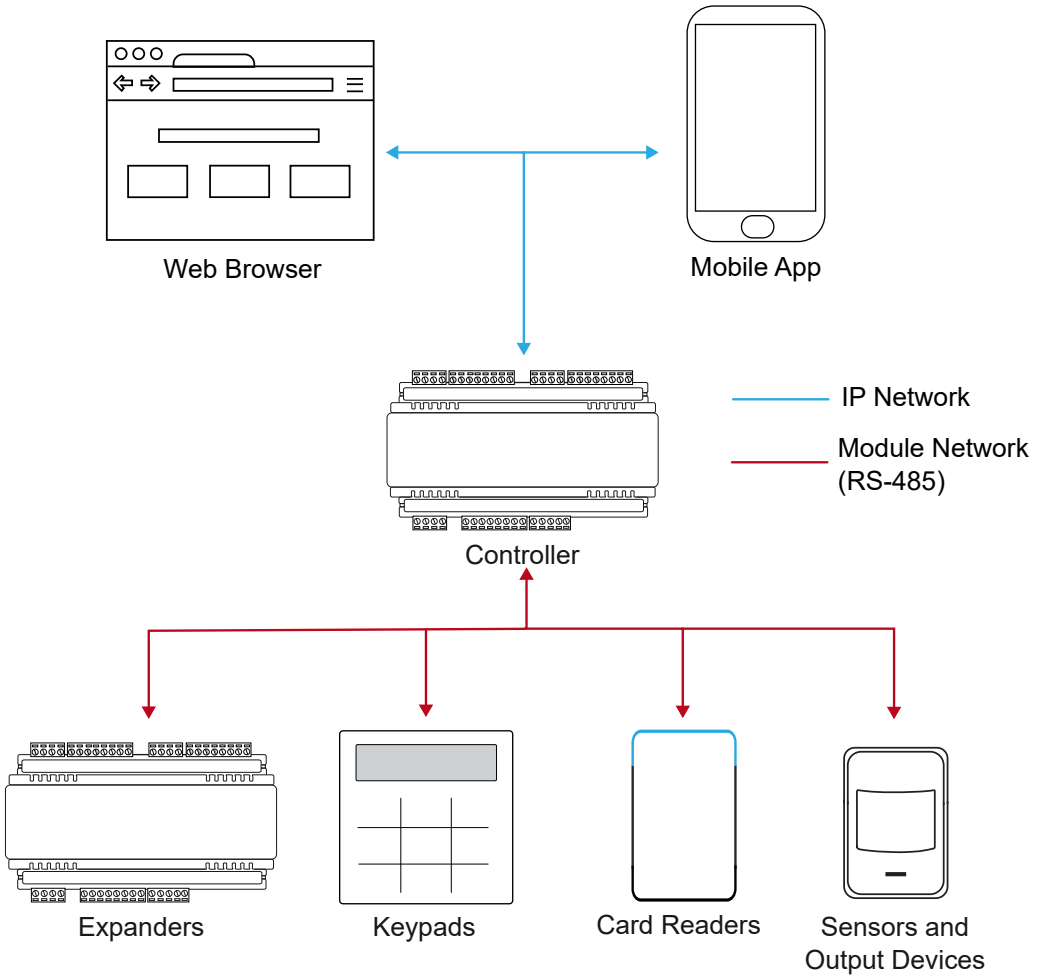
For more information about each individual system, see the product manuals available from ICT.

Protege WX System Architecture

The Protege WX system is powered by a single device, the Protege WX system controller. All programming and monitoring take place on the controller itself through a wizard-driven interface, making Protege WX quick and easy to deploy with no separate software to install. As the system size is limited to a single controller, Protege WX is most suitable for small, single-site installations.

The Protege WX system is made up of the following components:

- The **Protege WX controller**, which is the central processing unit of the system and makes all operational decisions on site. All programming and monitoring of the system is done via the built-in web interface using a web browser. The controller also has onboard hardware which enables it to control doors, sensors and a monitored siren.
- The controller is connected to **Protege expander modules** via the encrypted RS-485 module network. These expand the capacity of the system to allow more doors, sensors and output devices to be connected. All Protege systems use the same expander modules.
- **Remote hardware** such as keypads, card readers, sensors and output devices are connected to the controller and expander modules.
- Optionally, system operators can use the **Protege Mobile App** for remote system monitoring and control.

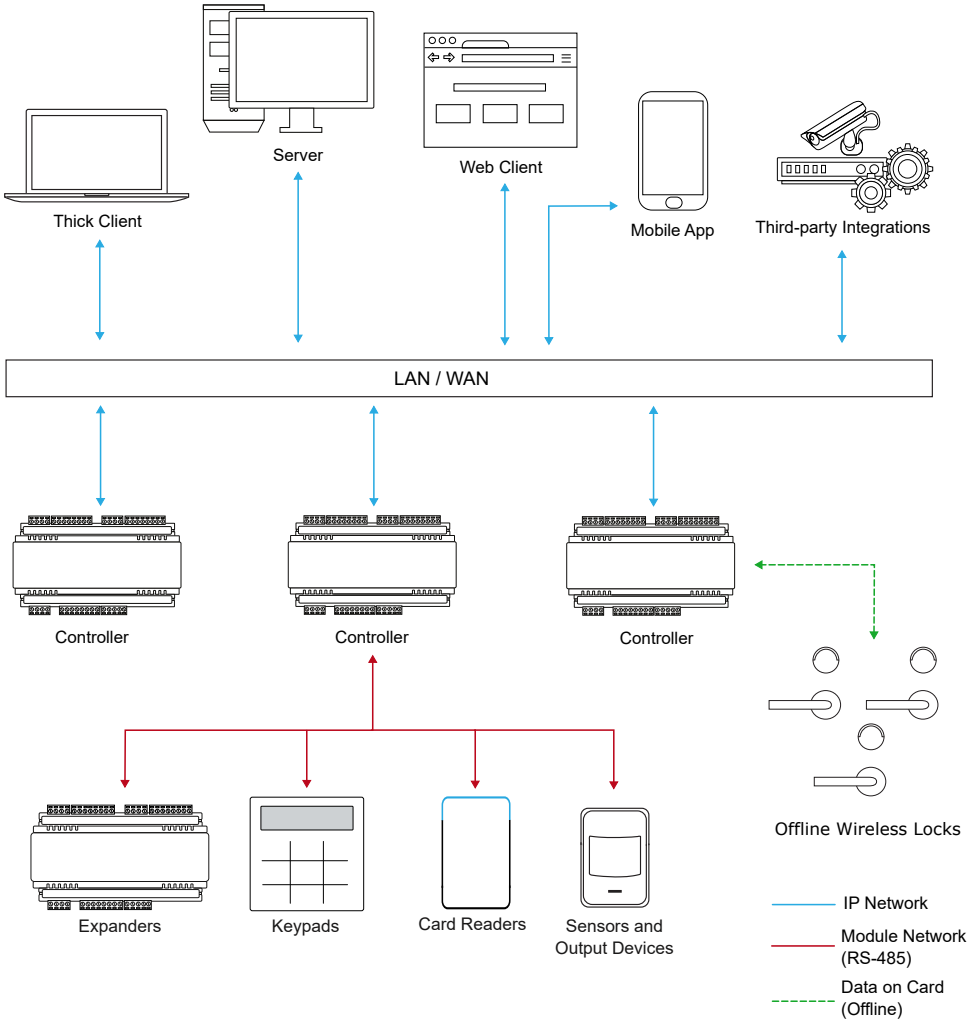


Protege GX System Architecture

Protege GX is ICT's enterprise-level, on-premises system for medium-large sites that want to take control of their own security and access. It uses a server-based architecture to support multiple controllers, allowing the system to be deployed at scale in one or more locations. Protege GX also offers advanced features and a wide range of integrations for wireless locking, elevator control, camera monitoring and more.

The main components of the Protege system are:

- The **Protege GX server**, which stores all configuration and events for the system in a single centralized location. Programming and monitoring are carried out from the **client software**, which can be installed on any number of workstations.
- Multiple **Protege GX system controllers** which action all access control, security and automation decisions on site. Controllers receive programming and commands from the server and upload their current status and events. Protege GX controllers have the same capabilities as the Protege WX controller, allowing them to operate standalone even if the connection to the server is lost.
- Each controller manages **expander modules** and **remote devices** using the RS-485 module network.
- **Protege Wireless Locks** in offline mode are not actively connected to the network, but communicate with the system asynchronously using data on user cards and mobile apps ('data on card').
- The optional **Protege GX Web Client** allows access to common end user functions via a web browser. For more information, see Protege GX Client Types (page 12).
- Optionally, system operators can use the **Protege Mobile App** for remote system monitoring and control.
- Protege GX can also be connected to **third-party systems** for high-level integration.



System Comparison

System Architecture

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
System Overview		
Type of system	Browser-based (embedded software on device)	Server-based (on premises)
System structure	One controller, one location	Multiple controllers, one or more locations
Licensing	Base system (included with hardware) + Optional features	Base system (one-off license) + Extensions + Optional features
Hardware Warranty For complete warranty terms, see www.ict.co.	2 year standard warranty. 5 year warranty when installed by ICT Dealer Network member.	2 year standard warranty. 5 year warranty when installed by ICT Dealer Network member.
Standalone operation The security system continues to operate even if network connection is lost.	✓	✓
Cross-controller communications Resource sharing between multiple controllers.	✗	✓
End-to-end encryption	✓	✓
Programming / Monitoring		
User Interface	Web interface on device	Client software Optional web interface
Access from web browser	✓	✓ Day-to-day functions available in web client (see page 12).
Data Storage		
Database location	Internal storage on device	Database on premises
Programming database backup	✓	✓
Event database backup	✓ Export only.	✓
Scheduled backups	✗	✓
Protege Wireless Locks		
Offline wireless locks	✗	✓

Operators

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Concurrent operator seats	Unlimited	2 with base license, more as licensed add-ons.
Multi-factor authentication	✗	✗
Password policy	✓	✗
Windows Active Directory	✗	✓
Role-based access control	Select allow or deny access for each type of record.	Select allow, read only or deny access for each type of record. Set different permissions for different organizations and locations.
Operator auditing	✗	✓

Access Control, Intrusion and Automation Features

All Protege controllers have the same basic functionality and capabilities, no matter what system they are connected to. However, there are a few features that are only available in the enterprise-level system. This table outlines the advanced features you can expect from Protege systems.

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Access control		
Two factor authentication (doors/keypads)	✓	✓
Extended access time	✓	✓
Guard confirmation for access	✗	✓
Compliance check for access	✗	✓
Dual custody for doors	✓	✓
Antipassback (soft and hard)	✓	✓
Loiter detection	✗	✓
User counting	✓	✓
Slave doors	✓	✓
Door interlocking	✓	✓
Door lockdown	✓	✓
Emergency exit	✓	✓

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Late to open / Snow day	✓	✓
Calendar actions / Scheduled override	✗	✓
Intruder Detection		
Silent duress alarm	✓	✓
Stay arm	✓	✓
Walk test	✓	✓
Automatic rearm (with defer function)	✓	✓
Disarm delay	✓	✓
Dual custody for areas	✓	✓
User areas	✓	✓
Child areas	✓	✓
Area status display on card reader	✓	✓
IP reporting (ethernet or cellular modem)	✓	✓
Phone line reporting	✓	✓
Sequentially confirmed alarm	✓	✓
Central station report export	✓	✓
Automation		
Activate device on schedule	✓	✓
Activate device based on conditions	✓	✓
Activate device on access	✓	✓
Energy management	✓	✓
Man down switch	✓	✓
Guard tour	✓	✓
Door chime	✓	✓

User Management Features

This table shows some additional features that are available for managing users (cardholders) in Protege systems.

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
PIN complexity requirements	✓	✓
User import	✓	✓
Automated user synchronization	✗	✓
User export	✓	✓
Custom user fields	✗	✓
Photo ID	✗	✓
Entry station directory synchronization	✓	✓

Monitoring and Reporting

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
System Monitoring		
Live events	✓	✓
Device status monitoring/control	✓	✓
Status pages (Dashboards)	✗	✓
Floor plans	✗	✓
Custom event colors	✓ Colors are non-configurable.	✓
Alarm popups	✗	✓
Email on event	✓	✓
Camera popup on event	✗	✓
SIP calling	✗	✓
Reporting		
Event reports	✓	✓
User reports	✓	✓
Attendance reports	✗	✓
Muster reports	✗	✓

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Operator permission reports	✗	✓
Report export	✓	✓
Scheduled export/email	✗	✓

Mobile App

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Event monitoring	✓	✓
Status monitoring	✓	✓
System control	✓	✓
Push notifications	✓	✓
Mobile credentials	✓	✓

Third-Party Integrations

Protege systems offer a large number of integrations to enable you to get the most out of your security system. For a full list of the supported integrations, visit the ICT website: www.ict.co

Feature	Protege WX	Protege GX
Elevator integration (low level interface)	✓	✓
Elevator integration (high level interface)	✗	✓
Wireless locking integration	✓	✓
Wireless sensor integration	✓	✓
Biometric integration	✗	✓
Automation / Building management system integration	✓	✓
Key cabinet integration	✗	✓
Direct camera integration	✗	✓
Video management system integration	✗	✓
License plate recognition integration	✓	✓
Intercom integration	✓	✓
API for custom integrations	✓	✓

Protege GX Client Types

Protege GX offers two main methods to access the system:

- The **Protege GX thick client** offers full access to every programming and monitoring feature in the system. It can only be installed on Windows computers that are connected to the Protege GX server via the local network or a virtual private network (VPN).
- The **Protege GX web client** offers access to the features most relevant to end users: user management, scheduling, monitoring and reports. Advanced features such as hardware programming are not available. Any computer with a web browser can access the web client over the local network or internet and no software needs to be installed on user machines.

Protege GX administrators and installers must use the thick client to set up the hardware, doors, areas and so on. The web client is optional and may be convenient for end users such as receptionists, human resources staff and security guards.

Thick Client and Web Client Comparison

Feature	Web Client	Thick Client
Programming		
Users	✓	✓
Access levels	✓	✓
Schedules	✓	✓
Holidays	✓	✓
Calendar actions	✓	✓
Doors	✓ Unlock schedules only.	✓
Areas	✓ Arm/Disarm schedules only.	✓
Elevators	✓ Floors and schedules only.	✓
Groups	✓	✓
Operators	✓	✓
Roles	✓	✓
Hardware	✗	✓
Advanced features	✗	✓
Control		

Feature	Web Client	Thick Client
Doors	✓	✓
Areas	✓	✓
Outputs	✗	✓
Reset user antipassback status	✓	✓
Card printing	✗	✓
Monitoring/Reporting		
Live events	✓	✓
Status pages	✓ Not all status page features are supported.	✓
Floor plans	✗	✓
Alarm popups	✗	✓
Viewing reports Event, user, attendance and muster reports.	✓	✓
Exporting reports	✓	✓
Creating and editing reports	✓ Event reports only.	✓

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