

Case & Point

» RESIDENTIAL NEW BUILD



Overview

- » 7,000sq ft new build extension.
- » Crestron based platform providing 23 rooms of multi room audio.
- » Selective window and blind control.
- » Multiple (9) Sky HD Box distribution.
- » 7.1 dedicated High Definition Home Cinema system.
- » Lighting control to 33 areas around the home.



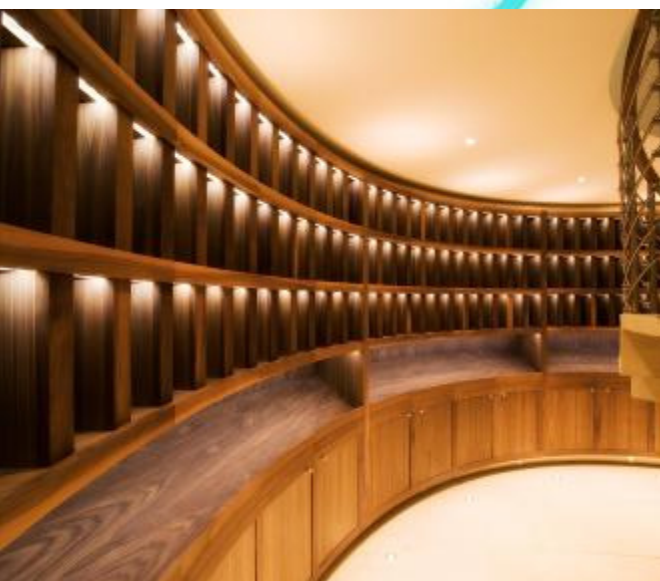
Challenge

With a new build extension Home Technology Integration (HTI) had to interface the existing building with a new build area. The project was an extension in name only, as the scale was similar to the erection of a large new home. This gave HTI the added challenge of pushing HDMI over large distances. Interaction with other members of the build team was of added importance due to HTI's late involvement in the project.

Budget and expectations required a highly creative technological solution.

The client specifically stipulated that:

1. A simple, clearly labelled, control interface was delivered
2. Children's bedroom spec to cover iPod driven room audio, individual SKY HD signal and bathroom tile TV's
3. Dedicated top floor full HD projector cinema room with a movie server providing additional content
4. Speakers throughout the property were to be discreet





Deliverables

HTI were introduced to the project relatively late in the programme and quickly had to clarify the brief, communicate the proposed system, demonstrate how it was to be controlled and ensure it fitted within the specific budget.

Intelligent Lighting

A KNX based solution provided the flexibility required to the challenges posed by the lighting design whilst offering an array of different switches to fit within the interior design scheme. Simple switch labelling was also a prerequisite to ensure the client could easily select lighting scenes, dim and switch circuits. 58 lighting control panels were provided throughout the property, to control 33 zones with three of these zones allowing for multiple scene setting modes.

Blind Control

Automated blind control was required for the expansive glazed areas in the main lounge area and master bed. 16 blinds in total were controlled. The KNX platform was designed to allow the blinds to be controlled via the same switching panel as the lights (see pic). This equated to a vast reduction in switches from the original scheme, a more aesthetically pleasing solution and more ease of control. Close liaison with the interior designers and electrical contractor was maintained to ensure ease of installation and control.



Remote Window Access

Window hoppers high in the property's tower required to be opened remotely from the library below. Our late involvement in the project meant that the windows had already been ordered with actuators already specified. The open source nature of the KNX solution provided allowed the actuators to be connected to the system and the switches programmed for control. Again the same integrated switch style was utilised.

AV Platform

A Crestron-controlled solution provided the backbone to audio and video distribution.

HD Distribution

9 SKY HD signals were distributed to specific televisions around the home with control via a combination of standard remote and Crestron wireless units.

Movie Goers

A dedicated 7.1 surround sound system was designed and installed incorporating a 8ft fixed screen and HD projector. Control of the SKY HD, Blu-Ray and Kaleidescape Movie Server sources were via a Crestron wireless tablet.

The clients brief and enthusiasm for the 'true cinema experience' warranted a 7.1 surround sound system, rather than the usual 5.1 system that is standard in other installations. Therefore meticulous planning had to be employed to ensure that the speakers would fit within the room without impeding on sound quality. The subwoofer was recessed into the wall behind the screen to ensure it was hidden and the fixed screen had to be 'tab tensioned' to prevent any vibrations.

Audio

Multi room audio was provided to public rooms, from an iPod, with controllers being specifically engraved to ensure button functionality was clear. Children's bedrooms were kept uniform with each having local iPod, in-ceiling speakers, a standard TV and a tile TV to each ensuite bath.

Hidden TVs

2 bespoke TV cabinets that matched the existing furniture were designed to incorporate a lift so that the TV could be hidden away when not in use. The TVs seamlessly appear when activated by the touch screen Crestron remote.

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