



Obviously Elegant, Quietly Brilliant

Case Study | Residential

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Homeowner

It's the feeling that hits you when you enter this stunning apartment; floor to ceiling windows, clean lines and open space. The rooms flow one into the next, with tasteful furniture and elegant touches blending harmoniously with marble floors and sparkling chandeliers. It's such a clean and tastefully minimalist look and it comes as a pleasant surprise to learn that this stylish apartment is loaded with clever automated technology.

The owners wanted automation to be present and accessible throughout the space but not the focal point of the rooms, for sophistication and simplicity, so the team at high end AV specialist KnektD naturally turned to Crestron technology to provide this.

Without the Crestron system, the family would have myriad sub-systems to learn how to use. By combining these systems into one bespoke user Interface, they can operate them all with absolute simplicity. More than this, it means that the beautiful interior design of the property is freed from all the unsightly electronics that they would have had without the Crestron touch panels.

Several rooms sport motion detectors—you walk into a room, and lights brighten automatically.



A key aspect of the brief was to make sure all the automation was hidden. "It was really important to us that the technology was discreet," commented the homeowner. "We now have bespoke moving panels which complement our interior design and disguise the clever technology beneath. For example, when required we can press a button and the Damien Hurst artwork in the reception room will rise, revealing a 55" 4K TV. An extended arm then positions the TV whilst a speaker drops down for the ideal viewing environment."

The KnektD crew also blended the speakers within the ceilings and walls. Bedside keypads were built into the millwork of the bed frame—an easy place to hit "All Off" before going to sleep. Several rooms sport motion detectors—you walk into a room, and lights brighten automatically. Entering the office triggers the lights, and the TV turns on to a pre-selected channel. Upon selecting the "Evening" scene, the lighting is set up to make the house look amazing. The integrated HVAC is switched automatically by the BMS. The heating and AC is automatically adjusted depending on the outside temperature.

Crestron's DigitalMedia solution allows the family to watch a number of sources from anywhere in the house, even in 4K. The same goes for audio, the Crestron technology means that the same music can be played throughout the house, or one person can be listening to something in the kitchen, and different music can be playing in the bedroom or living room.



Another reason Knekt chose Crestron was the fact that this would be a second home for the family, meaning that they, and others, would be visiting from all over the world and the system needed to be simple to use. "We have guests arrive at the property for a short stay, and they need to know how to use the system quickly. It was important to us the interface was intuitive and graphically led, to overcome any language barriers." commented the homeowner.

With it being a second home, the ability to access the system from anywhere in the world was essential. The homeowners get an alert when someone is at their front door and when having work done in the apartment they can check in remotely to see if workers have left the AC or lights on.

This residence is a great example of how much automation can be going on behind the scenes. Everything that can be controlled is controlled, but it's not in your face. It blends nicely with the style of the apartment. Shaun Wilson, Director of Knekt added that it was a joy to be a part of the project. "We were able to partner a high-end interior design company with a high end AV company and high end automation, and it's worked out very well."