AN EXCLUSIVE MAGAZINE FOR THE SMART HOME INDUSTRY.

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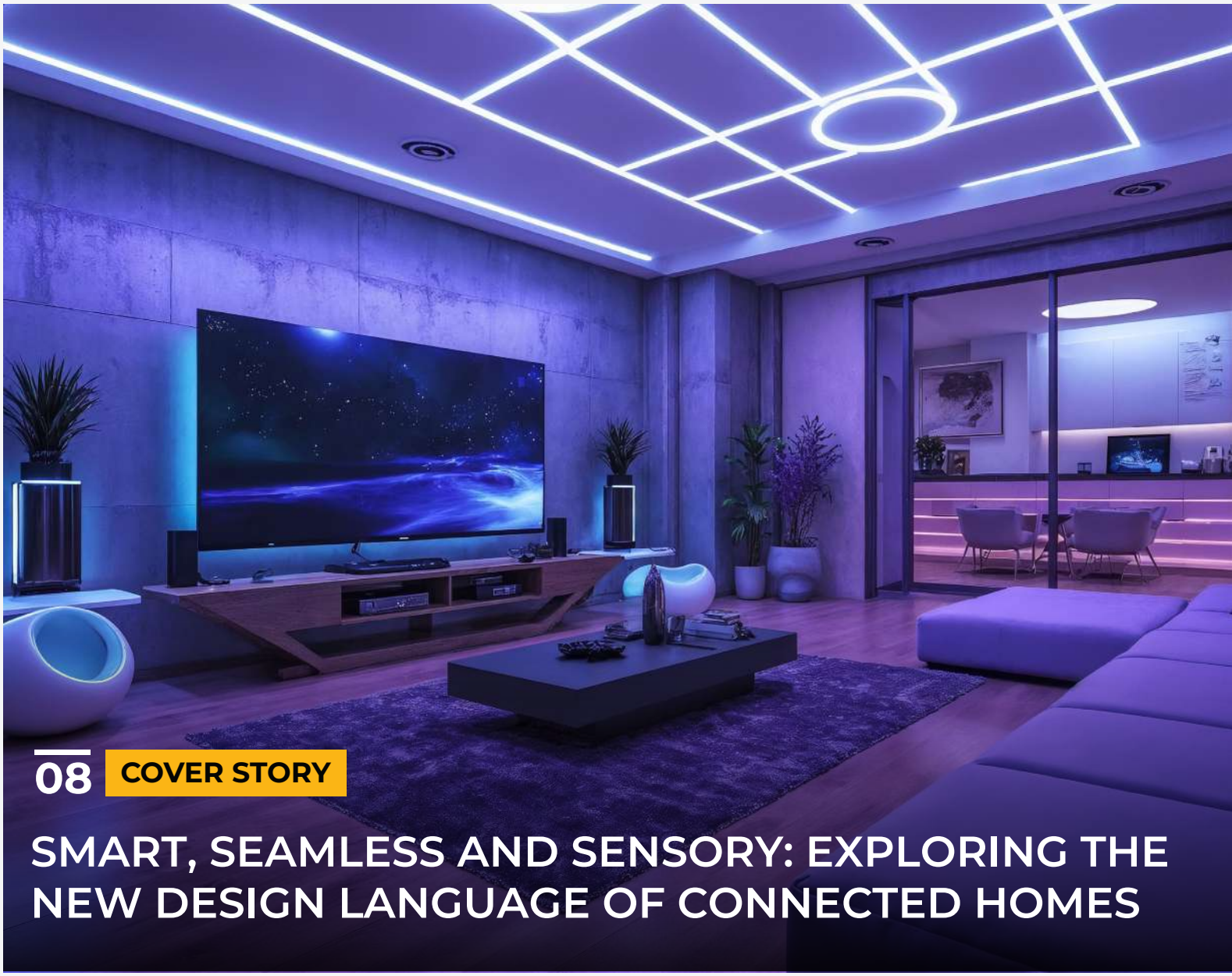

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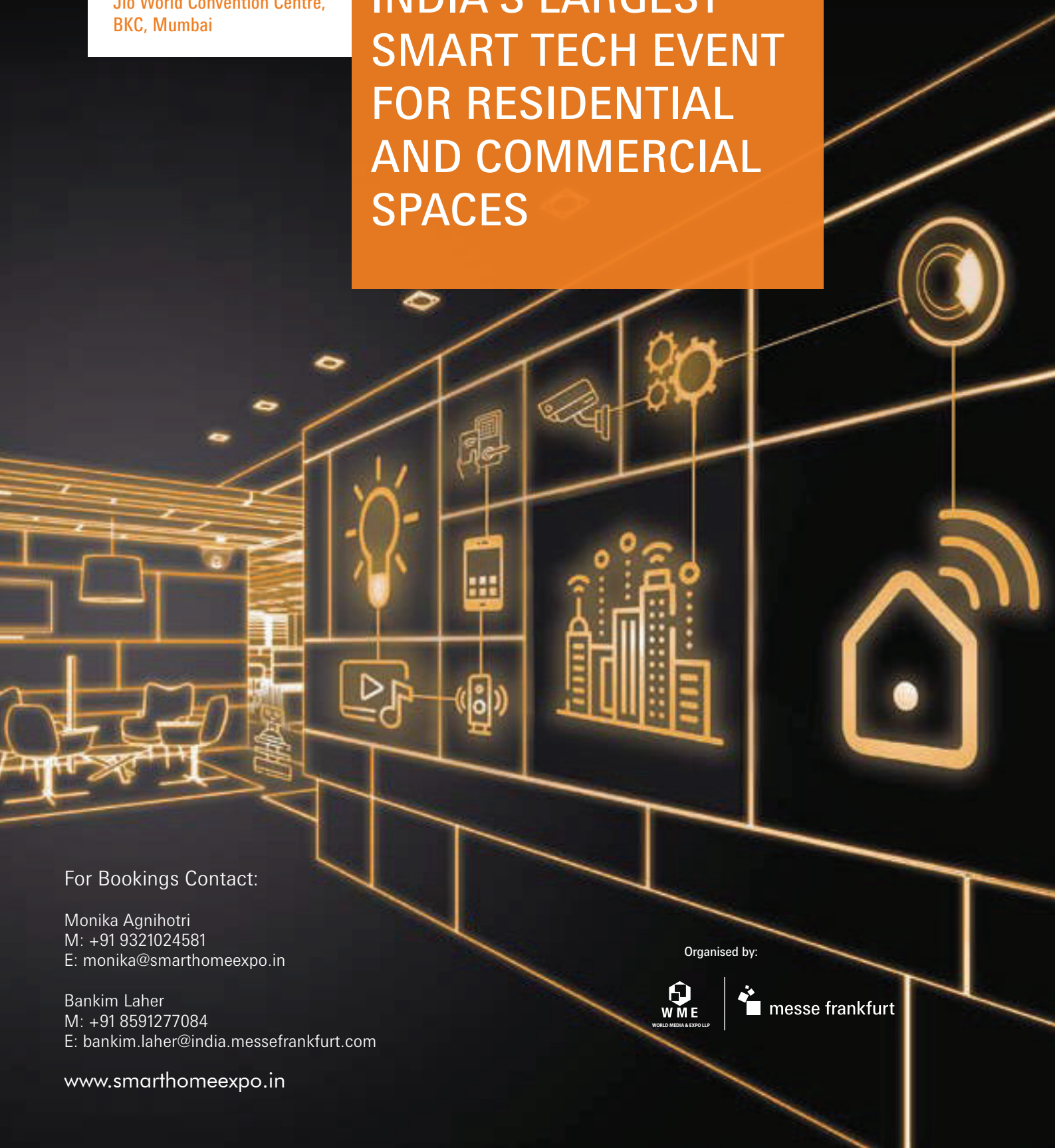

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SWATI BALGI

FROM THE EDITOR

We often hear success stories where architects and system integrators join forces to deliver truly exceptional projects. But beyond individual achievements, these collaborations are driving the industry forward, setting new benchmarks for innovation, efficiency, and user experience. In this issue, we engage with leading professionals and experts to explore how these partnerships are shaping the present—and what they foresee for the future of connected, intelligent spaces.

Our Cover Story, Connected Living: The New Design Language of Smart Homes, delves into the evolving trends, challenges, and possibilities in creating smarter, more responsive homes. The Feature Story, From Blueprint to Boom: How AV Brands and Integrators Are Transforming Entertainment at Home, provides an update on the latest technologies redefining home entertainment.

In the Case Study section, we showcase two stunning smart homes. Mumbai's Hesperus House by 4th Dimension marries Neo-Classical elegance with cutting-edge technology, while the Singhvi residence by Ar. Yogesh Wadhwana of DWG Designs demonstrates how next-generation automation blends seamlessly with style and performance. Both projects highlight the power of collaboration between designers and integrators in elevating everyday living.

In our Interviews, Sven Schulz of Inakustik shares insights on proprietary innovations and the brand's growing presence in India. Alok Aggarwal of Ozone Overseas discusses how home security is evolving from a luxury to a daily essential. Meanwhile, Kuldeep Sehrawat of Tribeca Developers explains how AI, digital twins, and adaptive technologies are shaping ultra-luxury spaces that intuitively respond to occupants' needs.

Together, these features indicate a compelling picture of an industry in transformation—where design, technology, and collaboration are converging to define the future of connected living.

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Connected Living: The New Design Language of Smart Homes

Are architects, interior designers, and system integrators collaborating to script a new design language for connected living? Smart Home World speaks with leading professionals across these fields to share their insights on shaping intelligent, responsive, and wellness-focused homes.

It's 7 am and the bedroom lights gradually brighten, mimicking sunrise, while the blinds silently glide open. Your coffee machine has already brewed your preferred blend stronger today, sensing you slept fewer hours. As you head to the shower, the water temperature adjusts to your routine, while a wellness dashboard projects your overnight sleep score on the smart mirror. By the time you step into the living room, the thermostat has balanced energy use with outdoor weather, solar panels are channeling power into home storage, and an AI-curated playlist begins to set the tone for the day.

AI-driven personalization is creating spaces that adjust uniquely to every occupant, while interoperability standards like Matter ensure that devices from different brands communicate effortlessly. Invisible sensors

quietly monitor air quality, water usage, and security, transforming maintenance into a predictive science. Not just that, wellness-centric design is emerging as the new luxury—circadian lighting that syncs with your body clock, immersive acoustic zoning, and smart ventilation that enhances indoor air quality. Even the design process is being transformed, as AR/VR tools allow homeowners to virtually walk through their future smart spaces and interact with features before construction begins.

The New Design Language

Smart homes once revolved around individual devices—an app-controlled light bulb, a video doorbell, or a voice assistant. Today, they have evolved into integrated living experiences that anticipate needs, adapt to routines, and respond intuitively. Connected living is no longer just about touch panels or wireless controls; it's about blending technology seamlessly with architecture and interiors, making it invisible yet indispensable.

Minimalism is now the defining aesthetic, with motion sensors, voice commands, and context-aware automation replacing visible switches and bulky gadgets. Homes are designed for well-being, with circadian lighting, smart climate control, and adaptive acoustics creating spaces that are as comfortable and healthy as they are efficient. Sustainability has become a design principle rather than an afterthought, with energy-efficient devices, AI-driven power management, and smart water systems built in by default.

At the heart of this evolution is personalization. Data-driven systems allow homes to learn from inhabitants' routines—from sleep patterns to entertainment and shopping preferences—creating spaces that adapt uniquely to each resident, delivering a truly bespoke living experience.

Technology and Aesthetics in Balance

One of the most exciting shifts in smart living is the seamless collaboration between architects, interior designers, and system integrators. The dialogue has evolved beyond "where to place the smart speaker" to how intelligence can be woven into the very fabric of design. Today, motorized furniture adapts to changing needs, lighting coves adjust their tone with the time of day, and walls double up as immersive entertainment displays.

Smart Home World, `In Conversation' with leading system integrators, architects and interior designers offers insights into their collaborations, the challenges they face on projects, and their first-hand experiences bringing cutting-edge innovations to landmark homes.

NEHA JAENE

Founder & Principal Designer, Studio Jaene

How has the growing demand for smart homes influenced your design philosophy — both in terms of space planning and aesthetics?

The demand for smart homes has shifted design conversations from just "form and function" to "form, function, and fluidity." Space planning now accounts for how technology will layer into the user's lifestyle — hidden conduits, sensor-driven layouts, automated shading, and multi-purpose rooms that can switch moods at the touch of a button. Aesthetically, the focus is on seamlessness: devices must blend into the spatial narrative, not interrupt it.

At what stage of a project do you typically start thinking about technology integration, and how early do you bring in system integrators or consultants?

Technology integration starts as early as concept design. Placement of lighting, acoustics, HVAC, and even furniture is influenced by automation intent. Bringing in system integrators at this stage prevents retrofits and ensures infrastructure planning from wiring to concealment details is aligned with the design journey.

What's the biggest challenge in balancing technology with design—especially when it comes to concealing devices or avoiding clutter?

The challenge is two-fold: first, hardware often has a very "tech-first" aesthetic that can jar with softer interiors. Second, clients want maximum functionality with minimum visual intrusion. The solution lies in custom cabinetry, recess detailing, and smart material choices that allow speakers, sensors, and screens to disappear until called upon.

Have you worked on a project where smart automation truly elevated the user experience? Can you share what made it successful?

Yes, in the Mrignain residence, automation wasn't just about convenience; it was about weaving technology into daily rituals. We integrated circadian lighting, automated drapery, and a centralised AV system that adjusted intuitively to the family's lifestyle: soft daylight settings in the morning, entertainment modes in the evening, and secure remote access when away. To make it truly invisible, we added wall-integrated speakers that disappear into the architecture, and the music flows through the home without a single device in sight.

How do client expectations around smart features vary — are they mostly focused on

convenience, security, or luxury?

There's a generational split: younger clients prioritise convenience and lifestyle automation, lighting, entertainment, and climate, while senior homeowners prioritise security and ease of access. At the ultra-luxury level, it's about blending all three effortlessly, where technology becomes an invisible layer of comfort.

Do you have preferred automation products or brands that you trust to blend well with premium interiors?

We lean towards brands that offer two things: integration flexibility and design discretion. Technology should enhance, not announce itself, especially in premium interiors. For lighting, we often work with Lafit, Littoria, and Nirvana, all of whom bring a range of lighting solutions that can be tied into automation systems. For air conditioning, Carecool Services Pvt. Ltd. has been a reliable partner, ensuring comfort without bulky visual intrusion. Beyond these, we prefer ecosystems that allow scalability, whether that's Lutron for intelligent lighting control or KNX-based solutions that can be customised across lighting, HVAC, and AV. The key is always the same: the tech should vanish into the background while the experience takes centre stage.

As homes get smarter, how do you see the role of architects and designers evolving — will tech fluency become a core skill in your profession?

Absolutely. Designers can no longer treat technology as an afterthought; fluency in automation basics is becoming as critical as understanding lighting or materiality. The future role of designers and architects will be that of orchestrators, ensuring that tech, design, and lifestyle don't just coexist but elevate each other.

MEHMET DENIZ KAYA
Global Vice President & MD Middle East, Barco Residential

When designing a smart home system, how do you approach protocol integration — whether it's KNX, Zigbee, Z-Wave, or proprietary platforms?

As a display technology provider, we don't directly dictate the protocol layer. However, we ensure full compatibility with the leading control systems used by high-end integrators. Whether it's KNX or a proprietary AV framework, our focus is on seamless integration with media servers, automation platforms, and control interfaces — ensuring our projection and LED wall systems become a natural part of the broader smart home ecosystem.

We also believe that a "smart home" goes beyond hardware and protocols. A truly smart home integrates our visual systems into the rhythm of daily life. We prioritize smart design — LED walls that remain hidden until needed, projectors that are offset or fully concealed yet capable of high performance in bright, architecturally sensitive spaces. The goal isn't just connectivity — it's invisibility until impact.

What's your preferred approach: centralized or decentralized automation systems — and how does that choice affect scalability and maintenance?

Both models can be effective, provided the AV infrastructure is designed with scalability and serviceability in mind. Our systems are typically integrated into centralized AV racks or media rooms, but we work closely with integrators to ensure flexible deployment. We incorporate diagnostic and remote monitoring capabilities to support maintenance, regardless of the automation topology. Ultimately, the choice depends on the project's scale, complexity, and client expectations.

How do you ensure different brands and systems (lighting, AV, HVAC, security) work seamlessly together for a smooth user experience?

Close collaboration is essential. We work hand-in-hand with integration partners to ensure our projection and LED products are pre-certified or tested for compatibility with leading control ecosystems (e.g., Crestron, Control4, Savant). We prioritize user experience over technical complexity, ensuring smooth interoperability across lighting, AV, HVAC, and security systems.

Can you walk us through your typical testing and commissioning process before handing over a project to the homeowner?

Before handover, we rigorously test both the visual performance (calibration, focus, brightness uniformity) and integration points — ensuring the system responds accurately to automation triggers, AV switchers, and control commands. We support integrators with on-site or remote validation and provide end-user training for a smooth transition.

A highly capable system is only as good as its tuning. Calibration is essential — not just for image quality, but for harmony with the physical environment. We account for light spill, viewing angles, and room surfaces, all of which impact performance.

How involved are you in the early design phase, and what's the impact when you're brought in too late by architects or designers?

Early involvement is crucial, especially for display-centric spaces like private cinemas or media rooms. Screen size, throw distance, ventilation, and cable routing — all require early planning. Late involvement often leads to compromises in image quality, speaker placement, or ventilation.

Elements like screen size, throw distance, thermal dispersion, cable routes, lighting (direct, indirect, reflective), viewing geometry, sightlines, hazard zones, and visual fatigue factors must be considered from the outset.

These are core to a successful outcome and should never be afterthoughts.

What kind of interface customization do you offer — touch panels, mobile apps, voice and what are clients gravitating toward lately?

While we don't provide user interfaces directly, we support full customization through integrators' platforms. We're seeing growing demand for voice-activated scenes (e.g., "movie night"), mobile app control for projector settings, and personalized presets that integrate lighting, audio, and visuals — all managed through the client's preferred smart home interface.

Cybersecurity and privacy are becoming big concerns. How do you secure smart home systems from potential vulnerabilities?

Our devices adhere to best practices, including secure firmware, encrypted communication, password-protected admin access, and minimal exposure to external networks.

What's been your biggest challenge in collaborating with architects and interior designers and how can the process improve?

The biggest challenge is spatial planning — especially when aesthetics compete with technical requirements. Large projectors and LED walls need proper sightlines, ventilation, and acoustic treatment, which are difficult to retrofit.

The solution lies in early education and co-design. When architects understand the visual possibilities, they often find creative ways to integrate technology seamlessly without compromising design.

Looking ahead, what tech trends like AI, local control, or energy management do you believe will reshape smart homes in the next 3–5 years?

We see three transformative trends shaping the smart home entertainment experience:

1. AI-powered scene awareness: Systems that dynamically adapt lighting, sound, and visuals based on content and user behavior.
2. Cinematic-grade LED displays: Entering ultra-luxury homes, offering immersive visual storytelling.
3. Wellness-integrated entertainment: Systems designed not just for watching, but for decompressing — including circadian lighting and mood-matched visuals.

We believe the future of smart homes is experiential — with visual storytelling at its core.

KUNTAL VYAS AGGARWAL

Founder & Design Head, Resaiki Interiors and Architecture Design Studio

How has the growing demand for smart homes influenced your design philosophy — both in terms of space planning and aesthetics?

We view smart homes as adaptive environments that evolve with their users. In terms of spatial planning, the focus is on creating flexible zones that cater to wellness using concepts like circadian lighting in nooks, discreet stacks for air-quality control, and passive ventilation paths, which function on comfort-driven cues. Aesthetically, the preference is toward using "invisible technology" in homes, such as motorised drapery, flush-mounted controls, etc. The underlying intent is to merge technology and tranquility, ensuring each space feels aligned to the user's functional and emotional needs.

At what stage of a project do you typically start thinking about technology integration, and how early do you bring in system integrators or consultants?

Technology planning begins at the very inception, during site analysis and conceptual mapping. This ensures infrastructure for automation is woven into the foundational layers, from concealed cabling to spatial zoning for tech-active areas.

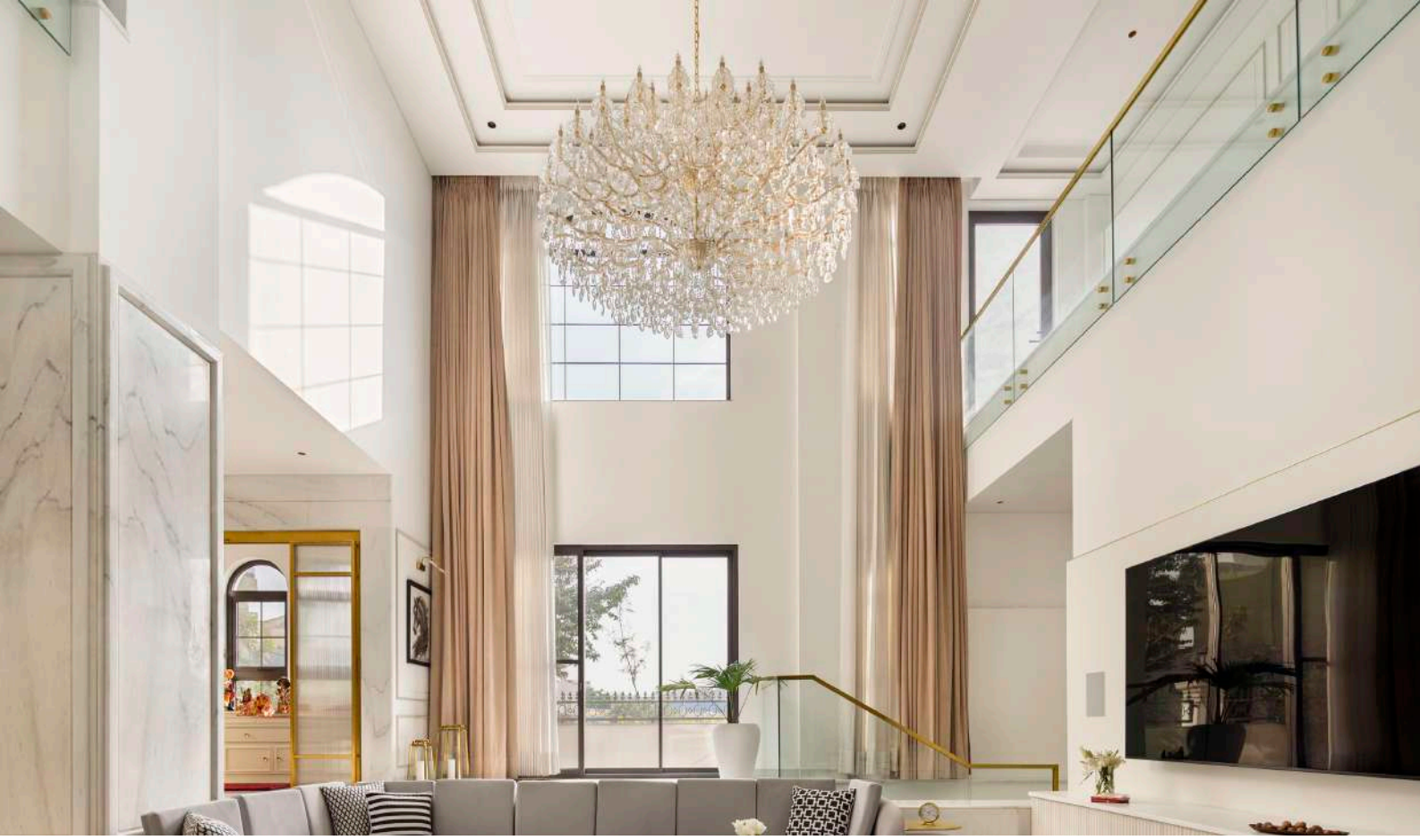
Collaboration with smart home system integrators during schematic design allows for key components such as home automation controllers, network hubs, and sensor enclosures to be integrated into the design. This synergy between designer and integrator avoids visual clutter and preserves spatial clarity.

What's the biggest challenge in balancing technology with design—especially when it comes to concealing devices or avoiding clutter?

The challenge lies in keeping tech present yet invisible. Achieving this requires forethought in placement, for example, integrated motorised blinds in roof coves instead of side mounts, speakers built into shelves, etc. The aim is to enrich daily rituals without compromising the elegance of the interiors.

Have you worked on a project where smart automation truly elevated the user experience? Can you share what made it successful?

In one of our recent projects, Warrior's Paradise, we used smart automation to elevate the residence beyond luxury into an effortless



experience. While the residence draws inspiration from French palatial design, the integration of technology ensures it functions with modern ease.

Automation was woven subtly into the fabric of daily life—motorised curtains to ensure privacy, intelligent lighting that adapts to mood and function, and a state-of-the-art home theatre in the basement that transforms family gatherings into cinematic experiences. These features were not treated as add-ons but as extensions of the design intent, enhancing comfort while preserving the home's vintage charm.

How do client expectations around smart features vary — are they mostly focused on convenience, security, or luxury?

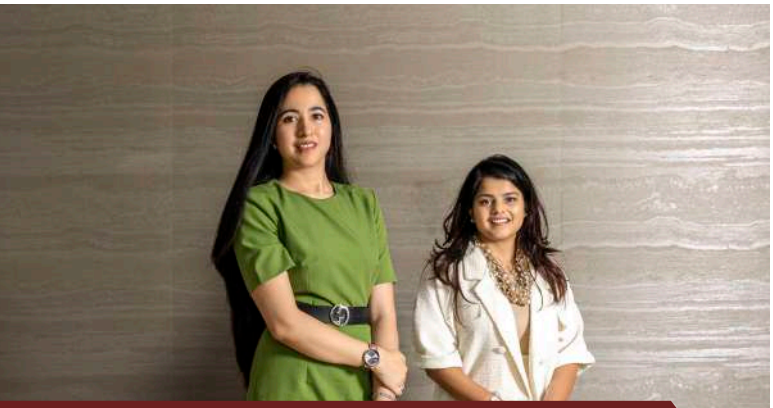
Many clients are focused on convenience—simplified lighting, voice control, and automated shades. Others lean toward well-being, asking for circadian lighting, clean air, and wellness routines to be embedded within the space. They also look for seamless elegance like controls that disappear, and environments that adapt intuitively. These preferences guide how technology is curated, both functionally and emotionally.

Do you have preferred automation products or brands that you trust to blend well with premium interiors?

We favour systems that prioritise discretion: sleek smart lighting panels, hidden sensors, and voice assistants that can be embedded into cabinetry or subtle decor. Brands that design with form in mind—like AI-led climate control systems, circadian lighting solutions, and wellness-enhancing air systems—are preferred. Interoperability, minimal visual footprint, and emotional resonance guide our selection.

As homes get smarter, how do you see the role of architects and designers evolving — will tech fluency become a core skill in your profession?

Absolutely. Designers are no longer just creators of spaces, but curators of experiences. As technology becomes invisible yet essential, our role is to choreograph how it interacts with light, material, and human behaviour. Fluent understanding of system protocols, wellness-driven automation, and human-centred data analytics is becoming essential. The future of design lies in ensuring that innovation always serves life, not the other way around.



RASHI BOTHRA & RUCHI GEHANI

Founders & Interior Designers, Azure Interiors

How has the growing demand for smart homes influenced your design philosophy — both in terms of space planning and aesthetics?

Smart homes have encouraged us to design with greater foresight, ensuring layouts accommodate concealed wiring, hubs, and automation. Aesthetically, we lean toward clean, minimal forms where technology integrates quietly into the background. The focus remains on timeless beauty, but supported by invisible convenience.

At what stage of a project do you typically start thinking about technology integration, and how early do you bring in system integrators or consultants?

Technology integration starts right from the concept stage. Early collaboration with system integrators allows us to plan infrastructure in sync with the layout, cabinetry, and finishes. This proactive approach ensures functionality without disrupting the design narrative.

What's the biggest challenge in balancing technology with design—especially when it comes to concealing devices or avoiding clutter?

The biggest challenge is avoiding visual clutter caused by multiple devices. We resolve this by integrating controls into wall paneling, using flush-mount systems, or blending them with bespoke furniture. The goal is for technology to feel intuitive yet invisible.

Have you worked on a project where smart automation truly elevated the user experience? Can you share what made it successful?

Yes, in Kuche7's Delhi store, we have integrated a smart kitchen with their offerings and there are few luxury residences, where we have integrated smart lighting and automated curtains, transforming the way spaces are experienced. Clients could switch between moods with just one touch. With this successful lay in seamless integration of technology in interiors, elegance remains undisturbed and visual clutter-free

How do client expectations around smart features vary — are they mostly focused on convenience, security, or luxury?

Client expectations vary depending on lifestyle. Families often value convenience and security, while younger homeowners see automation as a symbol of luxury. We find the sweet spot by tailoring solutions that blend functionality with a premium, lifestyle-driven experience.

Do you have preferred automation products or brands that you trust to blend well with premium interiors?

We prefer systems that are discreet, reliable, and customizable rather than brand-specific. Minimal and modular controls with sleek interfaces work best with our luxury interiors, allowing technology to enhance the space without drawing attention to itself.

PARNIKA KAPUR JULKA

Co-Founder & Principal Designer, Attico Homes

How has the growing demand for smart homes influenced your design philosophy — both in terms of space planning and aesthetics?

The rise of smart homes has reshaped my design philosophy by emphasizing seamless integration of technology with everyday living. Space planning now prioritizes hidden infrastructure for smart systems, while aesthetics lean toward minimalist, clutter-free environments that complement sleek, tech-enabled features. The goal is to create intuitive, functional spaces that feel both sophisticated and effortlessly connected.

At what stage of a project do you typically start thinking about technology integration, and how early do you bring in system integrators or consultants?

I start considering technology integration right from the concept stage, ensuring it blends seamlessly with the design vision rather than feeling like an afterthought. System integrators or consultants are usually brought in during the early design development phase so that wiring, automation, and smart solutions can be coordinated alongside spatial planning. This proactive approach ensures both aesthetics and functionality align effortlessly.

What's the biggest challenge in balancing technology with design—especially when it comes to concealing devices or avoiding clutter?

The biggest challenge is integrating advanced technology without disrupting the purity of the design. Devices often bring visual clutter, so the focus lies in concealing them through custom joinery, seamless wall panels, or multi-functional furniture. Achieving this balance requires foresight—planning niches, wiring routes, and finishing early so the technology feels invisible yet effortlessly accessible.

Have you worked on a project where smart automation truly elevated the user experience? Can you share what made it successful?

Every project we do has automation to some extent. Clients love it, and we suggest very user-friendly interfaces, so it does make their lives very convenient

How do client expectations around smart features vary — are they mostly focused on convenience, security, or luxury?

Client expectations around smart features vary by lifestyle, but most center around three key priorities: convenience, security, and luxury. Tech-savvy clients often prioritize automation and ease; like voice-controlled lighting or climate systems—while families tend to focus on enhanced security. High-end clients, meanwhile, seek a blend of all three, expecting seamless integration that elevates comfort and delivers a sense of modern luxury.

Do you have preferred automation products or brands that you trust to blend well with premium interiors?

Lutron is the best for premium projects. We also use KNX-based systems, as they give us varied options for keypads.

FUTURISTIC OUTLOOK

The next phase of smart homes will likely see AI-driven predictive design, where spaces self-configure based on who is present, the time of day, or even emotional cues. The boundary between digital and physical living will blur further, creating homes that don't just respond to us but resonate with us.

In essence, connected living is not about technology replacing design, but technology becoming design. It's the art of creating spaces that think, feel, and adapt—making the smart home not just a futuristic dream but today's evolving reality.

From Blueprint to Boom: How AV Brands and Integrators Are Transforming Home Entertainment

An overview of the newest innovations and tech upgradations in home entertainment reveals how AV brands and system integrators are transforming living spaces. With advancements in spatial audio, 8K projection, and intelligent automation, theatre-like experiences are now a reality at home.

The way we experience entertainment within our homes has undergone a drastic change. What was once limited to a flat-screen television and a surround-sound system has now expanded into immersive, multi-sensory environments—thanks to the collaboration between AV brands, System Integrators, and Design Professionals. Today, home entertainment is no longer just about watching movies or listening to music; it is about creating experiences similar to commercial theatres and concert halls, right at your home.

Several factors are driving the emergence of this new entertainment ecosystem, and at the forefront are Audio-Visual (AV) brands that continue to push the boundaries of technology. For example, Spatial audio is advancing beyond traditional stereo and surround sound to deliver immersive, three-dimensional soundscapes. 8K resolution and laser projection have introduced ultra-high-definition visuals with breathtaking clarity and HDR precision, while AR/VR integration extends entertainment beyond the screen into interactive, immersive worlds. Adding a layer of intelligence, AI-powered automation learns user preferences and seamlessly adjusts sound, lighting, and visuals to suit moods and

routines. Enhancing this ecosystem further is high-fidelity streaming, which transforms digital content into audiophile-grade experiences—proving that convenience and uncompromising performance can coexist.

Modern homeowners no longer want bulky equipment or clunky setups. They demand design-led integration—hidden speakers, automated lighting, acoustically treated rooms, and user-friendly control systems. This is where System Integrators become the bridge, ensuring that high-performance AV technology blends effortlessly with the overall interior design of a home.

From Luxury to Lifestyle

Just a decade ago, home theatres and high-end AV setups were reserved for luxury homes. Today, these solutions are becoming increasingly mainstream. Mid-segment residences and apartments are adopting modular home theatre kits, wireless multi-room audio, and smart projectors. Brands and integrators are responding by offering scalable solutions, ensuring that a compact city apartment can enjoy the same immersive experience as a sprawling villa, albeit on a different scale.

Architects and interior designers now work hand-in-hand with System Integrators to ensure that spaces are acoustically optimized and technologically future-ready. Walls are no longer just walls; they can double up as projection surfaces. Ceilings can be fitted with invisible speakers. Lighting can sync with the mood of the movie, and voice commands can instantly transform a living room into a mini-cinema.

For homeowners who are keen on adopting these advanced systems, they depend on system integrators to recommend the right mix of products and ensure that technology doesn't overwhelm the homeowner but enhances their lifestyle seamlessly.

In an exclusive interaction with Smart Home World, some of the top System Integrators and Brand Heads share insights on the latest trends and innovations.

MEHERNOSH PERVEZ

Founder, Sound Decisions

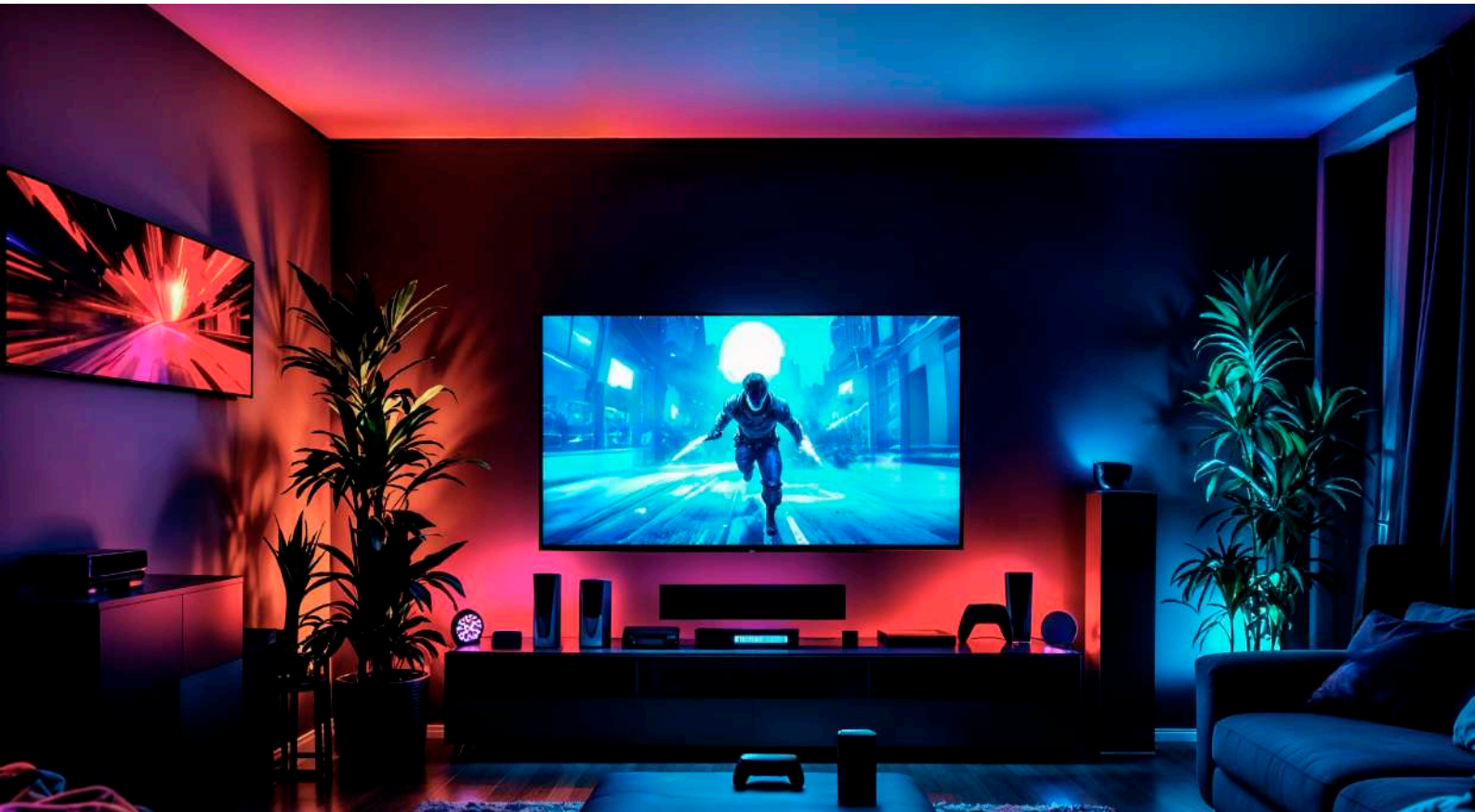
What trends are you seeing in client requests for home cinema — dedicated theaters vs. multipurpose media rooms?

Over the past few years, we've seen a noticeable shift. Earlier, most clients came to us wanting large, dedicated home theaters with closed rooms, tiered seating, and complete blackout environments. That remains popular among pure movie lovers, but it is no longer the only dream setup.

Many high-end homeowners are now leaning towards multipurpose media rooms. They want spaces that look elegant during the day yet transform into a cinematic experience at night. It is about flexibility, so we believe having one room that works for family gatherings, casual viewing, and high-performance movie nights is a change in dynamic that has been seen over the years. In the luxury segment, aesthetics are a priority. Clients do not want bulky speakers or visible wires; they want everything integrated, whether that means hidden speakers, motorized screens, acoustic treatments that double as decor, or lighting scenes that shift with the mood. If I had to choose one format based on current demand, multipurpose media rooms are leading the trend.

How do you approach acoustic treatment and speaker placement in architecturally complex homes?

In architecturally complex homes, we work with the space rather than against it. Speaker placement is all about precision and planning. We position speakers to complement the room's shape and layout, ensuring optimal coverage and accurate imaging from every seat. Early coordination with architects is key, allowing us to conceal wiring, recess speakers, and integrate subwoofers without disturbing the design.



What's your preferred ecosystem for integrating AV with lighting, shading, and automation?

For most of our high-end projects, our preferred choice is Savant and Raylogic. It is the same system we have in our own home, so we have firsthand experience of how seamless and intuitive it is. They both bring AV, lighting, shading, and climate control together in a single, elegant interface, with custom scenes that can transform a space instantly. The automation is smooth, the app is highly responsive, and with one tap, you can set the perfect mood for a movie night.

How do you manage calibration for projectors, audio tuning, and control interfaces to deliver a true cinema-like experience?

Calibration is where everything comes together. For projectors, we use professional calibration tools to fine-tune brightness, contrast, sometimes colour accuracy, and HDR so the visuals match the filmmaker's intent. Audio is tuned with precision by adjusting speaker levels, delays, and EQ to suit the room's acoustics, ensuring balanced, immersive sound in every seat. Control interfaces are tailored to the client, with their most used functions front and centre, and pre programmed scenes ready at a touch. This creates a consistent, cinema-grade experience every single time.

Can you share a project where you had to overcome a unique challenge to deliver a premium AV setup?

One standout project was a luxury penthouse in Malabar Hill, Mumbai, with floor-to-ceiling glass on three sides. The space was acoustically challenging, with many reflective surfaces, minimal wall space for speakers, and almost no options for hiding wiring. We collaborated closely with the architect to integrate in ceiling directional speakers, custom low profile subwoofers, and discreet acoustic treatments that merged perfectly with the interiors. For projection, we chose a high-brightness laser projector paired with an ambient light-rejecting screen to ensure crystal clear daytime viewing. Every element, from speaker angling to automation scenes, was fine-tuned on site. The result was a seamless, cinema-grade experience in a space most people thought would never work for serious AV.

MANOJ SONI

Founder, AV4U

What trends are you seeing in client requests for home cinema — dedicated theaters vs. multipurpose media rooms?

The market has moved beyond a simple choice between a dedicated theatre and a multipurpose media room—it's now about `experience-first design' that reflects each client's lifestyle. One of the biggest trends shaping this shift is hybrid spaces: rooms that seamlessly transform from a relaxed family lounge into a reference-grade cinema at the touch of a button. With advancements in display technology, acoustical treatments, and motorized concealment systems, the line between "dedicated" and "multipurpose" is rapidly disappearing. The true challenge—and opportunity—lies in striking the right balance between technology, design, and lifestyle, ensuring the space delivers that wow factor whether it's for a blockbuster movie night, a live concert stream, or watching the big game in broad daylight.

How do you approach acoustic treatment and speaker placement in architecturally complex homes?

Speaker and acoustics often present the biggest challenges in architecturally complex homes, where designers prefer hidden solutions over conventional speakers or visible treatments. To address this, we follow a two-tier approach. First, we recommend the most

technically suitable speaker options that blend seamlessly with the design aesthetic while ensuring minimal compromise on performance. Second, to achieve the desired acoustic parameters, we encourage the use of natural design elements—such as curtains, fabric in seating, and wall paneling—that enhance sound quality while maintaining visual harmony. Additionally, we conduct regular CEDIA-accredited CPD programs, which serve as an effective platform to update designers on the latest technology trends and to foster deeper collaboration.

What's your preferred ecosystem for integrating AV with lighting, shading, and automation?

Our priority is ecosystems that work flawlessly and stand the test of time, and we make it a point to keep clients and designers educated on emerging trends.

How do you manage calibration for projectors, audio tuning, and control interfaces to deliver a true cinema-like experience?

At AV4U, we have state-of-the-art calibration equipment and in-house skill sets like ISF/HAA/THX certifications. We also use the most recent recommended practices, like CEDIA RP-22, to deliver the entertainment experience as the director intended.

Can you share a project where you had to overcome a unique challenge to deliver a premium AV setup?

We recently completed a project where the client envisioned transforming a spare room into an immersive entertainment space featuring a fully automated 4K system with Dolby Atmos 7.1.4 surround sound. However, upon reviewing the initial drawings, we realized that the room's narrow width was a significant limitation for achieving true cinematic immersion.

After several rounds of discussions—and a few heated debates—with both the client and the architects, we were able to convince them to implement critical modifications in the construction. By reworking the dimensions to increase both the width and ceiling height, and by integrating a hidden, customized projector housing with automation, we successfully elevated the space to meet the desired performance standards while staying true to the design intent.

The result was an entertainment room that not only met but exceeded expectations. Both the client and the architect were delighted with the final outcome—a perfect blend of aesthetics, technology, and immersive experience.

FENIL MEHTA

Founder, White Noise (Integration Company & Sound Tight, Manufacturer of Sound Proofing Elastomers)

What trends are you seeing in client requests for home cinema — dedicated theatres vs. multipurpose media rooms?

The line between a dedicated home cinema and a media room is getting blurred as the quality of AV equipment and expertise of the Integration Industry is getting better each day. The design and build community has adapted well to technology and is better poised to provide a complete and entertaining experience to the client.
It generally boils down to the way a space is aesthetically and acoustically treated, with a formal cinema style or an informal living room style layout. Essentially, the AV system is what merges the functions of these spaces and allows one to have great entertainment in any scenario.

How do you approach acoustic treatment and speaker placement in architecturally complex homes?

Acoustics is the most misunderstood, misinterpreted, and in a lot of cases, an ignored subject. The design and build community, as well as the integration industry, are fairly unaware, misinformed and misled by half-baked knowledge of acoustics available on the web. A lot of material manufacturers that promote their materials as acoustic blinds, acoustic ceiling, acoustic panels, acoustic paint, etc., are adding to this confusion. Many such manufacturers mislead the design community with graphs and numbers like NRC & STC.

One needs in-depth knowledge about material sciences and physics, backed by simulation software and acoustic calculation software to give an optimized acoustic solution.

Usually, a designer or a client comes to an acoustic consultant after a complex space has been built; This needs to change. For architecturally complex spaces, it becomes important for the architect to involve an acoustician from the very beginning of the architectural design process. As the great architect and designer Louis H. Sullivan said of his design philosophy, ` Form follows Function'. When it comes to acoustics and aesthetics in complex spaces, we need to achieve a very rare occurrence; one that's difficult to achieve – ` Form marries Function'.

What's your preferred ecosystem for integrating AV with lighting, shading, and automation?

There are cases where certain clients want the highest level of integration and there are cases where clients still prefer the conventional handheld remote and physical switches. Although our personal preference here would

be a well-designed system that is user-friendly, one that requires the least intervention and one that the grandmother as well as the granddaughter can use. A lot of brands and ecosystems are able to achieve a similar result; it all depends on how the integrator understands a client's requirements and designs a solution around the client's lifestyle.

How do you manage calibration for projectors, audio tuning, and control interfaces to deliver a true cinema-like experience?

These days, AV equipment comes with either a 3rd party calibration software or a proprietary calibration software. These are fairly easy to use as long as one knows what one is aiming to achieve. There are some free software as well, where you would just need a good microphone along with its calibration file, and a laptop with some cables, and an experienced integrator who has trained eyes and ears can manage to achieve fairly good sound.

For Video calibration, there are various software's that are available in the market. One will need a good colorimeter, a spectrometer, and a pattern generator that is compatible with the equipment and the software.

There are certification courses that are conducted on a regular basis in the industry that greatly elevate the calibration skill set of integrators. For ex. HAA, THX, ISF, PVA etc.

RISHABH JAIN
Director, Audio & Beyond

What trends are you seeing in client requests for home cinema — dedicated theaters vs. multipurpose media rooms?

We're increasingly seeing a shift towards multipurpose media rooms, especially in urban homes where space is premium. Clients want flexibility — a living room that transforms into a home theatre in seconds. However, for luxury homes or second properties, dedicated cinema rooms are still in demand, especially where immersive audio and large-format projection are priorities. Clients are looking for not just performance, but aesthetics and ease of use.

How do you approach acoustic treatment and speaker placement in architecturally complex homes?
Each space is unique, and so is our approach. We begin with a detailed site survey and simulation, taking into account materials, dimensions, and listening positions. Acoustic treatment is always subtly integrated into the design to maintain the interior language. For speaker placement, we rely on a combination of acoustic modeling, in-room measurements, and real-time calibration. For larger or more open spaces, directional speakers and zoning help control audio spill and improve clarity.

What's your preferred ecosystem for integrating AV with lighting, shading, and automation?

We prefer IP-based control systems that offer flexibility and scalability. Our go-to ecosystems include KNX for lighting and HVAC, Lutron for lighting and shading control, and Control4, Savant and Casadigi for complete AV integration. These platforms ensure seamless control via mobile, touch panels, or voice, while maintaining reliability and future-proofing.

How do you manage calibration for projectors, audio tuning, and control interfaces to deliver a true cinema-like experience?

Calibration is critical. For video, we follow ISF-certified calibration standards, adjusting brightness, colour temperature, and sharpness based on ambient light conditions. For audio, we use reference microphones and DSP-based tuning, ensuring accurate imaging and immersive surround. Control interfaces are designed to be intuitive, often with scene-based automation for a single-tap "Movie Mode" experience.

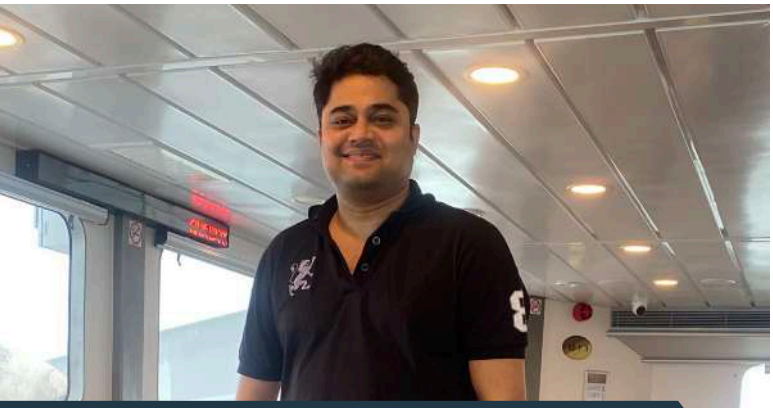
Can you share a project where you had to overcome a unique challenge to deliver a premium AV setup?

One of our most exciting and challenging projects was the experience theatre we built for the Charcoal Project, Hyderabad. The room itself was unusually large and abstract in shape, which made traditional AV design approaches impractical. Instead of opting for a standard projection setup, we chose to go with an active LED video wall — a bold move that ensured brightness, clarity, and a seamless cinematic experience regardless of ambient light.

For audio, the irregular shape of the room made Trinnov's advanced room correction system the ideal choice. The Trinnov processor adapted brilliantly to the space, delivering precise, immersive sound that elevated the experience. On the video front, we integrated MadVR for video processing, which ensured full-screen playback with true HDR — every single time.

Adding to the complexity was the design aspect — the room was conceptualized by the renowned Mrs. Gauri Khan, whose aesthetic vision had to be preserved meticulously.

This meant we had to strategically conceal all speakers and AV components without compromising on performance. The final outcome was a stunning blend of design and technology — a true showcase of what's possible when form and function come together seamlessly.



AJAY KAMATH

Founder & Principal Consultant, SOUNDS GOOD

What trends are you seeing in client requests for home cinema — dedicated theaters vs. multipurpose media rooms?

While clients do gravitate towards dedicated theater rooms that replicate the look, feel, and immersive experience of a commercial cinema, such lavish spaces are often a luxury even for premium apartment buyers in cities like Mumbai. As a result, we frequently design multipurpose media rooms that double as a living room, den, or guest bedroom and can transform into a high-performance cinema at the touch of a button. Interestingly, we're also seeing a surge in holiday homes where space is less constrained. These clients are more than happy to dedicate generous real estate to create grand, fully equipped theater rooms.

How do you approach acoustic treatment and speaker placement in architecturally complex homes?

There's no one-size-fits-all solution when it comes to acoustics. Beyond the structure and dimensions of the space, we also take into account the interior materials and finishes envisioned by the designer. With this information in hand, we integrate acoustic treatments that effectively address audio challenges while blending seamlessly with the interior design. Fortunately, modern acoustic materials have evolved to visually mimic traditional finishes — today, you can get high-performance panels that look like marble, brick, or wood, allowing us to maintain both form and function.

What's your preferred ecosystem for integrating AV with lighting, shading, and automation?

For projects that feature extensive AV equipment and require advanced integration with lighting, shading, HVAC, and other systems, we deploy a custom-designed control solution tailored to each site. This gives us maximum flexibility, reliability, and the ability to create an intuitive user experience that works flawlessly.

How do you manage calibration for projectors, audio tuning, and control interfaces to deliver a true cinema-like experience?

After delivering thousands of projects, this process has become second nature to me. There have been numerous instances where clients were struggling with systems that other integrators couldn't get right — and I've been able to resolve everything and walk out in under an hour. It's all about in-depth understanding, experience, and attention to detail.

Whether it's video calibration, fine-tuning surround sound, or designing intuitive control interfaces, every element is precisely optimized to recreate the cinematic experience as intended by the creators.

Can you share a project where you had to overcome a unique challenge to deliver a premium AV setup?

We recently completed a project at the residence of a celebrated architect. While not a challenge in the conventional sense, the client had one clear and valid demand: no visible equipment. And rightly so — it's a stunningly designed home where the interiors deserve to take center stage.
To achieve this, we used a motorized projector lift and retractable screen, with all nine Dolby Atmos speakers (plus a second zone) embedded in the ceiling to stay out of sight. Even the four subwoofers were ceiling-mounted — a rare feat. The result is a space that transforms from a regular-looking living room into a full-blown cinematic environment with a 130-inch screen and truly explosive sound, all without disrupting the visual aesthetics of the room.

INSIGHTS FROM BRAND HEADS

RAJEEV SINGH
Managing Director, BenQ India and South Asia

How is your brand adapting to the demand for custom-installed solutions in high-end residential spaces?

BenQ has been proactively evolving its product portfolio and integration approach to cater to the growing demand for custom-installed AV solutions in India's premium residential and commercial segments. we've seen a clear shift in luxury residences where homeowners and architects increasingly want technology that blends seamlessly into bespoke spaces. Our portfolio of high-end projectors—including the Laser & LED Series—has been designed with this in mind. These solutions combine discreet installation flexibility, superior brightness, and advanced colour accuracy, making them ideal for private home theatres, entertainment lounges, and even multi-purpose living areas. We also work closely with architects, interior designers, and system integrators to provide custom-install support—from consultation to calibration—ensuring the technology doesn't just deliver cinematic performance but also complements the aesthetics of luxury interiors. In essence, we're adapting by offering tailored experiences—solutions that integrate into the design vision while elevating the lifestyle value of high-end homes

Are Indian consumers more aware now of the value of room acoustics, calibration, and proper amplification?

In recent years, awareness has grown significantly in India over the past few years. As more homeowners invest in luxury home theatres and high-end entertainment zones, they're realizing that picture quality alone isn't enough—the entire ecosystem matters.

We see consumers asking the right questions around projector placement, calibration, and colour technologies to ensure they get the full

cinematic experience. A lot of this is driven by exposure to global trends, travel, and the growing influence of architects and system integrators who highlight the role of design and technology together.

At BenQ, we actively support this shift by providing tools like ISFccc-certified calibration and HDR tone mapping, which allow precise fine-tuning to the room environment. This way, customers don't just buy a projector; they enjoy a complete, properly optimized theatre experience at home.

What innovations have you launched recently in areas like immersive audio (Dolby Atmos, DTS: X), streaming integration, or control systems?

At BenQ, our recent innovations are centered around creating a truly seamless, future-ready entertainment experience. A big focus has been on streaming integration—our latest projectors come with Google-certified Android TV built in, giving users direct access to Netflix, Prime Video, Disney+ Hotstar, YouTube and more, without the need for external devices. This makes the system cleaner, faster, and more intuitive for both homeowners and integrators.

We're also embracing AI-driven enhancements. For example, our projectors use AI-powered HDR tone mapping and upscaling to automatically adjust picture quality scene-by-scene, ensuring the visuals are always optimized for the content being watched. This removes the complexity of manual adjustments and delivers a consistent, premium viewing experience.

By combining smart streaming, AI-based picture intelligence, and integration-ready designs, we're helping high-end residential spaces achieve both convenience and performance at a luxury level.

How are you working with system integrators and architects to ensure your products are seamlessly embedded into the design phase?

At BenQ, we understand that in luxury residences, technology has to blend into the design vision while delivering uncompromised performance. That's why our collaboration with system integrators and architects begins early—with experience zones and walkthroughs that help them visualize how our solutions fit into bespoke spaces.

We also invest heavily in partner training

programs, equipping integrators and consultants with in-depth knowledge of projector installation, calibration, and integration with automation systems. This ensures they can confidently recommend and deploy BenQ solutions that meet both technical and aesthetic requirements.

Our premium range is supported by various ports that can be connected to the high-end AV Systems. In short, we're not just providing products; we're building an ecosystem of trained experts and experiential showcases that ensure BenQ technology becomes a natural extension of the architectural story.

What's your outlook for the growth of multi-room, invisible audio, and voice-controlled AV setups in India?

BenQ sees the next phase of India's luxury home AV market being defined by truly integrated visual experiences across spaces. Architects are increasingly drawn to discreet projection setups—hidden mounts, ultra-short-throw solutions, and design-friendly finishes—that allow immersive visuals without visible hardware intrusion.

Voice control is also playing a growing role in video experiences. With compatibility for Google Assistant, Alexa, and leading automation platforms, BenQ projectors can be controlled through simple commands—whether it's starting a movie, dimming the lights, or switching inputs—making the system intuitive for all family members.

With the convergence of multi-room video, hidden installation, and voice-enabled control, we believe India's luxury AV market is poised to deliver cinema-grade immersion that feels natural, effortless, and beautifully designed.

SANJAY CHAWLA

Managing Director, Kripa Electronics India Pvt. Ltd

How is your brand adapting to the demand for custom-installed solutions in high-end residential spaces?

We recognize that high-end residential clients are increasingly seeking custom-installed solutions that deliver not just great sound and visuals, but also seamless integration with their lifestyle. Our diverse portfolio of world-class brands enables us to cater to this demand comprehensively:

Discreet Integration: Brands like Origin Acoustics, Adept Audio, and Kasper specialize in in-wall and in-ceiling speakers that are designed to disappear into interiors while delivering powerful, high-quality sound.

Luxury Performance: With brands like Elac, Totem Acoustic, Fyne Audio, and Primare, we provide premium audiophile-grade solutions that combine cutting-edge technology with timeless design—perfect for dedicated listening rooms and home theatres.

Scalability & Multi-Room Audio: Through solutions from Ecler and Fonestar, we offer robust distributed audio systems that can scale from a single living space to an entire luxury villa, ensuring consistent performance across rooms.

Smart Home Compatibility: Many of our products integrate seamlessly with modern automation systems (Control4, Crestron, etc.), making them ideal for today's connected smart homes.

Complete Entertainment Ecosystem: With Advance Paris, JVC projectors, Dune HD media players, and Tonewinner electronics, we deliver fully immersive home theatre solutions that blend superior sound and visuals.

Design-Centric Approach: We collaborate


Totem Acoustic

closely with architects, designers, and system integrators to ensure that our solutions enhance the aesthetics of the space while delivering uncompromised performance.

In short, we are adapting by offering flexible, future-ready, and design-friendly solutions that suit the evolving needs of high-end residential spaces—where luxury, technology, and personalization come together.

Are Indian consumers more aware now of the value of room acoustics, calibration, and proper amplification?

Yes, absolutely. Over the past few years, Indian consumers—especially in the luxury and high-end residential segment—have become much more aware of the importance of room acoustics, calibration, and proper amplification in achieving the best possible audio experience. Earlier, the focus was primarily on equipment alone, but today, clients understand that the room itself plays a crucial role in sound quality. At Kripa Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., we actively educate our customers and partners on these aspects. Many of our brands, like Primare, Advance Paris, and Tonewinner, offer high-performance amplification and processing solutions, while Elac and Fyne Audio deliver speakers that respond beautifully when paired with the right calibration. For room acoustics and discreet installation, Origin Acoustics and Adept Audio provide in-wall and in-ceiling options that optimize performance without compromising design.
By working closely with system integrators, interior designers, and homeowners, we ensure that every installation is professionally calibrated to suit the room. This growing awareness among Indian consumers is leading to more serious investments in quality amplification, acoustic treatments, and proper system design—and we are proud to support that shift with our expertise and brand portfolio.

What innovations have you launched recently in areas like immersive audio (Dolby Atmos, DTS:X), streaming integration, or control systems?

We represent global brands that are continuously innovating to meet the growing demand for immersive audio, streaming, and smart control integration. Some recent highlights include:

Immersive Audio: Brands like Elac, Fyne Audio, and Totem Acoustic have expanded their product lines with speakers designed for Dolby Atmos and DTS:X environments, enabling truly 3D surround sound experiences in home theatres. Tonewinner has introduced advanced AV receivers and processors supporting the latest immersive formats with precise room calibration.

Streaming & Multi-Room Integration: Advance Paris and Primare have launched amplifiers and streamers with Hi-Res audio, Roon Ready certification, Chromecast, · AirPlay 2, and Bluetooth HD, making it easier for consumers


Advance Paris


Adept Audio

to enjoy seamless streaming across multiple platforms.

Smart Control & Installation-Friendly Solutions: Origin Acoustics and Adept Audio focus on in-ceiling and in-wall solutions that integrate smoothly with automation systems like Control4 and Crestron, while Ecler and Fonestar offer scalable distributed audio systems ideal for both residential and commercial spaces.

Complete Ecosystem for Home Entertainment: JVC projectors and Dune HD media players provide cutting-edge visual and content playback solutions that complement our immersive audio offerings.

Through these innovations, we are bringing Indian consumers future-ready home entertainment solutions that combine the best of immersive audio, seamless streaming, and smart home integration.

How are you working with system integrators and architects to ensure your products are seamlessly embedded into the design phase?

We strongly believe that high-end audio-video solutions must be planned from the design stage itself to deliver both performance and aesthetics. That's why we work hand-in-hand with system integrators, interior designers, and architects to ensure our brands are seamlessly embedded into luxury residential


Fyne audio

and commercial projects.

Design-Friendly Solutions: With brands like Origin Acoustics, Adept Audio, and Kasper, we provide discreet in-wall and in-ceiling speakers that blend into interiors without compromising on sound quality.

Collaborative Planning: We engage early in the project to understand space constraints, acoustic challenges, and design preferences, ensuring proper placement, wiring, and calibration from the start.

Customization & Flexibility: Our brands, such as Ecler and Fonestar offer scalable solutions for multi-room and distributed audio, while Elac, Totem Acoustic, and Fyne Audio provide premium options for both visible and invisible integration.

Complete Ecosystem: By combining audio (Elac, Fyne, Totem, Advance Paris, Primare, Tonewinner) with visual (JVC projectors, Dune HD players), we deliver an end-to-end solution that can be tailored to each project's design and technical needs.

Training & Support: We conduct regular workshops and training sessions for

integrators and architects, equipping them with the knowledge to integrate our products efficiently into modern smart homes.

This collaborative approach ensures that our solutions not only deliver world-class performance but also enhance the aesthetics and functionality of the spaces they are designed for.

What's your outlook for the growth of multi-room, invisible audio, and voice-controlled AV setups in India?

The outlook for multi-room, invisible audio, and voice-controlled AV setups in India is extremely promising. As luxury homes, smart residences, and lifestyle-driven projects increase, we see a strong shift in consumer preference towards seamless, design-friendly, and connected AV solutions.

Multi-Room Audio: With growing interest in villas and high-end apartments, consumers now want music that flows across their living, dining, outdoor, and entertainment areas. Our brands like Ecler, Fonestar, and Adept Audio offer scalable distributed systems that deliver consistent sound across multiple zones.

Invisible Audio: The demand for solutions that integrate with interiors without compromising aesthetics is rising sharply. Brands like Origin Acoustics, Adept Audio, and Kasper specialize in discreet in-wall and in-ceiling speakers that deliver powerful performance while remaining visually unobtrusive.

Voice-Controlled & Smart Integration: With the adoption of Alexa, Google Home, and advanced automation systems, voice-controlled AV is becoming a norm in premium homes. Our brands such as Primare, Advance Paris, and Tonewinner support seamless integration with smart platforms, while Dune HD ensures smooth content streaming.

India is moving from traditional AV setups to integrated, smart, and invisible solutions. At Kripa Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., our brands are well positioned to lead this change with technologies that combine performance, convenience, and design.

MANMOHAN GANESH

Chairman & Managing Director, ProFX

How is your brand adapting to the demand for custom-installed solutions in high-end residential spaces?

We've launched a dedicated CI (Custom Install) division to support architects, designers, and system integrators. Our focus is on flexible, high-performance AV components that can be hidden yet still deliver premium performance.

Are Indian consumers more aware now of the value of room acoustics, calibration, and proper amplification?

Yes, we're seeing more clients asking about room EQ, acoustic panels, and dedicated power amplification. It's no longer just about aesthetics; they want performance that matches international standards.

What innovations have you launched recently in areas like immersive audio (Dolby Atmos, DTS:X), streaming integration, or control systems?

We've introduced a new line of AV receivers and processors with native support for Dolby Atmos, DTS:X Pro, IMAX Enhanced, and Auro-3D, enhanced by advanced upmixing algorithms and integrated room correction to deliver a truly immersive sound experience. Our latest models also offer seamless streaming compatibility with platforms like Spotify Connect, Roon, Apple AirPlay 2, etc — features that are now standard across even


KEF Q Series META


Definitve Technology

our mid-tier offerings.

On the integration side, our systems work effortlessly with leading home automation platforms, including Lutron, Crestron, and KNX. We've also developed an intuitive, app-based control interface, allowing users to manage multi-room audio with ease and flexibility.

How are you working with system integrators and architects to ensure your products are seamlessly embedded into the design phase?
We collaborate early in the project cycle, offering design consultancy and CAD files to help integrators and architects incorporate our systems without compromising aesthetics. Also, our dedicated CI support team works directly with project stakeholders to ensure seamless integration, from wiring diagrams to finish detailing and acoustic treatments.

What's your outlook for the growth of multi-room, invisible audio, and voice-controlled AV setups in India?

There's a growing demand for invisible audio and multi-room solutions, particularly in premium residential and hospitality segments. Indian homeowners today place a high value on both design aesthetics and user convenience. As the preference for minimalist interiors and smart automation continues to rise, technologies such as concealed speakers, wireless multi-room audio, and integrated control systems are quickly becoming standard in luxury homes across India's Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities.


Denon


JBL


Hegel

Polk Signature Elite Series

JAY PAREKH

Director (Operations), Smato Technologies

How is your brand adapting to the demand for custom-installed solutions in high-end residential spaces?

The demand for custom-installed solutions in high-end residences has never been higher, and brands like Amina and Architettura Sonora are perfectly positioned for this shift. With Amina's invisible loudspeakers, homeowners can enjoy uncompromised sound without disrupting the clean architectural lines of their interiors. Similarly, Architettura Sonora's sculptural outdoor speakers are designed to complement landscaping and architecture while delivering immersive, natural sound. Our approach is to ensure that audio blends seamlessly into the living environment, both indoors and outdoors, without drawing attention to the technology.

Are Indian consumers more aware now of the value of room acoustics, calibration, and proper amplification?

We're seeing Indian consumers becoming increasingly aware of how much acoustics, calibration, and amplification impact performance. Many luxury homeowners now understand that the room itself is part of the system — and they are willing to invest in proper tuning and design. With solutions like Amina's plaster-over speakers, we can provide not just invisible installation but also the kind of even dispersion and wide sound field that works beautifully in challenging spaces. That awareness is helping us deliver systems that are both sonically precise and aesthetically refined.

What innovations have you launched recently in areas like immersive audio (Dolby Atmos, DTS: X), streaming integration, or control systems?

Our portfolio is constantly evolving to support immersive audio experiences such as Dolby Atmos and DTS: X. Amina has advanced its invisible loudspeaker technology to deliver broader frequency response and deeper bass while remaining completely hidden. On the outdoor side, Architettura Sonora continues to innovate with sound sculptures that merge design and acoustics — using materials like marble & cement to shape both form and sound. In addition, both brands integrate smoothly with leading streaming platforms and automation systems, ensuring users enjoy effortless control and connectivity.

How are you working with system integrators and architects to ensure your products are seamlessly embedded into the design phase?

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do. We work closely with system integrators, architects, and interior designers from the earliest stages of a project. Amina's invisible speakers are designed specifically to be plastered into walls and ceilings, making

it essential to coordinate with contractors during construction or renovation. With Architettura Sonora, we engage landscape architects and lighting designers to ensure the sound sculptures enhance the visual and spatial design. This close partnership ensures the technology becomes an integral part of the architecture rather than an afterthought.

What's your outlook for the growth of multi-room, invisible audio, and voice-controlled AV setups in India?

We see tremendous growth ahead in India for multi-room audio, invisible sound, and voice-controlled AV. Invisible speakers like Amina's are perfectly aligned with the minimalist, luxury design language that homeowners now expect — delivering music everywhere without compromising interiors. Outdoors, as homes expand their living spaces into gardens, terraces, and pools, Architettura Sonora offers solutions that make these areas as sonically rich as indoor spaces. Combined with voice control and advanced automation, the future is about creating living environments where sound is ever-present yet beautifully unobtrusive.


Icarus Stand Alone


Daedalus


Cube 400 Ten


Sphere 360


Medium Cylinder

BRAND OFFERINGS

The **Linn Selekt DSM,** available at **Audio Nirvana, is** the world's first fully customisable and future-proof digital source for hi-fi enthusiasts. Its modular design allows it to adapt to your needs today and evolve with you tomorrow, making it a unique high-performance solution unlike anything else on the market. You can choose between the Classic Hub or the premium Edition Hub, select from three DAC tiers—Standard, Katalyst, or Linn's flagship Organik DAC—and configure it as a source-only, an all-in-one with amplification, the heart of a TV system, or even a fully integrated 5.1 surround receiver.

What makes Selekt DSM stand out is its innovative modular cartridge system, which allows upgrades such as amplification, surround processing, or HDMI switching without replacing the chassis. Linn's renowned Space Optimisation technology further enhances performance by tailoring the sound precisely to your room and speakers, ensuring pure, studio-quality music. The system also offers extensive connectivity, including USB,

S/PDIF, optical, MM/MC phono, analogue line-in, Ethernet, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth, while supporting seamless streaming through Tidal, Spotify Connect, Apple AirPlay 2, and high-resolution network playback.

Smart home integration is effortless with dedicated drivers for Control4 and Crestron, along with the Linn App, making it ideal for modern AV and custom installation projects. With Selekt DSM, Linn has created the most configurable digital music player ever—a product ecosystem designed to deliver exceptional performance, flexibility, and longevity.

FUTURE PROSPECT

The future of home entertainment lies in deeper immersion and seamless integration. Expect AR/VR-ready environments, advanced spatial audio, and content-driven lighting and climate control that respond to every scene. AV brands and integrators are collaboratively scripting this future, ensuring that the home is not just a place to live but a hub for unforgettable experiences. From blueprint to boom, the evolution of home entertainment illustrates the power of collaboration, innovation, and a singular vision: to transform ordinary living spaces into extraordinary experiences.

“Our Designs, Such as the Air Helix Architecture, are Based On Physics—Not Marketing Hype.”

SVEN SCHULZ

Sales Manager, inakustik

Sven Schulz, offers a deep perspective on the brand’s core values of engineering transparency, German precision, and uncompromised signal integrity. In this interview, he discusses how inakustik’s in-house manufacturing, proprietary innovations like the Air Helix architecture, and focus on measurable, real-world performance are driving its evolution in the high-end audio space—particularly as the brand strengthens its presence in the dynamic and fast-growing Indian market.

Tell us about inakustik’s journey—how did the brand evolve into a benchmark in high-end audio and cable technology?

With nearly five decades of engineering heritage, inakustik has evolved into one of Germany’s most respected manufacturers of high-performance audio, video, and multimedia connectivity solutions. What started with simple 2 x 0.5 mm² cables has grown into a comprehensive portfolio that includes high-end speaker cables, interconnects, HDMI and power cables, as well as a wide array of AV accessories.

In an increasingly crowded market full of vague promises and so-called “secret technologies,” inakustik stands firmly on a foundation of transparency and physics-based engineering. We design our products around measurable performance, with no room for pseudoscience.

This philosophy is embodied in our flagship Air Helix series, where the full construction and signal path are clearly documented. Our belief is simple: if customers are investing in premium systems, they deserve to understand the technology behind it.

The biggest differentiator is that we

S25

- **High-end cables:** for curious beginners and professionals
- **Fair pricing policy:** high-end quality with a concept
- **Honest sound:** Transmits music unadulterated in its purest form
- **100% Made in Germany:** Handmade in our factory
- **Sophisticated technology:** OFC copper, foamed PE, multicore

manufacture all of our high-end cables in-house at our facility in Germany. This gives us complete control over design, production, quality assurance, and innovation. We're not reliant on OEM suppliers or third-party manufacturers, which means we maintain consistency from concept to final product.

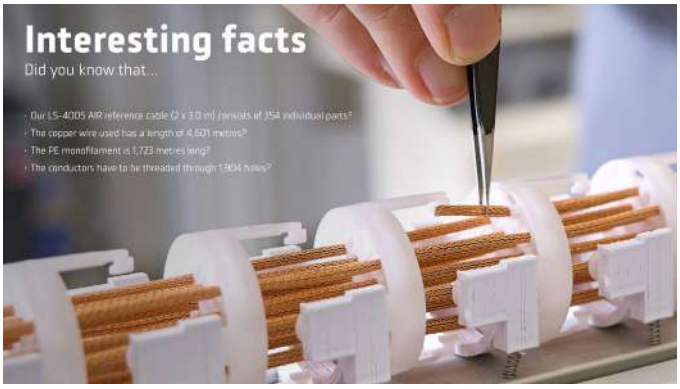
Another key aspect is our commitment to real engineering. Our designs, such as the Air Helix architecture, are based on physics—not marketing hype. We don't hide behind vague terminology; we explain exactly how our products work and why they deliver superior performance.

Finally, we are also a music label, which gives us an experiential understanding of sound. We don't aim to create cables that add coloration—we aim to minimize losses, preserve dynamics, and deliver sound as close to the original recording as possible.

Can you explain the differences between your speaker cable offerings across the Premium, Excellence, and Reference lines?

We offer a tiered product lineup to meet varying performance needs and budgets—Star, Premium, Excellence, and Reference.

Star Line: This was our entry-level range and



gained popularity in many markets, including India. However, with India now well-equipped in local cable manufacturing, we've shifted our focus to higher-end offerings. That said, Star speaker spools, still made in Germany, are respected for their reliability.

Premium Line: A step up in both construction and performance. These speaker cables are fully manufactured in Germany, ensuring low signal loss and robust build quality. Interconnects and HDMI cables in this line are produced via trusted long-term partners in China, adhering to our strict quality standards. Excellence and Reference Lines: These are our flagship ranges, entirely handcrafted in Germany, designed for audiophiles and professionals who demand the highest level of performance. They feature advanced materials,

proprietary geometries, and innovations like our Air Helix technology, which drastically reduces distortion and capacitance.

What core technologies does inakustik use to maintain signal purity and minimal loss?

Signal integrity is central to our design ethos. While we use high-purity copper, our real innovation lies in how that material is applied. Our Air Helix architecture is a standout example. Air is the best insulator aside from vacuum, and we've engineered a proprietary structure that suspends the conductors in air using PE spacers, achieving up to 95% air insulation. This significantly reduces capacitance and inductance, preserving signal accuracy over longer cable runs.

The conductors are arranged in a specific criss-cross pattern—not just parallel—ensuring consistent separation and eliminating signal overlap. This is especially critical in high-end systems where every nuance of sound matters. This technology is not theoretical—it's backed by physics and measurable results. We don't tune cables to sound a certain way. Instead, we focus on minimizing distortion and signal degradation, letting the original recording speak for itself.

How has in-house manufacturing enhanced product quality and innovation?

Having full in-house production is a major advantage. We're able to monitor and control every step—from sourcing raw materials to final quality checks. For instance, every finished product undergoes inspection by a second technician, never the person who assembled it. This dual-check process ensures objective, high-quality output.

It also accelerates innovation. When ideas move from R&D to production within the same facility, the feedback loop is immediate, allowing us to rapidly refine designs and maintain consistently high standards.

Can you elaborate on the evolution and impact of your Air technology?

Our journey with air insulation began over 20 years ago. Initially, we worked with polyethylene (PE) as a dielectric, but quickly realized the benefit of incorporating air. That led us to PE foam, and eventually to the development of the Air Helix design, where conductors are suspended in air using precision-engineered clips and spacers.

Maintaining the optimal distance between conductors is critical. If they're too close, capacitance increases; too far, and inductance becomes a problem. We've engineered our cables to maintain ideal electrical properties, ensuring clean, accurate transmission from

amplifier to speaker.

This approach results in natural, uncolored sound with exceptional detail and dynamics—and it's particularly relevant for high-end stereo systems, where performance is audible and visible.

Are your HDMI cables ready for 4K, 8K, and beyond?

Yes, and this is an increasingly important topic. With 4K, 8K, and higher resolutions pushing bandwidth requirements, cable quality has become critical—especially over longer distances.

While short HDMI runs (1–5 meters) are still well-served by copper, anything beyond that starts to see signal degradation. That's why we now offer fiber-optic HDMI cables, capable of transmitting full-resolution signals up to 100 meters without loss. They may look slim, but they deliver exceptional reliability and performance, ideal for professional AV and custom installations.

Beyond just selling cables, we focus on education. Many integrators underestimate the role cables play. In Germany, we run technical webinars and live demos, showing the difference between cable grades in real time. These sessions are grounded in physics, not marketing—and they empower professionals to make informed choices.

What is your strategic portfolio plan for the Indian market?

India is an exciting and fast-maturing market. While the entry-level segment is well-served by local and mass-market offerings, our focus is firmly on the premium and audiophile segments—where performance truly matters. We're starting with the Premium line and gradually expanding into the Excellence and Reference ranges. Our products are available for live demo at partner showrooms, and we're building a network across both metro and Tier 2/3 cities—including Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Raipur.

Our cables are already being integrated into high-end AV and stereo setups alongside brands like ELAC and Fyne Audio. These customers recognize the impact cables have on system performance, both audibly and visually—particularly in stereo systems, where cables are not hidden but proudly displayed.

We've also been able to maintain fair, stable pricing, which positions us as a cost-effective yet high-performance alternative to other premium brands affected by tariffs and global pricing fluctuations.

“At Ozone, We Don’t Just Build Smart Products, We Simplify Everyday Living.”

ALOK AGGARWAL
Managing Director, Ozone Overseas Pvt. Ltd

Alok Aggarwal, in an exclusive interview, shares his insights on Ozone’s comprehensive range of smart solutions—from digital locks and safes to video door phones, cameras, and connected devices—and highlights how these offerings are designed to enhance convenience, control, and everyday living. With a strong emphasis on intuitive technology and user-centric design, he discusses how Ozone is redefining smart home security as a daily essential rather than a luxury.

Please share a brief overview of your brand’s journey and commitment to the smart home segment.

At Ozone, our approach to the smart home segment has always been centered around convenience, ease-of-use, and lifestyle enhancement. While our products naturally contribute to a more secure environment, our core promise is to make everyday life simpler, smarter and more efficient.

With over 25 years of expertise, Ozone has been at the forefront of democratizing digital locks solutions in India. We’ve played a key role in building awareness and shaping category behaviour through in-house testing centers and digital campaigns like ‘Choro Kal Ke Taale’ and ‘Ab Chalegi Finger Key’, positioning digital locks not as a luxury but a daily essential.

From smart locks to smart safes, video door phones, smart cameras, and connected devices, our product lineup is designed to bring control to users’ fingertips. Whether it’s managing entry access, monitoring devices remotely, or automating routines, we aim to deliver seamless experiences powered by intuitive technology.

Our Offerings includes, Smart Locks with multiple access modes for flexibility; Smart Safes that blend advanced tech with practical storage; Smart DoorBells and Video Door Phones for effortless visitor management and Smart Plugs and Cameras that allow remote access, control, and scheduling.

All our smart devices are unified under the OzoLife App, which acts as a control center for managing and customizing the connected home experience.

Our journey in the smart home segment is

ongoing, but our goal remains constant: to offer solutions that prioritize comfort, control, and convenience.

Do your smart locks support multiple access modes (e.g., fingerprint, PIN, App, RFID, etc.)?

Yes, our smart locks support a wide range of access modes, including fingerprint, password, RFID card, 3D facial recognition, palm recognition, emergency key, and the OzoLife mobile App.

Are your smart locks compatible with major home automation systems like Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomeKit, or ZigBee/Z-Wave platforms?

Yes, for instance, our Oracle smart lock is compatible with Amazon Alexa and Google Home, making it easy-to-integrate into your existing smart ecosystem.

What variations or models are available in your smart lock product range?

At Ozone, our smart lock range is thoughtfully designed to cater to a variety of needs within a home. To make selection easier, we've categorized them based on functionality and usage:

Face & Palm Recognition Locks

These are our most advanced biometric locks, offering cutting-edge 3D facial and palm recognition. They provide high security with a completely touch-free experience.

Popular models: 3D Facial & Palm Recognition Locks, 3D Facial Recognition Rim Lock

Main Door Locks

Built for strength and reliability, these locks are ideal for primary entry points. They offer robust security features, along with smart access controls such as fingerprint, password, RFID, and app-based unlocking. Popular models are Morphy series and IRIS series

Internal Door Locks

These are designed for rooms inside the home, like bedrooms, study areas, or home offices — offering convenience and smart functionality. Popular models: Cleo series, Oracle series, Trinity series

Furniture Locks

Compact and stylish, these smart locks are ideal for cabinets, wardrobes, drawers, and bar cabinets, ensuring secure and keyless personal storage.

Popular models: OZFL-502-PW, 55-F

All our smart locks can be managed via the OzoLife App, and many models support integration with popular smart home platforms, such as Google Home and Alexa, offering users full remote access and voice-enabled control.

Could you elaborate on the technology used in your smart cameras (AI, facial recognition, motion detection, etc.)?

Ozone's smart cameras are equipped with advanced technologies designed to deliver reliable security, intelligent monitoring, and real-time response capabilities.

Our cameras use a combination of:

1. Passive Infrared (PIR) Sensors – These detect changes in infrared radiation (heat) from humans or animals, reducing false

alarms caused by non-living movement.
2. Video Motion Detection (VMD) – It analyses changes in pixels frame by frame to identify motion.
3. AI-Powered Motion Detection – Using artificial intelligence to distinguish between humans, pets, vehicles, and general movement, reducing unwanted alerts and improving accuracy.

This multi-layered approach provides responsive, intelligent monitoring while minimizing unnecessary alerts.

How do your cameras handle cloud storage, data privacy, and real-time alerts?

Ozone's cloud storage security cameras transmit video footage to remote servers rather than storing it on local devices. While this method offers flexibility and ease of access, it also comes with certain privacy considerations, which we proactively address.

Data encryption is a key feature that secures video footage during transmission. Only authorized users can decode and view the encrypted content, effectively preventing unauthorized access.

To further enhance security, we implement robust access controls, including:

1. Password protection
2. Multi-factor authentication (MFA), which requires multiple verification steps to gain access
3. User permissions, allowing control over who can view or manage the footage

Centralised management enables users to monitor multiple cameras through a secure interface, making it easier to manage different locations from a single dashboard.

We also maintain detailed access logs, which help users track who accessed the footage and when, thereby increasing transparency and accountability.

The system is scalable and flexible, allowing users to expand storage capacity as needed without compromising on security.

Real-time alerts are triggered by motion detection or other pre-defined events. These can be customized to send notifications via email, SMS, or mobile push notifications, ensuring users are always aware of activity in real-time.

What resolution and field of view can customers expect from your devices?

Ozone smart cameras, such as the OZ-Life-PC-01, offer Full HD 1080p resolution (1920x1080) powered by a 2MP sensor, providing sharp, detailed footage suitable for both home and commercial environments.

In terms of field of view, the camera supports

360-degree panoramic coverage when ceiling-mounted (standard, hanging, or inverted), ensuring comprehensive surveillance with minimal blind spots.

These devices also feature infrared night vision with a range of up to 10 meters, enabling clear video capture even in low-light conditions or complete darkness.

Are your cameras integrated with other security or automation products for centralized monitoring?

Yes, Ozone's smart cameras, such as OZ-Life-PC-01 and OZ-LIFE-FC-01, are designed for seamless integration with other smart devices and automation systems. They can be centrally managed through the OzoLife app, which serves as a single control point for multiple devices and locations.

Here's how the integration works:

1. Centralized Monitoring: The OzoLife app enables users to monitor and manage multiple smart cameras and devices from various locations within a single interface. This ensures ease of access and real-time control.
2. Remote Access & Control: Users can view live video and audio feeds, interact through two-way communication, receive motion alerts, and access recorded footage—anytime, anywhere—through the app.

3. Inter-device Compatibility: Ozone smart locks and cameras can work together, allowing for actions such as viewing a live feed from the door camera and remotely unlocking the door after verifying the visitor.
4. Multi-user Access: Users can share access with family members or trusted individuals, ensuring collaborative home management and security.
5. Offline Notifications: In case of power or network disruptions, the system sends offline notifications, alerting users that a device has gone offline—helping maintain constant awareness.

What advanced functionalities do your smart video door phones provide beyond basic video calling?

Ozone Video Door Phone (VDP) systems offer several advanced features that go beyond basic video calling, focusing on enhanced security and everyday convenience. These systems enable visual identification of visitors, remote communication, and smart integrations for a seamless user experience.

Benefits:

1. Enhanced Visitor Screening: VDPs allow you to see and speak with visitors before granting access, reducing the risk of unauthorized entry.
2. Remote Monitoring: You can monitor your doorstep from anywhere using your smartphone or tablet, ensuring peace of mind even when you're away from home.
3. Smart Lock Integration: Many of our VDPs integrate with smart locks, allowing you to remotely unlock the door after verifying the visitor's identity.
4. Motion Detection: Built-in sensors detect movement near your door and trigger instant alerts, adding an extra layer of security.
5. Night Vision: Infrared LEDs ensure clear visibility even in low-light or night-time conditions, allowing 24/7 surveillance.
6. Two-Way Communication: Communicate with visitors using the built-in intercom system without needing to open the door physically.
7. Keyless Entry: When paired with a smart lock, you can unlock the door using fingerprint, password, or remote access—

no need for traditional keys.

8. Footage Access & Storage: With cloud or local storage options, you can access recorded footage at any time, making it easy to review past activity from the comfort of your doorstep.

What smart plug variants do you offer (in terms of wattage, port type, or smart control)?

Ozone offers smart plugs with versatile features suited for modern smart homes. One of the key variants is the 16-amp smart plug, designed specifically for heavy-duty appliances such as air conditioners, geysers, and washing machines. These plugs support loads of up to 3500W and are tested for over 10,000 On/Off cycles, ensuring long-term durability and optimal performance.

They are engineered for Indian power conditions (90V–290V), making them both robust and reliable for daily use.

Key Features:

1. Wattage Capacity: The 16-amp smart plug is ideal for high-power appliances, ensuring safe and efficient operation even with heavy loads.
2. Port Type: Compatible with standard Indian 16-Amp sockets, making them easy to install without any modifications.
3. Smart Control & Connectivity: Equipped with Wi-Fi connectivity, the smart plug can be managed remotely via the OzoLife mobile app.
4. Voice control: Supports voice control through Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant, allowing for seamless integration into smart home ecosystems.
5. Energy Monitoring: The plug provides real-time tracking of energy consumption, enabling users to monitor usage patterns and optimize energy efficiency.
6. Remote Access & Automation: Users can remotely turn appliances on or off, create schedules, and automate routines, adding convenience and control to everyday life.

With these features, Ozone's smart plugs deliver both functionality and reliability, helping users modernize their homes while enhancing energy efficiency and appliance safety.

“Automation is no Longer a Feature; it’s the Foundation of Future-Ready Living.”

KULDEEP SEHRAWAT

President – Design at Tribeca Developers Pvt. Ltd.

Kuldeep Sehrawat, is at the forefront of redefining architecture through intelligent, human-centric design. For him, smart automation isn’t an enhancement—it’s a foundational design principle. By integrating AI, digital twins, and adaptive technologies, Tribeca has designed ultra-luxury spaces that intuitively respond to their occupants’ needs. Under Sehrawat’s leadership, buildings are no longer static structures but sentient environments—seamless, responsive ecosystems where technology and design elevate everyday living.

How do you envision smart automation influencing Tribeca’s design approach?

At Tribeca, smart automation is revolutionizing the way we design, construct, and define ultra-luxury living. We see architecture not merely as physical structures but as intelligent infrastructures. Every space we create is infused with foresight for adaptive living—homes and workspaces that intuitively respond to their occupants and surroundings. By utilizing AI-enhanced digital twins—virtual replicas of our buildings—we can simulate system performance, anticipate maintenance needs, and optimize everything from structural elements to sensors. Through automation, Tribeca elevates the user experience, transforming it into a seamless and intuitive dialogue between people and their environment.

Could you share some upcoming Tribeca projects where you are implementing home automation, building automation, smart lighting, etc.?

We integrate the concept of intelligent architecture across residential, commercial and mixed-use developments. Three upcoming flagship projects under the Trump Brand exemplify our commitment to seamlessly integrated smart ecosystems designed for how people will live and work in the future. Our upcoming residential projects are designed as a fully autonomous living environment, integrating lighting, temperature, security and entertainment systems that adapt to the residents’ preferences and habits. An AI-enabled Building Management System (BMS) manages energy, water, HVAC, and air purification at scale.

Upcoming Commercial and mixed-use projects are designed around digital twin

integration, predictive maintenance, and intelligent workplace automation. AI-based sensor networks manage traffic flow, lighting, climate, and air quality.

Are there any specific brands you prefer for smart automation and integration?

Our priority is to always deliver future-ready, seamlessly integrated, and hyper-personalized smart environments. While we remain brand-agnostic to preserve design flexibility and technological neutrality, we partner with global leaders whose platforms offer reliability, scalability, and interoperability. In newer builds, we're integrating Apple Matter and Thread-enabled ecosystems to future-proof our systems and enable secure control across devices.

We're also collaborating with Google's Project Astra APIs and OpenAI's LLM-powered interface layers to build conversational assistants that go beyond routine control and adapt to lifestyle patterns, emotional states, and contextual cues.

What devices do you typically incorporate? (e.g., smart locks, biometric entry, CCTV integration, intercom systems, alarm systems, intrusion sensors)

At Tribeca, our approach to smart devices is driven by a philosophy of invisible intelligence; every element should enhance comfort, security, and aesthetics without disrupting the visual integrity of the spaces. We typically incorporate multi-modal communication and access systems, combining facial recognition, fingerprint scanning, smart concierge access, and remote unlocking to ensure both convenience and high-level security.

Our surveillance infrastructure is built on AI-powered CCTV networks equipped with edge analytics, enabling real-time facial recognition, anomaly detection, license plate capture, and behavioural tracking. Home Automation IoT Devices offer powerful customization capabilities and deep integration with audiovisual, lighting, and environmental systems, which enable residents to interact with their homes through voice, gesture, or a single intelligent app. The result is a cohesive, secure, and self-learning environment that evolves with its occupants, setting a new benchmark in smart spaces.

Do your projects include building-level automation such as energy usage monitoring, HVAC control, elevator scheduling, EV charging, or fire safety systems?

Building-level automation is a foundational pillar in our architectural and engineering philosophy. We believe that ultra-luxury living isn't just about individual unit automation, but about the intelligence of the entire building ecosystem functioning as one harmonious system. Our developments are digitally intelligent, where systems across energy, mobility, climate, safety, and sustainability are deeply interconnected and continuously optimized in real-time.

We implement AI-driven energy management platforms that monitor and control power consumption across lighting, HVAC, and amenities. These systems use predictive analytics and demand-response algorithms to optimize energy loads, reduce waste, and balance efficiency with comfort. For sustainability and future mobility, our properties include networked EV charging infrastructure, often integrated with solar energy offsetting and load balancing systems. We deploy addressable fire detection systems, smart smoke and heat sensors, and AI-integrated evacuation systems that dynamically guide residents using illuminated floor paths, audio cues, and real-time updates.

Are sustainability or energy efficiency targets (e.g., net-zero, LEED/BEE ratings) influencing your choice of automation technologies and sensors?

Sustainability is no longer a layer we add to a project; it's a strategic imperative that drives every design, material, and technology decision we make at Tribeca. Our commitment to net-zero-ready and high-performance buildings directly informs the selection of automation systems, sensors, and data platforms across all stages. Our buildings are modelled using early-stage parametric energy simulations and computational fluid dynamics to optimize façade design, orientation, and envelope performance.

This allows us to reduce passive energy demand before we even address active

systems. Tribeca's automation systems support renewable energy integration, such as real-time load balancing for solar PV systems and intelligent energy storage coordination. We implement automated daylight harvesting, smart shading systems, and demand-controlled ventilation — all calibrated to reduce HVAC and lighting loads by up to 30-40%.

What future advancements is Tribeca currently exploring (e.g., AI-driven home management, sensory IoT, predictive maintenance, etc.)?

Innovation is a constant — we are relentlessly exploring how emerging technologies can redefine the boundaries of architecture, automation, and human-centric space design. Our vision is to evolve from smart buildings to sentient environments where spaces don't just respond, but intuit, learn, and adapt in real time. We're developing next-gen home management systems powered by Large Language Models (LLMs) and neural networks that enable natural language control, contextual understanding, and emotional intelligence.

These systems move beyond routine commands to offer proactive, lifestyle-based suggestions such as adjusting lighting based on mood, music for wellness routines, or temperature settings in sync with circadian rhythms and outdoor air quality. In the domain of predictive maintenance, we're implementing real-time digital twin models powered by AI and blockchain-backed logs. These allow us to simulate wear, track component lifecycles, and service systems before failures occur — dramatically improving reliability while reducing operational costs. All of this will be governed by distributed edge intelligence, allowing individual building components to make autonomous decisions while syncing with the central AI architecture.

Design in Sync with Home Automation

The Hesperus House in Mumbai, designed by 4th Dimension, fuses Neo-Classical elegance with ABB automation, Focal Audio, and Epson projectors—seamlessly integrated by Kothari Eteknologic Pvt. Ltd., to create a luxurious smart home.

Today's luxury homeowners demand more than opulent decor; they want their space to take care of their lifestyle, merging refined aesthetics with smart home technology. It's this vision that 4th Dimension, headed by architects Mihir and Rinki Kotak, brings to life in The Hesperus House in Mumbai. In this residence, the design sophistication and technological precision exist in perfect harmony.

Located in Mulund, Mumbai, this 4,250 sq. ft. residence stands as a seamless fusion of timeless elegance and cutting-edge technology. Designed by Ar. Mihir Kotak and Ar. Rinki Kotak, Co-Founders, 4th Dimension, this residence, named The Hesperus House, exemplifies Neo-Classical minimalism, designed for a high-end client who values sophistication, innovation, and comfort. The design embodies a refined aesthetic characterised by a neutral colour palette, clean architectural lines, and bespoke Italian furnishings from globally renowned luxury brands. Each furniture piece is custom-designed to meet the client's needs while harmonising with the overall style, ensuring an ideal balance between form and function. High-quality marble, brushed brass accents, and hand-finished wood bring depth and texture to the interiors, while carefully chosen art and sculptural elements serve as understated focal points.

Integration of Smart Home Technology

This luxury residence's most remarkable feature is its fully integrated home automation system, which controls lighting, climate, and

security with effortless precision. Discreetly embedded high-fidelity speakers provide an immersive audio experience without disturbing the minimalist aesthetic. A motion-activated projector screen, hidden within a console, transforms the living space into a private theatre at a moment's notice. This thoughtful integration of technology ensures that innovation enhances rather than overshadows the home's elegance.

At the heart of House lies the home theatre—a cinematic sanctuary embodying the Kotaks' design philosophy of blending luxury, comfort, and performance. Acoustic excellence is achieved with Focal speakers, NAD amplifiers, PSB subwoofers, and acoustic wallpaper, while an Epson projector paired with an Elite Screens ensures visual immersion. ABB's KNX range and Ekinex keypads allow seamless control of audio-visual equipment, lighting, and climate. Bespoke furniture enhances both ergonomics and aesthetics, and expert integration by Kothari Eteknologic Pvt. Ltd., supported by Monster cables, guarantees smooth operation.

Every technological element is meticulously

aligned with the spatial design. ABB KNX and Ekinex keypads blend into the decor, acoustic wallpaper and furniture improve sound quality without disrupting aesthetics, and adaptive lighting changes automatically to suit different viewing moods. Hidden cabling and components maintain the uncluttered look, reinforcing the sense of refined minimalism. Drawing inspiration from the Wabi-Sabi philosophy, the theatre embraces simplicity, natural elegance, and understated luxury while incorporating advanced smart systems. Minimalist controls, concealed technology, and organic acoustic treatments create a warm, inviting environment, while bespoke furniture combines handcrafted beauty with ergonomic luxury. ABB KNX automation ensures that lighting subtly enhances the serene ambiance.

The intelligent system architecture of The Hesperus House is as impressive as its visual design. Automation and control are centralized through ABB KNX, with Ekinex keypads offering intuitive scene selection. One tap triggers a cinematic sequence: the projector turns On, lights dim to a warm glow, and blinds lower automatically. The audiovisual setup includes crystal-clear Focal speakers, a NAD amplifier for rich, deep sound, a PSB subwoofer for impactful bass, and an Epson projector delivering high-contrast images onto an Elite Screens. Monster cables ensure lossless, high-quality signal transmission. Environmental adaptation is equally refined, with automated climate control, motorized curtains, and smart lighting that responds to selected modes. Remote access via a smartphone app allows the owner to monitor or prepare the theatre from anywhere, while concealed wiring preserves the home's minimal aesthetic.

The seamless integration process involved careful planning and design, premium hardware selection, centralized setup of the ABB KNX backend, and a robust network infrastructure built on Unifi Wi-Fi and a Netgear switch. Raylogic processors translate

user commands into synchronized system responses, and a mobile app interface provides added convenience. Final calibration optimizes audio-visual performance and automation responsiveness, ensuring an effortless user experience. The network infrastructure uses Wi-Fi for wireless device connectivity, wired connections for stability, KNX protocols for automation, and IP-based communication for smooth data flow between devices and remote applications. Commands from keypads or apps are processed instantly, with real-time feedback enabling precise control.

Eco-friendly considerations are integral to the project. Energy-efficient automation reduces wastage of lighting and HVAC use, smart lighting turns Off when not needed, and climate control optimizes comfort while conserving energy. Unique features such as bespoke furniture crafted to match the Wabi-Sabi theme and fabric wall panels that improve acoustics while complementing the decor make the home theatre distinctive.

The user experience is designed to be luxurious yet intuitive. One-touch scenes simplify operation, voice and app control extend convenience, automated lighting and blinds adjust for optimal comfort, and custom seating ensures perfect posture and viewing angles. Smart lighting also provides safe navigation in low-light conditions. The system is universally accessible, catering to all ages and technical abilities. As the client puts it, “The one-touch controls and automated lighting make everything effortless. It truly feels like a private cinema at home!”

The Hesperus House serves as a benchmark for luxury smart homes. It showcases the potential of combining advanced automation, meticulous design execution, and sustainability. Its success reflects the growing demand for residences where high-end aesthetics and modern convenience coexist in perfect harmony. This is not just a home; it is a vision of the future of refined smart living.

TECH INSIGHTS

System Integration: Kothari Eteknologic Pvt Ltd

Audiovisual System: Focal speakers, NAD amplifiers, PSB subwoofers, and acoustic wallpaper ensure immersive sound.

Visual Immersion: Epson Projector & Elite Screens

Smart Automation: ABB and Ekinex keypads

Lighting: ABB automation adjusts lighting subtly, complementing the serene ambiance.

Network & Connectivity: Unifi Wi-Fi & Netgear Switches

Processors: Raylogic

Where Timeless Architecture Meets Future-Ready Smart Living

Ar. Yogesh Wadhwana, DWG Designs has envisioned a residence that seamlessly merges elegance, comfort, and next-generation home automation.

A villa is more than four walls and a roof—it is a reflection of dreams, aspirations, and a family's vision of how they wish to live. In Gandhidham, Gujarat, that vision has taken shape in the form of a striking 8,500 sq. ft. residence for the Singhvi family, a home that marries the grandeur of contemporary architecture with the intelligence of advanced home automation. Designed by Ar. Yogesh Wadhwana of DWG Designs, with Interior Designer Arti Kapadia , this residence is a modern-day palace where elegance, comfort, and technology coexist in perfect harmony.

Armed with a degree from Rachna Sansad, Mumbai, Yogesh Wadhwana in the past 35years of his career has Designed, Conceptualised and Curated projects Pan India as well as in the Middle East. DWG Designs is proud to have a diverse portfolio demonstrating our presence in residential , commercial as well as hospitality sector.

From the very first glance, the villa commands attention. A careful interplay of wood, stone, and concrete forms the architectural language of the house, each material chosen

for its strength, character, and timeless appeal. Clean lines, geometric volumes, and neutral hues dominate the exterior, exuding a quiet sophistication that sets the tone for what lies within. The site itself, nestled within the picturesque landscape of Gandhidham, provided both inspiration and context. Wadhwana and his team envisioned a structure that would stand tall as a palatial haven, yet remain rooted in modern design principles that favour openness, light, and a seamless connection between indoors and outdoors.

Step inside, and the vision unfolds in layers. The heart of the home is its open-concept living, dining, and staircase ensemble—a space designed to impress yet comfort. High ceilings and expansive glazing dissolve barriers between the interior and the landscape outside, while sunlight and shadows dance across the carefully curated palette of neutral tones. The interiors lean into modernist principles, allowing furniture, textures, and lighting to play starring roles against a refined architectural canvas. Every corner reflects a commitment to detail, from the understated luxury of materials to the precision in spatial

planning. “We wanted to create a palatial haven where architecture, interiors, and technology harmoniously coexist,” says Mr. Wadhwana, encapsulating the philosophy that guided the project.

Smart Integration

Yet, beyond its aesthetic appeal, this home is an exemplar of smart living at its finest. System integrator Alpesh Pandya of Aatman Corporation, Ahmedabad, integrated a sophisticated KNX-based home automation system by ABB, creating an environment that is intuitive, adaptive, and future-ready. At its core, the automation ensures that the home responds effortlessly to the family’s lifestyle, whether through voice commands, smartphone apps, or intelligent presets. Lighting plays a central role in the automation story. A hybrid system that combines OSRAM’s tunable DALI fixtures with Zion Lights allows every space to transform with the touch of a button. Presence sensors bring both convenience and efficiency, activating lights only when needed, while mood presets let the family shift from vibrant social gatherings to serene evenings with seamless transitions. Motorised curtains add another layer of

intelligence, responding to occupancy sensors and enabling natural light control, privacy, or ambiance at will.

The villa's HVAC system is fully integrated into the KNX platform, ensuring comfort while optimising energy use. The entire ecosystem is anchored by an RTI processor, which centralises control across lighting, curtains, HVAC, and security into a single, cohesive platform. This makes it possible to manage the home from anywhere. "From across the hall or across the world, every aspect of the home can be monitored and personalised in real time," says Pandya, highlighting the convenience and control embedded within the system.

Technology here is not confined to comfort—it extends to security and connectivity as well. A robust network of CP Plus security cameras linked to an NVR system ensures the family's safety around the clock. Airtel Wi-Fi, reinforced by TP-Link routers, forms the digital backbone, supporting both automation systems and everyday connectivity needs. While biometric access and digital locks were not part of the current integration, the infrastructure has been designed with scalability in mind, ensuring that the home is future-ready to accommodate emerging innovations. "The beauty of a KNX-based system is flexibility—homes can keep evolving with lifestyle and technology," adds Pandya, pointing to the foresight behind the integration.

Sustainability is another silent yet powerful protagonist in the narrative of this home. From motion-sensor lighting to energy-efficient HVAC integration, every system has been designed to reduce unnecessary consumption without compromising comfort. This balance of indulgence and responsibility underscores the project's progressive ethos, proving that luxury and sustainability are not mutually exclusive but can, in fact, enrich one another.

For the Singhvi family, this residence is more than just a home. It is a place where spaces are not only beautiful but also intelligent; where everyday life is enhanced by automation; where design, detail, and digital precision converge to offer the ultimate in comfort and style.

TECH INSIGHTS

Location: Gandhidham, Gujarat

Project Area: 6,100 sq. ft.

Built Area: 8,500 sq. ft.

Architect/Interior Designer: Ar. Yogesh Wadhwana & ID Arti Kapadia (DWG Design)

System Integrator: Alpesh Pandya, Aatman Corporation, Ahmedabad

Automation Platform: ABB's

Lighting: OSRAM + Zion Lights

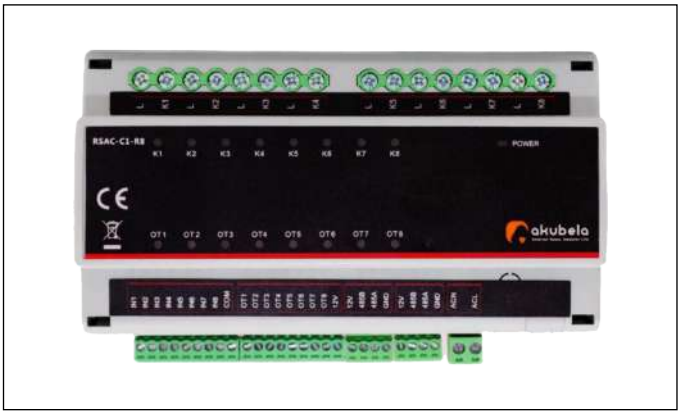
Control Processor: RTI

Security: CP Plus Cameras + NVR

Connectivity: Airtel Wi-Fi, TP-Link Routers

Innovating Across Telecom, Security, Networking, and Automation

Cohesive Technologies is a leading global provider of IP and VoIP-based communication solutions, recognized for delivering cutting-edge technology in Telecom, Security, Networking, AV, Home Automation, and Industrial Automation. With a strong focus on innovation and customer satisfaction, we offer integrated solutions that are scalable, cost-effective, and designed to meet the dynamic needs of businesses and smart spaces.



The home automation industry is rapidly evolving, traditionally dominated by either wired (KNX) or wireless (Zigbee) technologies. But innovation is no longer about choosing one over the other—it's about combining the best of both (Zigbee + KNX). Few providers are bridging this gap effectively and Cohesive Technologies is one of them.

We're stepping into an era where bulky controllers are becoming obsolete. Today's buyer demands embedded controllers within panels—not only to reduce costs but also to minimize failure points and simplify maintenance.

Our approach goes beyond smart homes. We are actively shaping use cases across Industrial Automation, Smart Cities, Smart Bathrooms, Smart Energy, and Smart Parking, leveraging cutting-edge LoRaWAN technology to drive scalable, secure, and efficient solutions.

SMART LIVING SOLUTIONS BY AKUBELA

SL60 – Advanced Smart Door Lock

The SL60 Smart Lock is a robust security solution with an elegant design. Constructed with aluminum alloy and packed with modern features like Bluetooth and Wi-Fi connectivity, it supports multiple unlocking options — PIN codes, IC cards, temporary passwords, physical keys, and app-based control.

Key Features:

- Remote access via mobile app
- IP65, 4MP ultra-wide-angle camera & Face Detection
- Low battery alarm for uninterrupted usage
- Stylish, durable design for modern interiors

Ideal for: High-end residences, service apartments, co-living spaces, offices, and short-term rentals.

HyPanel KeyPlus (KNX/Zigbee) – Stylish Control Hub

This ultra-thin and elegant panel merges aesthetics with functionality. With a 4-inch color touch screen and physical push buttons, the HyPanel KeyPlus supports scene control, smart automation, and device integration.

Key Features:

- One-touch scene control
- Real-time feedback and status display
- Comes in both Vertical as well as Horizontal
- Built-in temperature and humidity sensors

Ideal for: Smart homes, luxury villas, and premium commercial spaces seeking minimalist yet powerful automation interfaces.

HyPanel Supreme 12.35-inch – Luxury Meets Intelligence

These flagship panels offer intuitive smart home control with HD touch interfaces and seamless integration with voice assistants like Alexa. Control lighting, curtains, HVAC, and security—all from one device.

Key Features:

- Voice control and automation
- Real-time energy monitoring
- Inbuilt Embedded Controller
- 12.35-inch smart home control centre
- Customizable UI and multi-functional dashboard

Ideal for: Premium residences, boutique hotels, executive offices, and high-end showrooms.

Hotel Automation (Switch Actuator)

Engineered for precision and performance, the Switch Actuator facilitates reliable energy management and remote control of lighting and other devices via KNX protocol.

Key Features:

- Control Curtain, Lights, Fans, etc.
- Compact design for easy DIN rail mounting
- Load monitoring and intelligent delay switch
- Supports manual control

Ideal for: Premium residences, boutique hotels, executive offices, and high-end showrooms.

Old Age SOS Emergency Button - Instant Alerts, Unmatched Safety

In critical moments, response time can make all the difference. The Akubela Emergency Button is designed for quick, reliable activation during emergencies — sending instant alerts to security systems, caregivers, or building management.

With its compact design and one-touch activation, it's ideal for elderly care, high-security zones, smart homes, and hospitality spaces. Whether installed beside a bed, in a bathroom, or a shared space, it delivers peace of mind when it's needed most.

Key Features:

- One-touch SOS activation
- ZigBee 3.0 protocol, good compatibility
- Visual indicator for status confirmation
- Can trigger alerts, lighting, or voice announcements

Ideal for: Residences (elderly or special care), hotels, offices, hospitals, and smart buildings where safety is a priority.

KNX Keypad with Scene Button (Aura Smart Switches) – Elevate Everyday Living

The Aura Smart Switch range brings sophistication to wall controls. Designed for touch interaction, these switches offer seamless integration into smart home systems and come in multiple finishes to match any interior. Its no-engraving design and built-in display allow for button text and icon customization for a personalized touch.

Key Features:

- Capacitive touch control
- LED status indicators
- Supports KNX protocol
- Built-in with multiple sensors
- Push-button functions include switching, dimming, shade
- Control, HVAC, value sending, scene selection, etc.

Ideal for: Designer homes, premium office spaces, and modern hospitality environments.

APPLICATION AREAS:

Cohesive Technologies' smart living solutions are designed for versatile applications across residential spaces such as villas, apartments, and co-living projects; commercial environments including offices, conference rooms, and retail outlets; as well as hospitality settings like hotels, resorts, and serviced apartments. Our technologies have been implemented in numerous prestigious projects in partnership with leading architects, interior designers, and system integrators, spanning luxury residences, premium hotels, and smart real estate developments. Trusted by esteemed clients such as County Group and Panchsheel Group, we deliver future-ready home automation and security solutions that are customized, scalable, and intuitive. Strengthened by our collaboration with global innovation leaders like Akubela, we continue to provide sophisticated, integrated systems that combine design excellence with cutting-edge functionality.

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Lyngdorf Audio Releases New App For Amplifiers, Processors and Music Streaming

Lyngdorf Audio releases a completely new iOS and Android app to control Lyngdorf amplifiers and processors from a smartphone or tablet. My Lyngdorf App is the smartest way to access all settings, help set up a new device, customize the user interface, calibrate the sound system, and stream music. With an icon-based screen and intuitive touch, tap, and slide functions, operating a Lyngdorf system is now easier than ever.

Every Lyngdorf amplifier and processor has a wealth of functions and features. Even though a conventional remote control has the advantage of physical buttons, and some functions are also accessible over the unit's front display, an app allows for exploring all functions in the most convenient and visual way. The graphical, icon-based layout has been specifically designed as an interactive, easy-to-understand interface, with several accessibility enhancements such as larger text, dark/light mode, and Apple VoiceOver.

Apart from setting up and controlling a Lyngdorf amplifier or processor, the new apps also allow user customization. Functions such as deleting unused inputs, renaming favourite inputs, selecting RoomPerfect modes, changing screen brightness and display modes, and modifying or creating custom Voicings all become intuitive and easy. Even the app home screen layout on the smartphone or tablet itself can be customized by the user, for example, adding or removing app features and icons, and prioritizing often-used functions.

The most used function of a streaming amplifier is to interact with music, streaming services, and web radio. The new apps provide the common information about song, artist, and artwork, but also about the sound quality, such as bit depth and sample rate. The web radio player uses AI to easily find and filter radio stations by region, genre, tags, and preferences. This means one can easily find the best matching and best sounding music services, playlists, stations, or podcasts – for a better and more satisfying everyday listening experience.

The My Lyngdorf app is available in app stores now.

Samsung India Unveils 2025 Soundbars with AI, Smart Features & New Design

Samsung, India's largest consumer electronics brand, has launched its 2025 soundbar line-up, introducing next-generation innovations in audio intelligence, adaptive design, and smart home integration. Tailored to suit modern Indian homes and viewing habits, the new soundbar range brings together enhanced performance and personalization across multiple form factors.

The new lineup consists of flagship HW-Q990F and the convertible HW-QS700F models. The new range brings the latest global innovations to transform everyday entertainment into immersive experiences. A compact wireless subwoofer offers powerful bass in a smaller form, Q-Symphony Pro creates expansive, synchronized sound with Samsung TVs whilst Wireless Dolby Atmos brings cinematic 3D audio without cables.

"Samsung's new soundbars complement our premium TV ecosystem that now comes with Vision AI, transforming everyday viewing into immersive experience. This range is a masterclass in precision sound engineering, offering unmatched versatility in an ultra-slim form. By combining AI-powered personalization with a sleek design, our new soundbar range meets the growing demand for adaptive and beautifully integrated audio solutions. Whether you are a cinephile, a minimalist, or someone building a connected smart home, Samsung's new range offers a soundbar that fits your space, style, and expectations," Viplesh Dang, Senior Director and Head of Visual Display Business, Samsung India, said.

Trinnov Audio Announces A Major Software Update

Trinnov Audio recently announced a landmark software update for the Altitude audio processor line. Featuring a brand-new user interface and Trinnov's latest updated implementations of Dolby Atmos, DTS:X Pro, and Auro-3D, this release will bring a renewed user experience to all Altitude owners, in line with Trinnov's long-standing software-first philosophy: "Built to last. Evolved to lead."

Trinnov Audio is rolling out a free software update for the Altitude platform, designed to preserve all existing features and functionality—including Trinnov Optimizer™, WaveForming™, and Remapping™—while enhancing the user experience and unlocking new immersive audio capabilities. A key highlight of the update is a completely redesigned user interface, which simplifies daily operation, system configuration, and advanced calibration, while retaining the flexibility and power that Trinnov is known for.

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