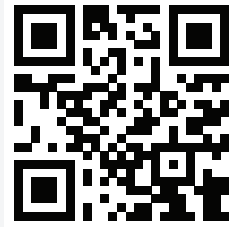


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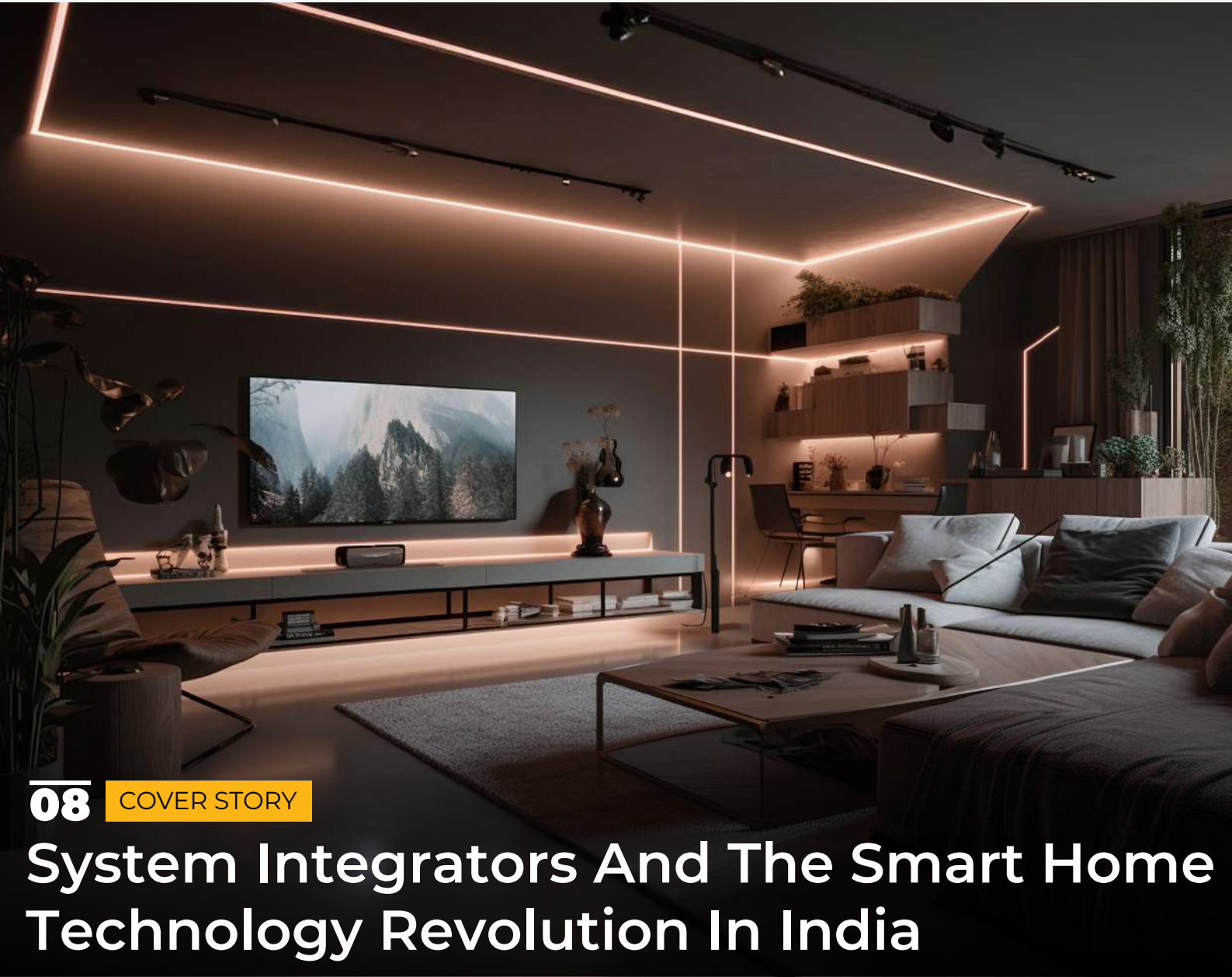
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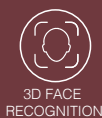
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FROM THE EDITOR



SWATI BALGI

Smart Home World's Cover Story shines a spotlight on the pivotal role and significance of System Integrators, who have emerged as key figures seeking recognition and forging unique paths within the Smart Home Technology industry. This article is a tribute to all System Integrators, regardless of their project scale or location, applauding their enduring contributions that have significantly driven the Smart Home Technology industry's growth.

The insightful interviews with industry experts offer a unique perspective on the future of Smart Home technology. These discussions offer valuable insights into upcoming trends and innovations. Among the featured interviews, Ajay Kamath, Founder of Sounds Good, shares his experiences working with celebrity clients and transforming their spaces. Ashish P. Dhakan, MD & CEO of Prama Hikvision India Private Limited, discusses the company's strategic advancements in manufacturing and technology. Akshara Vyas, Lighting Designer at Nulty+, provides insights into her team's creative process and their notable portfolio in the smart lighting industry.

Architect Shashi Rekha showcases her design expertise through the GPN Residence in Chennai, while Modi Srivastava & Associates, in partnership with Systems Integrator Rutvik Vyas, demonstrate their proficiency in transforming luxurious villas with Smart Node Automation solutions. Additionally, Rohan Solomon, Founder & CEO, Synergy Studio, and Kapil Thirwani, Director, Munro Acoustics, share their collaborative journey in creating a world-class recording studio.

Grab your copy to explore these compelling stories and share your feedback with us.

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The Journey of System Integrators in India's Smart Home Technology Segment

Smart Home World examines the evolving importance of System Integrators (SIs) and their pivotal role in shaping India's smart home technology market. We also trace their journey from technical specialists sourcing solutions globally to becoming key strategic partners with professionals driving innovation in residential and commercial automation. Read on to know more...

The role and importance of System Integrators has changed over the years, from being considered a technical person to becoming an asset to professional community, their cumbersome journey over the years is truly admirable. Years back the concept of smart homes was not so popular in India, there were hardly few brands available in India, so System Integrators had to travel abroad to source home automation and smart technology solutions. Gradually as the demand for smart homes increased, the role of System Integrators

and the entire market was on an upward growth trajectory. Today according to **Mordor Intelligence Market Research** report, "The Indian Smart Home Market size is estimated at USD 4 billion in 2024, and is expected to reach USD 14.28 billion by 2029, growing at a CAGR of 30% during the forecast period (2024-2029). According to various market research, the Indian smart home market is changing rapidly."

Unlike the previous years, System Integrators



are now well-equipped to handling projects of various size, scale and are confident to integrate the latest innovative system for their clients. With this growing demand, Systems Integrators who way back started with few projects today are handling around 200 projects in a year. With technological evolution the demand and responsibilities of SI is also changing, they are now tasked with a wide array of tasks, from designing and deploying systems, customizing solutions to managing vendor requests etc. There are various certification course by CEDIA and KNX training that help SI's keep themselves updated with the technical upgradation happening worldwide that equip them to meet the growing demand and handle most challenging projects.

As the demand for smart homes increased in India, System Integrators adapted and evolved. Today, SI command a very important role in projects, with their updated knowledge and expertise. They are no longer confined to technical tasks but are integral in the decision-making processes along with the architect and interior designer.

System Integrators today are equipped with a diverse array of certifications and specializations that make them confident in handle projects of varying sizes and complexities, seamlessly integrating the latest innovative systems for their clients. Their proficiency ensures that they can deliver customized solutions tailored to meet the specific needs and preferences of each client.

Growing Importance and Reliability

"System Integrators have become an important asset who help architects, interior designers, builders and homeowners in navigating through the complexities of automation within residential and commercial spaces," says Ar. Anil Ranka, Principal Architect, Anil Ranka Architects.

In recent years, their importance has grown as they assist architects, interior designers, builders, and homeowners in understanding the complexities of automation in both residential and commercial spaces and also train them in becoming well versed with this technology. Plus, professionals depend on



their System Integrator to integrate intricate technological systems, crucial for ensuring efficient and reliable system functionality.

“With the growing demand for Smart Homes coupled with the influx of brands and companies that have entered the Indian market are posing a new challenge of selecting the right product for your home and hence the importance and dependability of professional on System Integrator has increased many folds.” says Ashotosh Wad, Principal Architect, Space Dynamix.

Understanding the Role of System Integrators:

System Integrators (SIs) play a crucial role in construction projects by minimizing risks and enhancing efficiency. They help mitigate costly delays and rework by catching design issues

early through automation and monitoring. This proactive approach reduces downtime and implementation risks, ultimately cutting building costs. SIs also facilitate collaboration among designers, contractors, and end users, ensuring everyone is aligned on project goals and specifications. This collaborative effort boosts efficiency and transparency throughout the process.

Moreover, SIs increase visibility into the digital development process, enabling teams to swiftly address challenges and avoid errors. By prioritizing customer advocacy, SIs ensure that building systems meet evolving customer expectations and operational standards.

This customer-centric approach strengthens relationships and supports the seamless integration of advanced technologies into smart building infrastructures.

Smart Home World interviewed prominent System Integrators who have diligently established themselves as leaders in this industry. Today, they stand as strategic partners collaborating closely with architects and interior designers on various projects. Their journey highlights not only their expertise but also their pivotal role in shaping and influencing the smart technology industry.



Jaleel Sabir, Founder, Mahavir Soundroom

We embarked on our journey in automation in 2001, at a time when it was a significant challenge to convince people of its value and potential. Today, automation has evolved from a luxury to an essential component of modern operations, reflecting a profound and drastic change in perception and adoption. Initially, sourcing suitable products was a major hurdle due to limited availability and technological constraints. However, the market has since exploded with a plethora of options, which, while advantageous, has introduced the new challenge of selecting the most appropriate

and effective solutions.

Looking ahead, I foresee the role of system integrators becoming increasingly vital. As the market continues to be flooded with IoT products and smart technologies, the expertise of System Integrators in seamlessly integrating and optimizing these technologies will be indispensable. Despite the advancements and the proliferation of user-friendly IoT devices, the complexity and sophistication of integrating these systems into cohesive and efficient solutions will elevate the importance of System Integrators.

Currently, we've merely scratched the surface of what is possible with smart technologies. In the future, technology will be intricately woven into the very fabric of our environments—literally embedded in surfaces and fabrics. This will create unprecedented opportunities for innovation and efficiency. However, it will also increase the complexity of systems, thereby making the expertise and involvement of System Integrators more critical than ever before.



Maulik Unadkat, Owner of Beyond Automation

Having been in the industry for 15 years, our success has largely stemmed from our strong partnerships with architects. This collaboration has been pivotal in achieving

our goals and delivering outstanding results. However, the challenge we continually face is ensuring that all of the two hundred projects we are currently working on are executed flawlessly. Our end users, many of whom are experiencing automation for the first time, demand perfection in their projects and we deliver that. We have repeat clientele and we ensure a seamless and perfect integration of automation into their spaces.

Looking ahead, we see tremendous growth and opportunities in the next five years. The entire industry is poised for exponential growth as more homes and businesses welcome technology into their spaces. We foresee a future where smart homes and automated systems become standard in

households across the country. Our vision includes expanding our presence to other cities across India, bringing our expertise and reliable service to a broader audience.

We aim to be at the forefront of this technological wave, continually enhancing our capabilities and offerings to meet the

evolving needs of our clients. By expanding into new markets and cities, we plan to establish ourselves as the go-to provider for top-notch automation solutions. Our goal is to ensure that every project we undertake not only meets but exceeds the expectations of our clients, delivering flawless and seamlessly integrated automation systems.



Harsh Mehta Managing Partner at Future Automation Solutions

We have become the finest vendor in our field, known for our reliability and constant availability. Our team operates with a unified culture, ensuring that we serve as a single point of contact for all our clients. We pride ourselves on being approachable 24/7, ensuring that

architects and professionals never receive calls to resolve issues on our behalf.

Looking ahead, we anticipate a significant increase in AI integration, which will empower end customers and reduce their dependence on us for routine tasks. Despite this shift, our goal remains to be among the top 5 system integrators in the country within the next five years. We aim to achieve this by consistently delivering reliable expertise and exceptional service to both professionals and end users.

Our commitment to excellence means that we are always evolving to meet the needs of our clients, leveraging the latest technologies while maintaining a personal touch. As we continue to grow, we strive to set the industry standard for quality and reliability, ensuring that our clients can always depend on us for their automation and integration needs.



Ganesh Vudutha, EDOMOTICS Smart Systems Pvt. Ltd.

System Integrators are essential collaborators in the creation of smart homes, partnering closely with architects and interior designers to bring visions of automated living to fruition. Our role extends from the initial planning stages through to final implementation,

ensuring that smart technologies seamlessly integrate into the architectural and design plans of homes. A key aspect of our responsibility lies in educating clients about the diverse features, functions, and benefits of smart home systems. By understanding each client's unique needs and lifestyle preferences, we design bespoke solutions that enhance comfort, convenience, and security. Our aim is to create solutions that are not only technologically advanced but also future-ready and scalable. As awareness and interest in smart technologies continue to grow, so does the demand for professionals who can transform residential spaces into intelligent and connected environments.

System Integrators are well-positioned to play a pivotal role in shaping the homes of tomorrow, where automation seamlessly enhances daily life while maintaining aesthetic and functional harmony.

Vijay Chengappa, Partner, Eskay Luxury



Eskay is a distinguished boutique A/V and Automation Consultant/Integrator that caters exclusively to high-end residences across India. We pride ourselves on offering Customized Solutions Across Budgets, leveraging a portfolio of over 80 brands. This allows us to tailor precise solutions that meet the unique requirements of each client, without favoring any specific brand. Whether it's integrating state-of-the-art audiovisual systems or advanced automation solutions, we ensure that every project reflects the client's needs and financial parameters.

Architects views on integrating Home Automation and Smart Technology and their association with System Integrators.



Anil Ranka, Principal Architect, Anil Ranka Architects

It is at time very difficult to keep track of the evolving technological upgradation, so the role of a system integrators plays a crucial role in our projects. We are designing many smart homes, in one of our recent projects, the system integrator's contribution was instrumental in achieving significant energy savings and cost reduction. This was achieved by programming the entire lighting system to operate in alignment with the day and night schedules.

One of the primary challenges we faced was synchronizing the lighting system's



schedule adjustments with the daily routines of the occupants. Despite this challenge, the outcome was highly beneficial: not only did it lead to substantial reductions in electricity bills, but it also vastly improved the ease of managing lighting in large residential settings where manual control would be impractical. The collaborative approach between our team and the system integrator proved indispensable. It ensured that the implemented technology functioned seamlessly without complications. Moreover, emphasizing the importance of using established brands with a minimum three-year market presence was crucial. This approach not only guaranteed reliability but also provided assurance of ongoing support and product availability."





**Anita Chapekar Bhinge, Principal Architect
Spacetech**

As an architect, part of my role involves advising clients on suitable automation options, distinguishing between essential features and preferable ones. Despite its initial slow uptake, Luxury Home Automation has seen a notable surge in demand recently. In today's market, there are various players like Creston, Hogar, Lutron, Schneider, and Messung offering diverse automation solutions. With growing



demands it get very challenging to decide the right brand. So over the years the dependability has increased multiple folds. There is a lot of demand for customized options.

With insight from experts, we conclude this article on a positive note where we observe that the market will continue to grow rapidly and the System Integrators are poised to drive innovation and efficiency in residential and commercial automation, shaping the future of Smart Living!

“Hikvision India Offers Bespoke AIoT Products and Solutions for Smart Home Segment” Ashish P. Dhakan



In this exclusive interview, Ashish P. Dhakan, MD & CEO, Prama Hikvision India Private Limited speaks about Hikvision India's dedication to excellence in security solutions, their active role in the 'Make-in-India' movement, and their strategic advancements in manufacturing and technology. He further shares how the company's comprehensive approach ensures that it remains an industry leader, providing state-of-the-art security solutions tailored for the Indian market and beyond.



Over the years, Hikvision has established itself as a trusted Smart Technology and Automation brand. Could you share insights on your progressive journey?

Over the past decade, we have undertaken numerous pioneering initiatives such as 'Make-in-India', Digital Transformation, and Localization. Our Research and Development (R&D) efforts have yielded significant results, diligently fostering an ecosystem conducive to growth, innovation, and excellence in security product manufacturing. Our foresight and dedication have brought substantial rewards.

The government's flagship 'Make-in-India' initiative has been instrumental in bolstering the manufacturing sector by reducing reliance on imports and increasing the local production of high-value products. Several factors have contributed to the resurgence of local manufacturing, including economic stability, a robust legal system, cost-effective labor, a skilled workforce, high-quality production, cost savings on import duties, domestic market demand, and ease of doing business. The 'Make-in-India' initiative represents a collective success for all stakeholders.

India is rapidly emerging as one of the world's top manufacturing hubs, driven

by positive industry sentiment towards local manufacturing. Hikvision India is fully committed to the 'Make-in-India' vision with a long-term perspective. Our state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Vasai exemplifies the remarkable progress in the Indian video security products and solutions segment. These solutions are tailored to the Indian environment, conditions, and specific local requirements. Our mission aligns with the Government of India's 'Make-in-India' program, aiming to transform India into a global design and manufacturing hub. Through our advanced local manufacturing plant, Hikvision India produces a wide range of products and solutions, reinforcing our long-term commitment to the 'Make-in-India' vision.

Hikvision boasts a broad portfolio of products. Can you provide insights into the latest additions to your product line?

We have the latest product innovations for the Smart Home segment. These include the Advanced Facial Recognition Terminals (FRT), Facial Recognition Video Door Phone (VDP) Series, Smart Home Cameras, Gas Leakage Detectors (For LPG & PNG), AX PRO Wireless Intrusion Alarm solutions and many more AIoT solutions.



Can you tell us about your product range for both the residential and commercial segments?

Hikvision offers a wide array of products and solutions for residential and commercial segments. These include a wide range of Network Cameras, Analog HD Cameras, PTZ Cameras and AI Cameras from DeepinView Series for specific advanced solutions in the video security product category. In the Access Control segment, we offer Facial Recognition Terminals, Finger Print terminals, card terminals, readers and controllers. Hikvision provides a variety of products that offer flexible combinations of multiple authentication methods for your speed gates and turnstiles. When combined with built-in access control systems, this smart speed gates and turnstile access control system allow users to enjoy a one-stop entrance solution.

The Hikvision Video Door Phone (VDP) product segment has IP-based 2-wire and 4-wire VDP variants. Hikvision offers solutions for apartments, villas, or office buildings. Hikvision IP-based VDP solution is well suited for new apartments, supporting an astonishing number of up to 500 indoor stations, with 1:1 communication between all of them. Residents can remotely verify a visitor's identity and unlock doors via HD video calls at their indoor station or mobile phone. Hikvision Villa VDP solution provides abundant and practical

AI Enabled Hikvision DeepinView Camera



functions for every member of the home. Users can receive calls and unlock doors remotely via the Hik-Connect mobile app or via the touchscreen of their indoor station. To make it even better, you can integrate it with Hikvision video security system, allowing indoor stations to display any IP camera installed around your house. Security and convenience come together with this unique solution.

For the commercial real estate segment, we have Hikvision Smart Building Solutions. As the world enters the AIoT era, the real estate industry is embracing new opportunities. Hikvision offers smart building solutions for both commercial and residential buildings that utilize AIoT technologies along with advanced video devices. These solutions help create secure, convenient, and low-stress environments for residents and employees while assisting real estate companies in



digitally transforming the entire lifecycle of buildings – from construction and marketing to operations and maintenance.

For the Residential Real Estate segment, Hikvision offers Apartment solutions in high-rise buildings. People prefer security around their homes with a better residential experience with it. Built on a system of security, we offer an innovative entry and exit experience to boost rush hour efficiency for both residents and walk-in visitors. Also, AI-empowered video security stands like a reassuring guard 24/7. Hikvision's Solution by Scenario for Apartments helps users enjoy a safer and more pleasant living experience at a minimal cost with reliable delivery and performance.

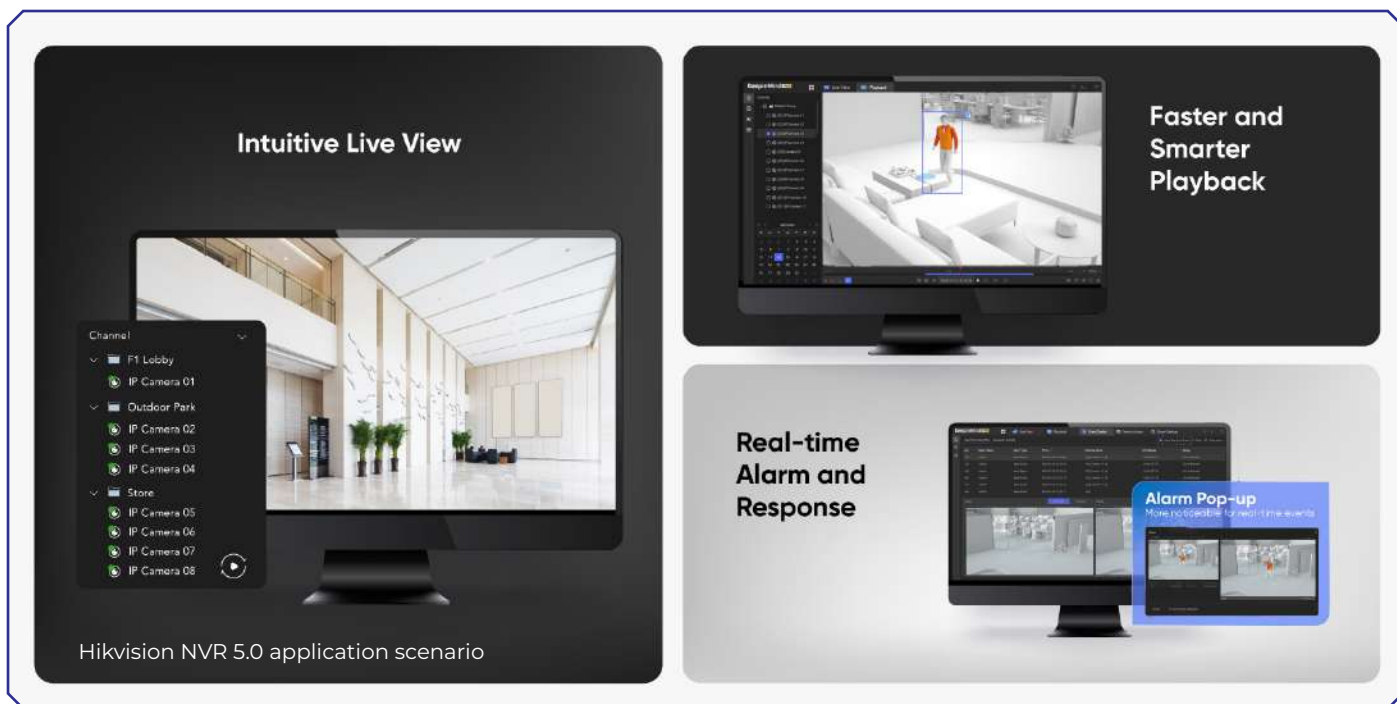
For the residential and commercial real estate segments Hikvision also has security inspection products, including, Hand Held Metal Detector (HHMD), Door Frame Metal



Detector (DFMD), X-Ray Baggage scanners and under vehicle Surveillance system (UVSS).

Hikvision is popular among professionals. Could you tell us about your latest cameras and the advancements in this area?

DeepinView Series Cameras feature Hikvision's top-tier image quality, video analytics, and



versatility, bringing AI applications to a variety of business scenarios by automating detection, categorization, and analysis of significant objects or events.

These cameras help business owners tap into the potential power of video-security systems and deepen their insights for safer and smarter operations.

The key features of DeepinView Cameras include following:

Varied demands, dedicated intelligence: It offers ready-made AI functions or customize an algorithm for your business needs. These cameras enable scenario-centric real-time video analytics at the system edge.

Top-rated imaging, around the clock: It delivers premier-quality video with true wide dynamic range and excellent low-light sensitivity, getting sharp details at any moment of the day.

Big picture or small details, you get it all: These cameras are professionally designed to help you cover the whole scene or focus on details. Select models provide the big picture and close-up views at once.

Assured security and easy to use: Be Rest assured – these cameras are easy to install and operate from the moment you set them up. And, a Trusted Platform Module (TPM)

guarantees their security levels.

Any latest product that is creating buzz in the Smart Home Market? What are the unique features?

Hikvision has recently introduced a Video Door Phone Facial Recognition Door Station for enhanced security in the home environment. The cutting-edge DS-KV9503-WBE1 series IP facial recognition villa door station has a sleek modern industrial design tailored for discerning clientele. Its 4.3-inch vibrant LCD Touch screen, with an impressive 800 × 480 resolution, ensures a seamless and visually captivating user experience. With the convenience of a Single-touch physical button, effortless calls are just a tap away.

Powered by standard power over Ethernet (PoE), this door station eliminates the need to wire additional power supply, simplifying the installation and deployment process. Engineered with IK08 & IP65 protection ratings, it guarantees durability and reliability even in the most demanding environments. The user-friendly interface offers intuitive interaction, while the face recognition feature addresses privacy concerns with advanced security measures.

Moreover, its customized advertising interface enhances communication opportunities, catering to diverse application scenarios including villas, apartments, and offices. This

Door Station supports multiple authentication methods such as face, pin code, card, and QR code, satisfying different environments and helping to use access permissions.

Please tell us about Hikvision Embedded Open Platform(HEOP) platform?

Hikvision Embedded Open Platform (HEOP) Platform is an epoch-making innovation that is pushing the security industry to the next level. Open technologies, platforms, and collaboration are crucial for the future adoption of AIoT, and the enhanced HEOP platform demonstrates how Hikvision seeks to help pave the way for AIoT innovation and co-creation. HEOP 2.0 provides Hikvision partners with a unified, open, and safe environment for application operation and management. Featuring an open architecture, the platform supports containerized, independent deployment, and embedded application of third-party algorithms or components on Hikvision hardware, thus creating integrated devices with high flexibility.

HEOP 2.0 makes it easier for partners to deploy proprietary Deep Learning algorithms on Hikvision edge devices and provides more intelligent and tailored applications for end users.

What are the key technology trends in the Indian video security market?

As one of the leading stakeholders in the

Indian physical security market, the top technology trends that are shaping the future of the security industry are AI Enabled Applications, AIoT Technology and Multi-dimensional perception capabilities. Cloud Computing and Cloud-based security services are experiencing good growth in the Indian security market.

The Indian security market ecosystem is rapidly adopting AI, IoT, and cloud-based technologies and diverse solutions. The adoption rate for AIoT solutions is growing faster with the awareness of its advantages.

Hikvision India is at the forefront of AIoT technology innovations, and it is offering these cutting-edge technologies in all of its latest products and solutions. The AIoT products and solutions are enjoying the fastest adoption rate compared to the other technologies.

AI applications and open ecosystems

We have seen more diversified AI products and applications that help solve intricate problems daily and meet customers' fragmented needs. AI's acoustic and textual capabilities are also being explored by the industry, beginning with visual AI. For example, AI-powered audio anomaly detection is being used to detect equipment failures in industrial environments for heightened levels of worker safety. Furthermore, AI technology itself is evolving to the stage of self-learning with training and optimizing itself much faster than supervised





learning.

All of these require more ecosystems with open technologies, open resources, and even open protocols, for collaborations in the industry. Open technologies, such as container technology and virtualization technology, have significant potential for our industry, which are making hardware products more open.

AIoT Trend continues

Taking artificial intelligence further, we believe the combination of AI and IoT (AIoT) will continue to be a major trend, reshaping the scope of the security industry. More AIoT solutions have been introduced that will not only provide intelligent protections but also help advance the efficiency of operations in a multitude of industries and organizations.

AIoT will create an important path for boosting digital transformation across several industries. This can be done by creating a digital twin, bridging the physical and digital worlds. For example, in industrial park management, virtual sites can be created

by applying 3D modeling, using VR and AR technologies to represent and reflect the real ones, empowering them with the dynamic insight to act quickly to make the whole site run smoothly.

Visual experiences improve

Capturing security imaging with sharp clarity and color around the clock is a core demand for users of video security, but dim light at night has always been the biggest challenge to achieving this. Now, with the development of several new imaging technologies, we are seeing these challenges removed. Bi-spectrum image fusion technology that employs two sensors is being used to combine IR and visible-light imaging to reproduce vivid colors in dim lighting conditions. Artificial Intelligence-based image signal processing (AI-ISP) technology leverages deep-learning algorithms to radically improve visual noise reduction for nighttime image optimization.

Multi-dimensional perception capabilities

For security applications, perception



capabilities are going far beyond visible light, extending out along the electromagnetic spectrum to expand the capabilities of perceiving the physical world in new ways. And these multi-dimensional perception capabilities converge to create innovative solutions that can accomplish a multitude of new operations, such as radar assisted video systems for perimeter protection, integration solutions of video and sonar arrays for traffic management, and alarm systems with a wide range of detectors for smart home applications.

What is the outlook for the security systems market in India?

The Indian physical security industry has been growing rapidly in recent years. Developments and applications of cutting-edge technologies in this ever-evolving industry such as AI, machine perception, and IoT, are breaking boundaries. We have seen security systems become deeply integrated and more comprehensive. It is expanding core capabilities to do more analytics with improved efficiency.

The Indian security systems market is experiencing an unprecedented growth phase now, while metro cities are the key markets for the advanced AIoT technology-driven security products. In meanwhile Tier-II and Tier-III cities are emerging markets, they hold



big potential for the growth and expansion. As Indian economy is continuing its onward march as the fastest growing economy, the market is adopting the global security industry standards and best practices. India is heading towards becoming one of the largest security markets across the globe.

Hikvision has introduced its Smart Managed Switches, which integrate seamlessly with the HPP app. Please elaborate on this integration?

Hikvision has introduced a new generation of Smart Managed Switches. These Smart Managed Switches in conjunction with the

Hik-Partner Pro mobile app, enable installers to remotely deploy and configure security systems with comprehensive operation and maintenance capabilities. This new generation of Smart Managed Switches features a robust architecture with 6 KV surge protection for PoE ports. The full portfolio ranges from an economical 100 Mbps switch up to high-powered Gigabit switches tailored for SMB projects.

A rapid increase in the number of IP devices needed to fit the wide variety of security scenarios has made network switches an essential tool. However, while traditional plug-and-play network switches provide



connectivity, they may not converge with other security devices to extend synergy within a system. As the network in a business scenario becomes more complex, the device configuration becomes cumbersome and actually increases the workload.

Now, with this new generation of Smart Managed Switches, Hikvision integrates connectivity with management over the entire security system through its mobile app, Hik-Partner Pro.

Hik-Partner Pro weaves together cameras, alarms, NVRs, access control devices, and software, creating a unified and easy-to-use security system for centralized, visualized operations and maintenance. Further, with the mobile Hik-Partner Pro app, the entire system deployment and configuration can be completed with a mobile phone in just three steps, making delivery simpler, faster and easier. The seamless integration provides installers with an all-in-one experience.

Remote management saves time and eliminates transportation costs for installers. With Hik-Partner Pro, installers will extend and elevate their work efficiency as they maintain products using a mobile phone from any location and at any time of day, responding more quickly to ensure stable system performance for their customers.



What are the tangible outcomes have resulted from the company's commitment to local manufacturing?

We are working on an elaborate plan to expand the partner network across India in Tier-II and Tier-III towns to live up to the growing demand in the market. The expansion plans are underway for the 'Make-in-India' manufacturing facility. There is more investment and expansion happening in the R&D Center. We are also expanding our RMA centers to strengthen the service support. There is a renewed focus on skilling and training program to impart the latest product and technology updates to ecosystem partners and security professionals across India. Hikvision India regularly conducts training programs in association with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), these initiatives are driving the electronic security product manufacturing to a new phase of growth. We are consistently contributing to the cause of employment generation through manufacturing and allied activities across India.

“AI will be a Game-Changer Transforming the Audiovisual Industry”



Brinda Parekh & Ajay Kamath

Ajay Kamath, the visionary founder of Sounds Good, has been a pioneering force in the audio-visual industry for over 25 years. Known for his impeccable standards and innovative approach, Ajay Kamath has worked with numerous celebrities like Madhuri Dixit, Jackie Shroff, Sanjeev Kapoor, Hariharan, Pooja Hegde, Arjun Kapoor and Arjun Bijlani to name a few. and industrialists, transforming their spaces with state-of-the-art technology and earning a reputation for excellence in the industry.

With 25 years in the industry, Sounds Good has collaborated with numerous celebrities and industrialists. Could you share your journey and highlight some of your key achievements?

After completing my bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, I began my career in 2000 with Peerless Fabrikkerne India Limited. At that time, high-end audio technology was still relatively nascent in India, and Peerless specialized as an OEM manufacturer and exporter of speaker drive units. We supplied to top brands in the international hi-fi industry, such as B&W, Monitor Audio, Genelec, and KEF. This experience provided me with invaluable hands-on training, working alongside renowned audio engineers. I was guided by an esteemed MITian chairman and had the opportunity to collaborate closely with global clients and consultants.

A few years later, a team from Peerless, including myself and the owner's son, ventured

into importing international audio brands into India. This initiative led to the establishment of "10 Octaves" in 2002. As authorized representatives for multiple prestigious hi-fi brands, we expanded into retail sales and installation. This marked the beginning of our journey to bring world-class entertainment systems into Indian homes.

Building on nearly a decade of experience spanning loudspeaker design, importation, distribution, and high-end system deployment, I decided to embark on my own path with "Sounds Good". Founded to deliver cutting-edge audiovisual solutions, Sounds Good initially focused on home and car audio. Today, we serve a diverse clientele, including both individuals and institutions. In 2013, we expanded our services to include Home Automation, enhancing our comprehensive offerings.

Over the years, Sounds Good has flourished, executing numerous high-profile projects



and establishing a strong reputation for excellence in the audiovisual industry. Actress Brinda Parekh handles Marketing and PR for SOUNDS GOOD. Our commitment to quality and innovation has driven our success, making us a trusted name in the field.

Can you share feedback or success stories from some of your prominent high profile clients?

The best feedback is the one that is unsolicited and when your quality of work and results so greatly exceed the client's expectation that it cannot go uncomplimented. There have been several such instances when clients have entrusted us with their work on account of our reputation and recommendations. But they still cannot quantify the magnitude of satisfaction our expert services will bring into their spaces until they actually hear and see it out for themselves. And this sometimes produces startling reactions! In some instances, we have been able to turn around their existing

systems that the client has owned for several years, but never heard it perform to its full potential because the person who sold it had never been able to calibrate it correctly. There is nothing more satisfactory than to have a client 100% satisfied. It is this very goodwill that has ensured that any client we make is a client for life and with corresponding referrals.

As a specialist in the AV segment, what are some of the most challenging projects you've worked on, and which brands have you used in these projects?

One of our most challenging projects was automating a residence that was fully complete in all aspects. After the client purchased the 5,500 sq ft apartment, they decided to go for full automation. We managed to completely automate the entire house without making any changes to the existing cabling. Even the switches were retained exactly the same, as this was one of the homeowner's conditions. The apartment was designed by Abu Jani

Ajay Kamath with Sanjeev Kapoor



and Sandeep Khosla, and nothing was to be altered aesthetically—not even a screw. Everything was retrofit installed in the backboxes behind the switches, communicating over IoT protocol and seamlessly working using both app and voice control. We controlled all the lights with dimming features, curtains, HVAC, television lifts, jacuzzi motors, and even the motorized window opening system. Coincidentally, this residence was the highest in India at that time! This project required meticulous planning and precision to ensure that the automation integrated flawlessly with the existing design and infrastructure, providing a seamless and user-friendly experience for the homeowner.

Can you tell us about some of the projects you've worked on and the brands used in these projects?

Automation is already a part of your home. More and more devices are becoming smart, communicating with each other, controllable by your phone, and accessing the internet. A good home automation system consolidates

these devices onto a common platform, providing unified control and interaction. It has become a necessity today. We have completed hundreds of automation projects, ranging from fully equipped villas and multi-storey residences to sprawling bars, lounges, and restaurants.

Moreover, we specialize in highly customized automation systems for bespoke projects. One such example is a project we undertook for one of India's and the world's wealthiest individuals. As they welcomed their grandchild, we collaborated with their nursery specialist architect to build a large, custom-made dollhouse. This wall-to-wall unit was complete with rotating dolls, lights, soothing brain development classical music from completely invisible speakers, soothing chimes for bedtime, and carousels controlled by both app and voice. The system was designed to automatically turn on at sunrise and turn off at bedtime, complemented by some brilliant lighting. This project exemplifies the level of customization and attention to detail we bring to our clients.



Can you share details about some of the revolutionary home theatres you have designed for your high-profile clients?

We have commissioned several high-profile installations, but one of my favorites by far is our recent build for Bollywood superstar Madhuri Dixit and her ultra tech-savvy husband, Dr. Shriram Nene. Given their professions and circles, their exposure to the finest levels of entertainment, art and music is undeniable. Even their kids love their entertainment and are accomplished musicians. As Dr Nene says, "I have been an audiophile since the 1990's and still have some of my original equipment. It was a hobby that went along with my love for music and cinema. After getting married, both of us shared the interest." They have always owned top shelf equipment, gear that would be defining and cutting edge for its times. So, I knew this new project would be no different and we only had to raise the bar higher than on any previous occasions. As we set off on the journey, every minute detail was planned to perfection, right from the selection of the equipment, ensuring optimal placement,

choosing the correct cabling, installation accessories such as automated projector lifts etc. after evaluating all the possible options. The challenge lay in the fact that their systems were part of the general living spaces and not to be designed to look like a cinema hall. So, every bit had to be meticulously planned so that we achieved our goal of producing a sonic masterpiece. Dr. Nene's interest was obvious from his keen involvement in every single aspect of the build. He agrees that he did micro manage this one, and loved every bit of it! Absorbers were carefully placed inside cavities in the walls and ceiling, to be covered with pleasant paintable finishing layers or with acoustic wallpaper. The laser projector was housed in a drop down lift that emerged from the ceiling when needed and fit back flush when not in use. Same for the motorized drop down screen which uses a special material that enhances visibility in high ambient lighting conditions. The speakers themselves, while being no-compromise in terms of sound, also needed to be pieces of art look-wise. Dr Nene chose the exquisitely finished signature Burl wood B&W 801s for



the job – the only sets ever installed in India at that time. Powered by Classe monoblock amplification and state-of-the-art Lyngdorf surround sound processing, this is simply the best AV system that exists out there! Dr Nene says that while the journey took time and patience, anyone who is a discerning listener and audiophile will be able to understand and appreciate the difference. He concludes, “The importance of sources, sound engineering and control systems(automation) cannot go unnoticed. What really brings it together is a team that integrates all the elements and produces a finished experience that is next level. We feel we achieved it. This is by the far the best system we have ever had.” And this will always be the biggest reward for me, and our team at Sounds Good.

What are the brands you prefer for Home theatre when it comes to AVR & Processor, Power Amplifiers, Front LCR Speakers, Surround & Atmos Speakers, Subwoofers, Projector etc.

As a quality systems provider we work with only the biggest and most reputed brands out there. Our favourites when it comes to AVRs is Denon for the entry to mid-level while we frequently use Lyngdorf Audio for the higher end clients. For speakers we are truly spoilt by the quality Bowers & Wilkins (B&W) offers. I think Monitor Audio and Dynaudio are great alternatives for those looking for a slightly different sound signature. When selling high

end expensive equipment, we have to ensure that the products have a great lineage and quality, backed up by very good service and have strong counterparts in India to look after the after sales aspects. Because when you take up a project you are basically forging a relationship with the client for life.

As an expert, what are your observations on the latest technological trends shaping the home theatre or home cinema segment?

AI is the area to look out for. I see a huge transformation in the industry propelled by AI, greater than anything we have seen in the past few decades. AI will change the way systems are commissioned and used. AV systems will probably self-calibrate themselves in the future and trivial things like looking for settings, finding out what they do, user manuals, browsing through long menus, lists of channels etc will be obsolete. AI will recognise who has entered the room, turn on the system to his/her preferred mode/content and do everything else, short of feeding the popcorn. I expect home as well as commercial electronics to greatly become self-sustaining in terms of their deployment as well as maintenance. As a result, even semi-skilled to skilled technical installation staff might be replaced by AI and customers could install, calibrate, self-diagnose and perform basic maintenance tasks completely powered by AI. AI assistants will be built into the products and they will answer most of the questions you

would normally pose to the seller, installer or customer service.

Technologies like ambient light-rejecting screens, LED video walls, short-throw projectors, and Dolby Atmos speakers are becoming popular. Which brands do you integrate most often in your projects?

Elite Screens and Benq projectors are our hot selling combination. People love the convenience and results of the ALR screen with their UST projectors, and it comes without breaking the bank. Floor rising screens are also becoming increasingly popular. 99% of all surround systems we install are Dolby Atmos compliant. For this the content, electronics and speaker configuration – all 3 need to be compatible with Dolby and it isn't very brand dependent. We study the space and design the systems and layout accordingly. On the



video front Dolby Vision is now a must have feature in any of the TVs we sell. Sony, LG and Samsung all make fantastic TVs to suit different viewing tastes.

What is the scope of AR and VR technologies in your projects?

Regarding the brands we prefer, we generally do not encounter AR/VR technology frequently. Currently, these technologies seem to be limited to standalone gadgets and personal entertainment devices that do not integrate with standard home entertainment systems.

Can you share your experience on using Wireless and Multi-Room Audio solutions in your projects?

Wireless streaming capabilities and multi-room compatibility are now standard features in all the equipment we use. This functionality is particularly useful for managing multiple zones of music, allowing for convenient control of grouped audio. Currently, we are working on a project involving 32 audio zones in a single multi-storey residence, all controllable from a single app-based interface.



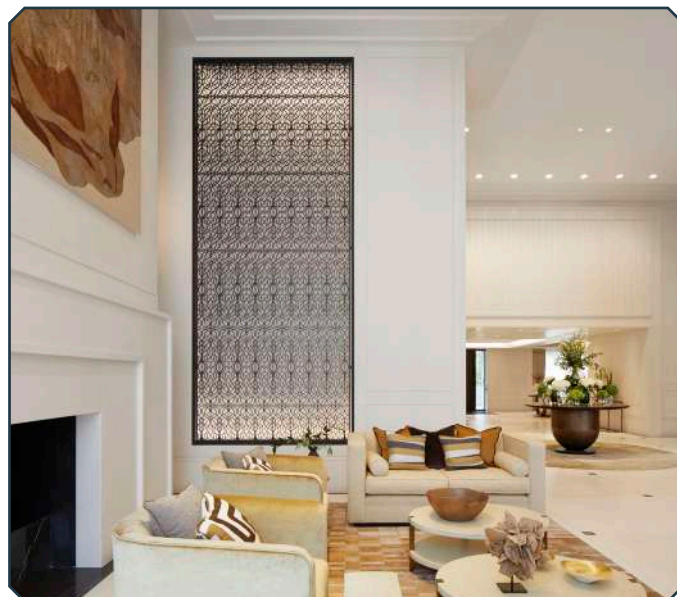
“Smart lighting is infiltrating every sector and making the role of a lighting designer a much more detailed art form.”

Akshara Vyas, a talented Lighting Designer at Nulty+ with a keen eye for details and a passion for innovation, in this exclusive interview, delves into the team's creative process, the stunning projects they have designed and their views on the smart lighting industry.

Could you share the remarkable journey of Nulty+ as a distinguished Lighting Design Consultant, highlighting key milestones and achievements?

Nulty+ was launched in 2011 when our founder Paul Nulty set up the practice from his kitchen table with a goal to push boundaries and champion the importance of lighting design. This underlying philosophy was a springboard for growth and continues to be the team's guiding principle today as we explore new ways of working with light.

Within five years of the launch, Nulty+ evolved from a core team in London with a portfolio of award-winning projects for the likes of Nike, Selfridges, and Harrods, to an international practice with studios in the UAE and North America. The company has grown incrementally since and now employs over 100 designers, based in key locations around the world. The Asian market is a fundamental part of that growth story, so in the last few years, we launched offices in Bangkok and Singapore to cover South East Asia, and in Pune and Bengaluru to increase our project work in India. Local teams allow us to get under the skin of the region and nurture client relationships, but every studio is supported by the wider Nulty family. It's important to us that we operate at a



high level and combine the knowledge of our studios yet remain collaborative at our core and responsive to client needs.

Can you discuss some of the significant projects Nulty+ has undertaken in India, where innovative lighting techniques or designs were explored, setting new trends in the industry?

We've amassed an exciting portfolio of work in India that includes large-scale commercial, hospitality and F&B projects for global brands.



In the workplace sector, we're working on schemes for landmark commercial developments in Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Pune, which required a multifaceted lighting expertise, designed to engage people, elevate the mood, and foster a sense of community.

We've also made in-roads in the hospitality and leisure industry, designing lighting schemes for a destination hotel and city club in Delhi where there is a strong emphasis on wellness and emotion. Another recent hospitality project that we're especially proud of is Amari Raaya - a stunning new resort in The Maldives that we completed in partnership with Real Estate Developer Panchshil Realty. It's a beautiful example of a hospitality scheme driven by storytelling and experimental design. Our lighting scheme helps to bring visual cohesion to the resort and adds warmth and drama to each space to enhance the emotinal journey.

As a Lighting Designer, which lighting control brands do you find most effective and reliable for your projects?

Whenever we employ lighting controls, be that in a private home, a corporate workspace, or a luxury hotel, our goal is always to bring a layer of personalisation and versatility to the

lighting. The brand that we specify depends entirely on the project and the design outcome that we're looking to achieve, but simplicity of controls and budget are always key drivers. Smart lighting should feel intuitive and familiar, so we place a strong focus on ease of control and a simple interface.

In residential sector where we've witnessed the democratization of lighting control technology, brands like Philips, Amazon, Apple, and Google have made waves and brought app-controlled and voice-activated lighting to the masses. All these systems are accessible and easy to use, and this is allowing homeowners to really personalise their lighting environment and have much greater control over colour temperature, intensity, and contrast. We're also seeing a strong emphasis placed on wellbeing, so you're much more likely to see biodynamic lighting schemes being used in private homes.

When we do specify lighting controls for a commercial or hospitality setting, projects tend to require a more advanced system, or a mix of complex and simplistic solutions depending on the functionality of space. A good lighting control system is essentially the backbone of a multifaceted workspace or hotel, so we want an inherently flexible system as this



allows you to curate a varied and responsive lighting scheme. Efficiency and longevity are also important in this context because clients are under pressure to reduce energy usage. We can be much more precise with a well-designed control system because it gives you the scope to tailor the lighting according to occupancy levels and daylight levels. Investing in quality will always pay dividends in the end.

What are your insights on the evolution of the smart lighting industry? In your opinion, which sector—hospitality, commercial, or residential—is witnessing a rapid transition from traditional lighting to smart lighting?

Connectivity is ever present in our lives, so smart lighting is infiltrating every sector and making the role of a lighting designer a much more detailed art form. Smart lighting systems have revolutionised the way that we approach lighting design in a private home. We can now incorporate circadian based alarm clocks to bring a wellbeing strand to the design, and connect the lighting to AV and IT, security cameras, and motion detectors to create a fully integrated system.

In the hospitality sector where comfort and wellbeing are an intrinsic part of the experience, smart lighting creates an opportunity to embed personalization into the guestroom environment. Guests can adjust the intensity and colour temperature of the lighting and completely change the mood and ambience if their body clock isn't yet aligned to the local time zone.

We've seen a seismic shift in the world of retail. Brands are using occupancy and daylight sensors to drive down energy consumption and smart lighting to harvest data about consumers, track their movement around a store, and guide them to key touchpoints and dwell points. And finally, the commercial sector is embracing smart lighting in a big way as it accommodates the new hybrid workplace environment. The future of the office is spatial flexibility, with a mix of different lighting elements for those that want and need it, and smart lighting is going to play an important role.

Human Centric Lighting (HCL) is gaining traction as a futuristic trend, emphasizing

health and mental wellness. What are your thoughts on its potential impact?

Lighting designers have been designing people-focused schemes for years, and long before the term human centric lighting crept into mainstream dialogue. What has evolved is the way that we think about a space in terms of wellbeing. We're now much more concerned with the quality rather than quantity of light that we're all exposed to, along with the science of psychology and physiology.

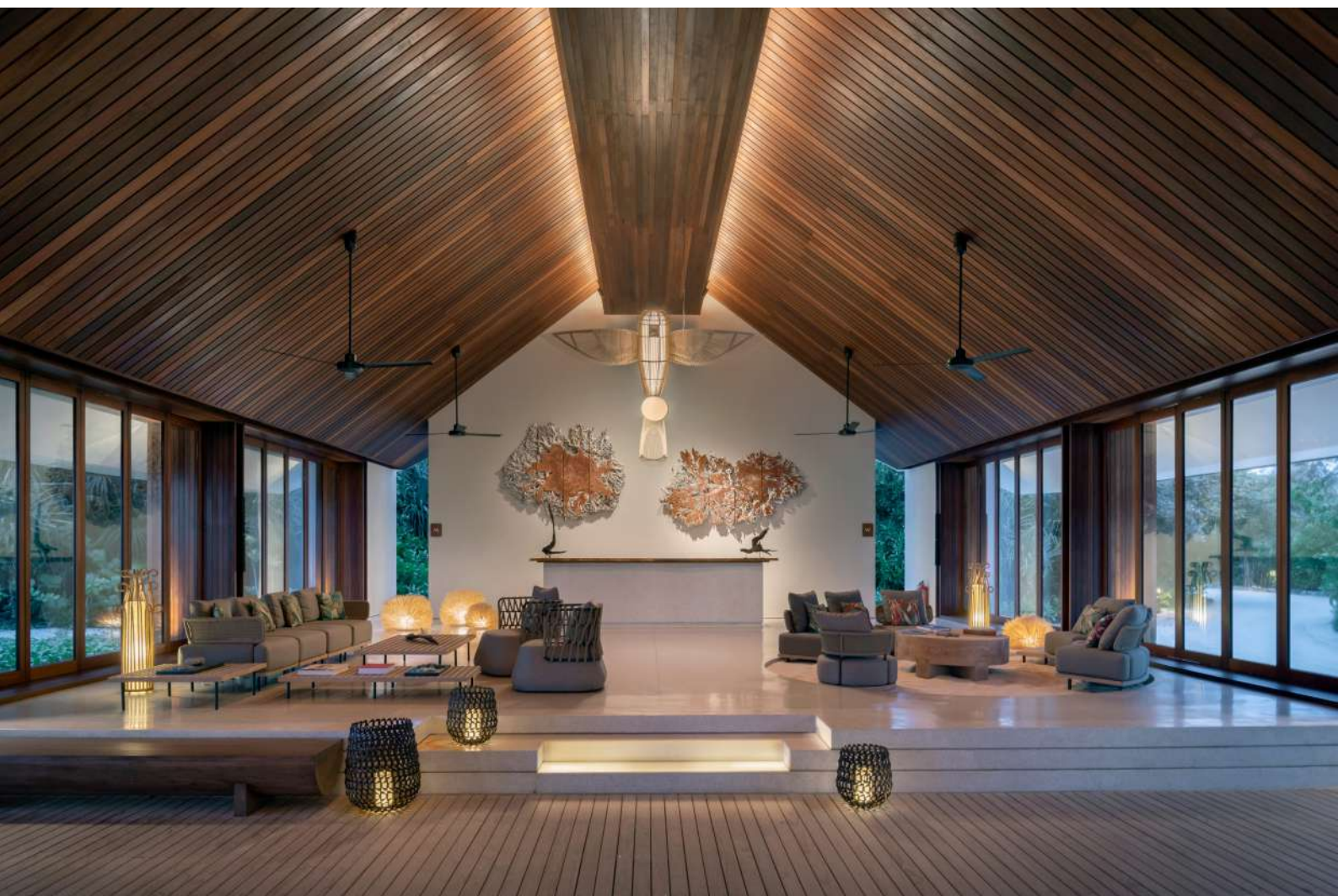
So, what we're really talking about here is circadian science - a complex field of research that has reframed the way that we think about light. Circadian rhythms govern the way that our bodies run because a person's 24-hour internal clock is linked to physical and psychological responses such as sleep, body temperature, alertness, and hunger. When our circadian rhythm gets out of sync, we need external cues to reset it, and light is instrumental to this process.

The principles of circadian lighting seem

straight forward. Lighting designers need to consider the full spectrum of light and use cool, bright light to stimulate alertness, and warm, low intensity light to encourage rest. We can create lighting scenes that mimic the way that light changes throughout the day and go some way to support the body's natural rhythm. In a hotel environment, circadian lighting has the potential to be hugely beneficial. We can design guestrooms with personalised lighting controls that allow a person arriving from the airport, with a body clock that's all out of sync, to modify the lighting and feel more at ease.

But we need to be clear about the difference between an emotional response and a biological response when we talk about circadian lighting. You need to be exposed to a lot of light, and for a long period of time, to really influence a person's circadian rhythm. It's an important distinction to make when we assess the impact that human centric lighting might have in the future.

How crucial is collaboration with system integrators in lighting projects?







A holistic lighting solution relies on the seamless integration between the lighting controls and lighting system. Developing technology has brought an added layer of complexity to this process because schemes often feature multiple systems that all need to communicate with each other and operate as a single ecosystem. Lighting controls also come in many forms, so we are working with keypads, remote controls, PIRs and daylight sensors.

The key to successful integration is always good communication with the stakeholders on a project. We collaborate closely with the teams responsible for AV & IT, HVAC, security, and automation to improve functionality and efficiency. It's one of the reasons why it's so important to bring a lighting designer on in the early stages of a project, because we then have time to influence the design process and build in innovative control systems and more effective solutions when it comes to circuiting and zoning.

How do you envision the Smart Lighting Industry in India five years from now?

We've reached the upper limit on what LEDs can produce in terms of Lumens per Watt, so when we're asking where we go next in terms of innovation, smart lighting is the obvious answer. It means that we have much more control over the lighting in our homes and places of work as we can customise the light levels around us. It will also enable us to design multifaceted and intuitive buildings, which learn people's behaviours and self-adjust accordingly.

On a much broader level, smart lighting presents an opportunity to increase the amount of smart cities around the world, which is an incredibly exciting prospect. It could help us reduce energy consumption on a much more meaningful level as we'll be able to employ lighting systems that react to inclement weather and pedestrian footfall levels.



Synergy Studio Redefines Sound Excellence in India

Rohan Solomon, Founder & CEO, Synergy Studio and Kapil Thirwani, Director, Munro Acoustics have collaborated to design a world-class recording studio. Whether for music production, film scoring, voiceovers, or other audio projects, this high-tech studio provides the tools and environment necessary to turn creative visions into sonic reality.

The new-age recording studio, Synergy Studio in Gurugram is an amalgamation of cutting-edge equipment, innovative design, and advanced acoustics, fostering an environment where artists and producers can achieve unparalleled sound quality.

With the integration of Smart Technology and Automation, this modern studio has programmable lighting and environmental controls that are tailored to create the

ideal atmosphere for recording sessions. Additionally, automated mixing systems streamline operations by saving and recalling intricate settings, ensuring both consistency and efficiency.

This state-of-the-art recording and post-production studio is equipped with top-of-the-line studio equipment. As a part of the Pro-Music trio, the Synergy HQ not only serves as a production hub but also houses the Synergy



Audio Institutes for Music Education and Audio Engineering. Drawing on his extensive experience, including mentorship under the esteemed multi-Grammy-winning mix engineer Michael Brauer and tenure at New York's Engine Room Audio, Rohan Solomon has meticulously crafted this studio with a blend of modern technology and traditional craftsmanship, the studio reflects Solomon's dedication to excellence.

Equipped with high-end outboard gear, a diverse microphone collection, and a Dolby Atmos setup for spatial audio mixing, the studio boasts custom-designed spaces by Munro Acoustics, renowned for their work from Abbey Road to AR Rahman. "This studio was created by a musician for fellow musicians and content creators, serving as a one-stop solution for all recording and production needs in the Northern belt." says Rohan.

Concept and Layout

The versatile studio layout includes two

control rooms and two recording rooms, interconnected via cables beneath the floorboards for seamless integration. The Falcon, their flagship control room, boasts world-class industry premium analog equipment. It's designed for multi-tracking and is fully equipped for post-production and mixing in Dolby Atmos and Spatial Audio, ensuring top-tier sound quality. The Phoenix is a private production suite featuring a private balcony. This room is ideal for production, mixing, vocal recording, ADR, voiceovers, and audiobook recordings, providing an intimate and focused environment for creators.

Each room is meticulously designed to cater to various recording and production needs, making our studio a versatile and professional space for artists and producers alike."

Recording Equipment and Software Used

This studio as per the Industry Standards is equipped and has world-class preamps, EQs and compressors from companies Neve, API,

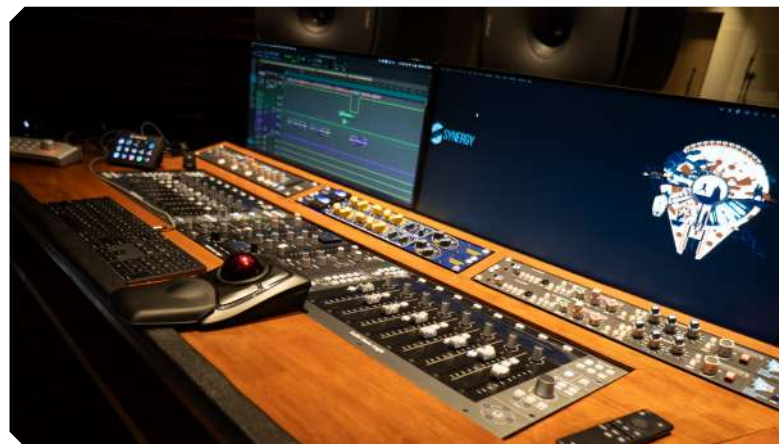


SSL, Universal Audio, Chandler Limited, Maag, Black Lion Audio, Warm Audio, Audient to name a few. They also have top-tier monitoring systems from Dangerous Audio, Genelec, and ATC. State-of-the-art Hearback Systems from Allen & Heath which are powered by Ferrofish Dante Converters.

Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs) and Micro Phones

The studio is integrated mainly with Pro Tools, because that is the industry standard for multi-tracking all over the world. But they also are equipped with other DAWs like Logic Pro, Ableton Live, and LUNA.

Adding insight on the microphones and the related equipment Rohan adds, "We have Grade A microphones from companies like Neumann, AKG, Shure, Manley, Royer, Universal Audio, Slate Digital, etc. with a good mix of condenser mics, dynamic mics, ribbon mics and Tube Condenser Mics. Our



preamps offer a wide range of audio flavours which is certainly a USP of ours. We offer recording through Neve 1073, API 512 & 3124, Chandler TC2, Universal Audio 610, SSL VHD+, and Audient 8 Channel Preamps, plus we are equipped with Universal Audio Apollo x16 as our main converters and Apollo x8 & x8p interfaces, which offer us beautiful sounding clean and linear preamps using the patented "Unison" technology. Our studio monitors are



Genelec (for stereo and Atmos) and ATC (for only stereo)."

The Acoustic Treatment and Soundproofing Solutions

The studio has been designed by Kapil Thirwani of Munro Acoustics who has worked on amazing studios all over the world including the world-famous "Abbey Road Studios" in England. He has used a strategic mix of absorbers, diffusers, and bass traps that allows the users to get a clean and uniform sound. "Acoustic treatment is the most important thing in a studio. This is what ensures that what we are hearing is the correct frequencies at the correct volume and this helps us to make better and more informed choices while recording and mixing," adds Rohan.

Networking and Connectivity Solutions

From the ground up, the studio was designed and built for maximum flexibility and full



redundancy. The gear is connected to the computers via corning active thunderbolt cables as they offer the longest lengths possible thereby allowing us to manage the computers and NAS solutions in a separate temperature-controlled environment whilst the audio gear sits in the control rooms.

The rooms are also interconnected via analogue "Snake" cables allowing full analog

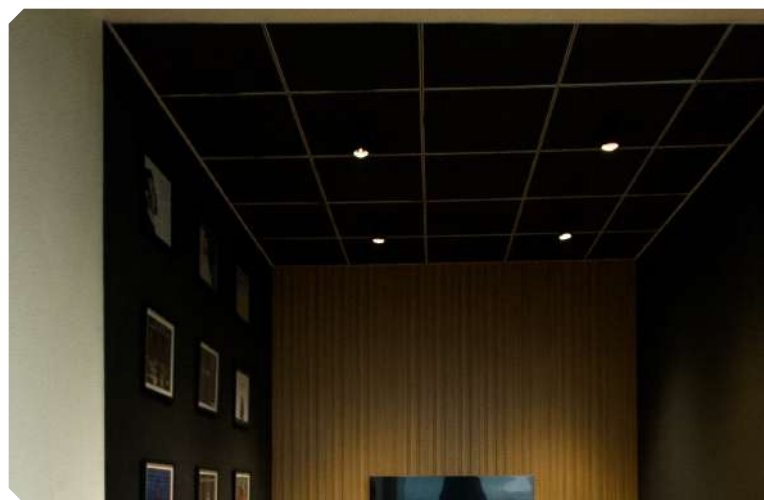


interconnectivity between all rooms. This enables us to use any combination of gear and room as we need for a specific session.

Explaining in detail Rohan adds, “Our rooms are fully networked using Gigabit Ethernet (CAT6e & CAT7) and Netgear AV Line switches. This gives us all the bandwidth and minimum latency that a studio of this grade requires. Independent and redundant cabling is used to connect various computing, video, and audio systems for non-recording purposes as well.”

He further adds, “CAT7 cables are used to connect to an Allen & Heath ME-U Dante system which allows musicians and artists to create their own mixes on the fly during a session using individual Allen & Heath ME-1 personal mixers. In a session with multiple artists and instruments, this allows us the flexibility to let each musician adjust the sound sent to them independently.”

The Room communication system is



augmented via multiple Birdog NDI Cameras that provide incredible flexibility by allowing us to utilize the screens to show whatever is required for the artist to perform at their best. In addition, the NDI feed can be routed to specific devices to allow video recording of the session such that they may be used for various Social Media purposes.



In addition, coupled with all of the above, a high-speed internet connection allows producers located remotely to sit in during a session without having to physically visit.

Flexible Integration of Solutions

The studio has incorporated multiple redundant and spare CAT6e and CAT7 cabling to support future upgrades, allowing for connections up to 10GBps. Their Dante system is designed to expand recording sources, enabling them to add rooms or gear as needed, thereby enhancing their future recording capabilities.

To ensure minimal latency and easy scalability, they've chosen Netgear AV Line switches. "Our IP-based NDI video system simplifies the addition of cameras, and we have additional NDI box cameras from Birddog specifically for recording video podcasts. These enhancements ensure our studio is equipped for current demands and future



expansions, providing a flexible and state-of-the-art recording environment." explains Kapil Thirwani of Munro Acoustics.

This studio is a perfect synergy of creativity and technology, allowing musicians to push the boundaries of their art and produce recordings of unparalleled quality.



A Harmonious Blend of Tradition and Technology

Ar. Shashi Rekha has designed the GPN Residence in Chennai that embodies individuality and cultural heritage and seamlessly integrates advanced home automation to enhance functionality and sustainability.

From intelligent lighting and climate control to security systems and entertainment, the ability to remotely monitor and manage home has become increasingly appealing to homeowners. This growing demand reflects a shift towards modern living solutions that prioritize connectivity and personalized experiences.

Catering to a similar demand from the client, Chennai-based Ar. Shashi Rekha, Founder, Space Studio One has designed a Smart Home named GPN Residence in Anna Nagar, Chennai.

The GPN Residence was conceived as a dynamic

residential space that celebrates individuality and diversity within the Gorantla family home. The design concept revolves around creating a personalized living environment that reflects the unique tastes and preferences of each family member. Through a collaborative design process, the home became a canvas for expressing cultural heritage, lifestyle choices, and personal interests, ensuring every aspect resonates with the family's identity.

Located in Anna Nagar, the GPN Residence strikes a balance by integrating personalised elements that enhance both visual appeal and functionality. The entire home is integrated with home automation to foster



interconnectivity throughout the home plus providing advantage of ensuring seamless integration with the surroundings.

The stilt area serves as a foundation for the personalised living spaces providing convenient parking for vehicles. The aim of the design team was to create unwinding user experience, offering ample space and ease of access. Similarly, for the Stilt parking area integration of design preferences ensures this area complements the overall aesthetic and functionality of the residence.

The first floor showcases traditional architectural features that reflect the family's liking for cultural heritage and design sensibilities. Personalized details, such as the family-name depicted on the door and customized bathroom fittings, imbue the space with identity and uniqueness, incorporating hand-made tiles, Burma wood, and intricate carving details.

The second-floor blends traditional and contemporary elements to create a dynamic living environment. Fusion-style architectural



features resonate with each family member's unique aesthetic preferences and lifestyle, incorporating personalised touches like mother-of-pearl inlay in the pooja room, creating a visually captivating space that reflects individuality.

Tailored to specific preferences and interests, the third-floor houses personalised office and gym spaces. Layout, functionality, and aesthetic elements are customized to meet the professional and recreational needs of each family member, ensuring a harmonious balance between work and leisure.



The terrace serves as a leisure space with a small spiritual area for meditation, providing a tranquil retreat for the family to unwind and connect with nature. The layout, furnishings, and ambiance create a serene environment conducive to relaxation and reflection.

Integrating Home Automation:

The residence seamlessly incorporates smart technologies into its design to enhance functionality, convenience, and energy-efficiency. The advantage it provides, is allows for centralized control of lighting, climate, security, and entertainment, contributing to the overall sustainability of the home while adapting to the unique preferences and routines of the Gorantla family.

Integration of automatic light systems enhances the visual impact and functionality of exterior spaces, adjusting based on ambient light levels and occupancy. This feature not only ensures a welcoming and secure environment but also highlights the architectural features of the elevation, contributing to the overall aesthetics of the residence.

“Integrating various technologies and systems



within a home requires a comprehensive process. It begins with an assessment and planning phase to identify desired integrations and budget. Establishing a robust home network with Wi-Fi and wired connections is crucial. Entertainment systems, including TVs, speakers, and other devices, are connected to the network, and compatible smart home devices like thermostats and cameras are installed. A smart home hub serves as the integration platform, unifying control and enabling automation and control routines for convenience. Security measures protect the network, and regular software updates maintain system integrity. Testing



and optimization of the system, along with ongoing maintenance, ensure it remains up-to-date and any issues are promptly addressed.” explains Shashi Rekha

Tech Integration and Advantages

They have opted for Hikvision security cameras that serve as deterrents to intruders while alerting occupants and authorities in the event of unauthorized entry. Further the motions sensors enhance security by detecting movement within defined areas, triggering alarms or notifications to ensure immediate response. Smoke detectors are strategically placed to alert occupants to the presence of smoke or fire, facilitating quick evacuation and potentially saving lives and property. The comprehensive security surveillance systems provide continuous monitoring, deterring criminal activity and offering valuable evidence when incidents occur.

The Godrej smart locks for doors, enables homeowners to control access remotely via smartphones or other devices, adding a layer



of convenience and security. Window open alert sensors notify occupants, if windows are opened or left ajar, preventing unauthorized entry and enhancing overall security.

To ensure data security and privacy strong network protocols and authentication methods, including WPA2 encryption and multi-factor authentication has been adopted. The team has incorporated acoustic and speaker provisions with Dolby Atmos on the second floor. User-friendly interfaces for homeowners to control and monitor integrated systems are provided, with the automation room on the ground floor serving



as the hub. Each floor has its own distribution box, acting as a mini control center for the systems on that particular floor, allowing for localized control and troubleshooting. DALI smart lighting systems have been designed for all spaces on the first floor, the living area on the second floor, and common spaces, enhancing convenience and control.

“Our integrated systems are designed to be scalable and adaptable to future technology advancements or changing homeowner needs. The modular design allows components to be easily added, removed, or upgraded without major disruptions. We utilize open standards and communication protocols to ensure compatibility with a wide range of devices. Future-proofing considerations include designing systems capable of accommodating upcoming advancements, such as support for emerging standards like 5G or IoT protocols.

Remote management enables updates, maintenance, and troubleshooting, while scalable infrastructure, utilizing cloud-based services or scalable hardware, handles increased demand or new requirements. Our user-centric design approach, informed by feedback and user research, ensures that systems can adapt to homeowners’ evolving needs.” Says Shashi Rekha

The GPN Residence serves as a model for personalized living and sustainable development within Anna Nagar, inspiring similar initiatives in the neighbourhood. Opportunities for community engagement and collaboration showcase the diversity of design preferences and lifestyles while promoting environmental stewardship and cultural preservation.

PROJECT DETAILS

Architect/Interior Designer: **Ar. Shashi Rekha, Space Studio Chennai**

Contractor: **Natwest**

PMC: **Er.Karthick**

Automation System Used: **Triumph Solutions Private Limited**

Lighting Keypad: **Crestron**

Security Cameras: **Hikvision**

Digital Locks: **Godrej**

Biometrics: **Godrej**



Transforming Vadodara's Villa with Smart Node Automation

Modi Srivastava & Associates, with Systems Integrator, Rutvik Vyas, AULISO, has transformed a luxurious villa in Vadodara using Smart Node Automation. This home boasts seamless lighting, security, HVAC, and entertainment systems integration, perfectly tailored to its well-travelled residents' lifestyle.

Modi Srivastava & Associates collaborated with Systems Integrator, Rutvik Vyas, AULISO who has opted for Smart Node Automation System for this luxurious smart villa in Vadodara. Designed by renowned Modi Srivastava & Associates, spread over an area of 8,900 sq. ft. the villa is split over ground plus two floors and has a modern contemporary decor tailored to each family member's preferences. The ground floor has the main areas including a foyer, puja room, living area, family seating, dry and wet kitchens, and a parent's room. The first floor features the master bedroom, bedrooms for the son and daughter, and a guest room. The second floor is dedicated to recreation with a terrace garden, gazebo, and a home theater room.

The clients with five family members who has an extensive travel schedule required a

solution that would secure their villa, allow for remote monitoring, and provide maximum comfort when at home, all while maintaining aesthetic consistency throughout the house.

Automation and Technology Integrated

To meet these needs, Systems Integrator Rutvik Vyas, opted for Smart Node Automation for the entire villa, covering lighting controls, curtains/shades/blinds, HVAC, smart locks, motorized gates, CCTV, multi-room audio, and a dedicated home theater. The system uses Smart Node, a flexible and scalable home automation solution.

Planning and Implementation

After the initial meetings with the architect, PMC, and client it was decided to provide home



automation as per the client's requirement in specific areas like the living and dining areas, master bedroom, daughter's bedroom, son's bedroom and home theater. However, the architect and interior designer emphasized the need for uniformity in high-end touch panels throughout the villa. "Smart Node's solution provided a perfect blend of functionality and aesthetics. We installed lighting control with the App and touch interface, including dimming and tunable lighting, as well as curtain, HVAC, and AV control in the specified areas. In the remaining areas, we installed Smart Node's touch panels without app control to maintain aesthetic uniformity." says Parth Shah, Co-Founder & Chief Revenue Officer, Smart Node.

Security and Surveillance

For security, they have used IP CCTV cameras for surveillance, Yale locks for the main doors, and wardrobe locks. The villa's numerous French windows, access doors, balcony, and a large double-height glass façade required a comprehensive intrusion alarm system. We



installed the AJAX wireless intrusion alarm system with door sensors, window/glass vibration sensors, and motion sensors.

Networking and Audio Solutions

We designed a Wi-Fi and networking solution for both indoor and outdoor landscape areas. For audio, we implemented a wireless multi-room audio solution with dock speakers in selected areas.

The second floor's entertainment/lounge area posed a unique challenge. The client desired a neat and clean décor with minimal





acoustic treatment, preferring a recreational/lounge room setup. To meet these requirements, we installed in-wall speakers from SONANCE for both aesthetic appeal and high performance. A motorized projector lift was used to conceal the projector, ensuring a clean installation. Acoustic treatment was balanced with 60% room volume absorption panels and diffused sound using a brick wall design. The home theater system was configured with a 7.1.4 Dolby Atmos setup, a 150-inch screen, and 4K projection.



Control and Flexibility

The entire system is controlled via the Smart Node intuitive app interface, allowing control over lighting, dimming, tuning, curtains, HVAC, motorized gates, smart locks, TVs, set-top boxes, soundbars, projector, and AV receiver. The app features a floor management UI with customized photos of each room and scene controls accessible from both the app and touch panels.

We used dimmers and tunable lighting throughout the house, all controlled via Smart Node. The hybrid nature of Smart Node

automation ensures that future additions of smart devices can be wireless and hassle-free.

Overall, this project successfully merged practical smart solutions with aesthetic considerations, creating a seamless and sophisticated living environment for the client. By leveraging Smart Node's flexible and scalable automation systems, we provided a secure, comfortable, and stylish home that meets the client's lifestyle needs and enhances their living experience.



PROJECT DETAILS

Architect/Interior Designer: **MSA – Modi Srivastava & Associates.**

PMC: **Shreemay Buildcon**

Systems Integrator: **Rutvik Vyas, AULISO (VADODARA-SURAT-ANAND, GUJARAT)**

Automation System Used: **Smart Node**

Lighting: **Litomatic, Hybec, Abby**

Security Cameras: **Dahua**

Digital Locks: **Yale**

Home Theatre: **Sonance, Elac**

Projectors: **Optoma**

Amplifiers: **Denon**

Speakers: **Sonance, Elac**

Biometrics: **Yale**

Hardware used: **Assa Abloy**

Networking Devices used: **Grandstream**
(Any other technical details you want to mention feel free.)

CEDIA is organizing a comprehensive four-day Tech + Business Summit in Bengaluru

CEDIA is set to host its comprehensive four-day Tech + Business Summit in Bengaluru at the Hotel Taj Bengaluru, India, from July 24th to 27th, 2024. This event promises an enriching experience for industry professionals, offering valuable networking opportunities and educational sessions.

The free-to-attend event offers a unique and personal experience for quality connections in the industry, with attendees having the opportunity to gain practical knowledge through face time with manufacturers and distributors, plus the added benefit of learning valuable skills via the multiple speaker and workshop sessions on offer.

The Tech + Business Summit will provide a fantastic opportunity for smart home technology professionals to learn about the future of the industry. The event is sponsored by globally renowned manufacturers and India's leading distributors, including Actis Technologies, Aytexcel, Casadigi, Cinebels, Elite Screens, Escala Tech, Hi-Tech Audio & Image, Lithe Audio, Mahkam Poorviam, OKAS, ProFX, Vinshek and many more.

Event Flow

The four-day event kicks off on Wednesday 24th July with a full-day Home Cinema Design Workshop, run by David Moseley from Wavetrain and founder of Elementi Audio.

On Thursday 25th July, the main Tech + Business Summit event will take place. The day will include exciting product displays and demonstrations from top smart home technology brands showcasing their newest products. Attendees can indulge in informative insights and nurture meaningful partnerships due to the wealth of opportunities to connect and build important relationships with industry peers.

Another key feature of the event are the free, expert-led, dynamic seminars running

throughout the day. Covering a wide range of topics and designed with all job roles in mind, these sessions are intended to empower professionals to enhance their education and stay at the forefront of the ever-evolving field. Later in the day, CEDIA also invites attendees to join them for free-to-attend networking drinks from 18:30 and members-only and special invited guests dinner from 20:00, as a further opportunity to network and kick back with peers.

In the days following the main Tech + Business Summit on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th July, professionals looking to elevate their practices to the highest professional standard can also sign up to dedicated, unique workshops and training packages. These sessions consist of a Cables, Connectivity and Structured Wiring Workshop and a Rack Building and Wiring Fundamentals session, both run by Vikas Gowrisetty, Managing Partner of Awicon Technologies.

Friday 26th July: Cables, Connectivity and Structured Wiring Workshop

This interactive workshop will show attendees the various cables and connectors used in integrated residential systems and demonstrate how to build a future-ready wiring environment. Attendees will learn how to terminate, test, and certify the wiring installation. This workshop is made up of practical exercises using a range of tools and test and certification equipment, giving attendees the vital hands-on experience required to advance their skill set and industry knowledge.

Saturday 27th July: Rack Building and Wiring Fundamentals

This course will provide attendees with the clear, structural methodology required for rack building from planning through to future



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servicing. The course will explore the best practices, the importance of wiring choices and standardisations which can be applied to projects of all sizes. Attendees can expect to gain a deeper understanding into the different types of racks and how to apply the correct knowledge for overcoming issues with equipment placement, wiring, connectivity, and rack build.

Peter Aylett will also be delivering a special two-

day Immersive Audio Design Excellence (RP22) Workshop across 26th and 27th July. Perfect for experienced designers of entertainment spaces, this course provides hands-on training in applying industry-reviewed performance criteria standards to real-world projects.

This is a must-attend event for all smart home tech professionals. For Further register at, <https://cedia.org/tech-business-summits/bengaluru/>



Enhance Your Home Entertainment with the BenQ TK710 4K HDR Laser Projector

Enter a world of exceptional visuals with the BenQ TK710 projector, expertly designed to transform your home entertainment and living experience. This state-of-the-art 4K HDR laser projector combines advanced technology with a user-friendly design, offering an unmatched viewing experience for both movie lovers and gamers.

Immersive Cinematic Quality

TK710's stunning 4K UHD resolution and HDR10 support, brings every frame to life with exceptional clarity and vibrant colors. The 3,200 lumens of brightness ensure clear visuals even in bright settings, and the 95% Rec.709 color gamut coverage ensures accurate and lifelike color reproduction.

Key Features:

- 4K UHD Resolution: Exceptional clarity for a cinematic experience.

- HDR10 Support: Improved contrast and color for more dynamic visuals.
- 3,200 Lumens Brightness: Clear, vibrant images in any lighting.
- 95% Rec.709 Coverage: True-to-life color accuracy.

Unleashed Gaming Performance

For gamers, the TK710 offers a remarkable experience with low input lag and specialized HDR game modes designed for RPG and FPS genres. Enjoy quick responsiveness and finely-tuned visuals that enhance every gaming session, whether you're exploring fantasy worlds or engaging in intense battles.

Key Features:

- Low Input Lag: Smooth, responsive gameplay.
- HDR RPG and FPS Game Modes: Enhanced visuals for different game genres.



Easy Installation

The TK710's flexibility extends to its installation process, featuring a 10% lens shift and 3D keystone correction, making it easy to fit the projector into your desired space. The 1.3x zoom ratio further enhances customization, allowing you to adjust the screen size to your preferences.

Key Features:

- 10% Lens Shift: Flexible placement options.
- 3D Keystone Correction: Perfectly aligned images every time.
- 1.3x Zoom Ratio: Easily adjust the screen size to fit your space.

Long-Lasting Performance

Using a state-of-the-art solid-state light source, the TK710 offers an extended lamp life

of up to 20,000 hours, reducing maintenance concerns. This innovative technology also provides improved contrast and efficient light dimming, ensuring a stable and dynamic visual experience.

Key Features:

- Solid-State Light Source: Up to 20,000 hours of lamp life.
- Enhanced Contrast: Richer, deeper blacks for more dynamic visuals.
- Efficient Light Dimming: Stable and energy-efficient performance.

With the BenQ TK710, immerse yourself in an entertainment world where every frame is a masterpiece, and every gaming session is an adrenaline-pumping adventure. Experience redefined home entertainment with this exceptional blend of advanced technology and user-friendly design.

Revolutionize Your Home with Smart Retrofit Modules for Seamless Automation

Discover the ultimate solution in wireless home automation with Smart Retrofit Modules by Netstar. These innovative devices integrate effortlessly behind your existing switches, transforming your space into a smart environment without any hassle. Retrofit Modules are designed for simplicity and efficiency.

Technical Ingenuity

Netstar's Retrofit Modules are engineered to operate on multiple platforms including Wi-Fi, Zigbee, IR Remote, RF Remote, and Bluetooth SIGMesh. With a diverse range of 10 SKUs available—from Fan Regulators to Light Dimmers and Curtain Controllers—our modules cater to every aspect of your home automation needs. Choose from popular user apps like Netstar App, Tuya Smartlife App, or Jio Smartliving app for seamless control and integration.

Customization Options

We offer White Label and OEM services to cater to the specific branding needs of our B2B clients, ensuring compatibility with their unique market strategies.

Applications Across Various Sectors

Whether it's homes, offices, educational institutes, hospitals, or hotels, our Retrofit Modules are designed to enhance convenience and efficiency across diverse environments.

Easy Installation

Designed for practicality, our devices can be installed by any qualified electrician without specialized training. This ensures a smooth transition to smart automation without disrupting your daily routine.

Exceptional Durability

Netstar's commitment to quality extends to challenging environments, making our



products ideal for tough conditions, including those found in India. Equipped with multiple resistors capable of withstanding voltage fluctuations from 110V to 410V, our modules ensure reliability and longevity.

High-Performance Features

Our devices are equipped with robust relays rated at 10 Amps and above, guaranteeing seamless operation with heavy electrical loads. Enjoy features like voice control, smartphone control, remote access, scheduling, scene settings, and user sharing—all designed to enhance convenience and efficiency in your smart home setup.

Global Suitability

Ideal for customers worldwide seeking wireless smart home solutions, Netstar's Retrofit Modules are crafted to meet the demands of modern living, offering unparalleled convenience and control.



Revolutionize Your Space with Gladiance Scenz

The Gladiance Scenz is a cutting-edge interface designed to transform your interaction with switches. The innovative Free-Locate Switches liberate you from messy wiring, ensuring the quickest and most efficient installations. Its ability to be repositioned in seconds offers unprecedented convenience and flexibility. Thanks to Bluetooth Low Energy communication, it boasts a long-lasting battery for sustained performance.

Beyond ease of installation and flexibility, the Gladiance Scenz offers advanced features ideal for modern smart homes and commercial spaces. This programmable switch supports over-the-air firmware upgrades, ensuring it remains up-to-date. Compatible with Alexa and Google Assistant, it provides seamless voice control from anywhere.

Crafted with premium tempered glass, the switch's fascia is stylish and durable. Touch-sensitive buttons offer a modern user experience, with multiple colour options to match any décor. Scheduling capabilities enable automated lighting control, while its

user-friendly design ensures easy operation. Rigorously field-tested for reliability, the Gladiance Scenz guarantees performance.

Compact yet powerful at L147 x H87 x D18 mm, the Gladiance Scenz fits seamlessly into any setting. Its versatility makes it ideal for various market segments including hotels, luxury apartments, homes, and hospitals.

In summary, Gladiance Scenz is a state-of-the-art smart switch that combines easy installation, superior functionality, and elegant design. Indeed, it gels well with a futuristic Gladiance ecosystem consisting of Smart Controllers, Sensors, Apps.

In summary, Gladiance Scenz embodies a state-of-the-art smart switch, seamlessly blending easy installation, superior functionality, and elegant design. Complementing the futuristic Gladiance ecosystem of Smart Controllers, Sensors, and Apps.

No wonder in your space Gladiance is ambiance!



Netgear Released Affordable Versions of its Orbi and Nighthawk Routers

NETGEAR®, Inc. (NASDAQ: NTGR), the leading provider of innovative and secure solutions for people to connect and manage their digital lives, recently expanded its Wi-Fi 7 mesh and standalone router lines with the new Orbi 770 Tri-band Mesh System and Nighthawk RS300 Router. NETGEAR's most affordable Wi-Fi 7 products to date is built on the company's promise to provide powerful Wi-Fi performance and secure connectivity.

Wi-Fi 7 unlocks 2.4 times faster speeds than Wi-Fi 6, delivers low latency and better handles Wi-Fi interference for families to seamlessly enjoy next gen 4K/8K streaming, video conferencing, gaming, and more. Since the launch of NETGEAR's first Wi-Fi 7 offerings – Nighthawk RS700 and Orbi 970 – multi-gig internet speeds have become more affordable, work from home demands have remained steady, and more devices such as AR/VR headsets or AI-focused platforms like CoPilot+ have been introduced that require extreme low latency and higher throughput. While Wi-Fi 7 adoption is growing and new generations of smartphones, laptops, and

other devices are hitting the market at a rapid pace, IoT threats are increasing and router security at the device level is critical to keep digital lives and homes protected.

"NETGEAR's singular focus has always been to create and provide industry-leading solutions with powerful performance and secure Wi-Fi connectivity," said David Henry, President and GM of Connected Home Products and Services at NETGEAR. "Our newest Wi-Fi 7 additions, Orbi 770 and Nighthawk RS300, deliver these connectivity benefits to a wider audience, helping them experience unprecedented speed and performance on their devices and applications with the strongest possible security available today."

The Mesh System – Orbi 770 Series

Orbi Wi-Fi 7 Tri-band mesh system provides exceptional performance and lightning-fast speeds up to 11Gbps^[1] for up to 100 devices across homes of up to 8,000 square feet with a 3 pack. It improves connection speeds by combining the 5GHz and 6GHz bands using Multi-Link Operation for both fronthaul

to connect to devices and backhaul to connect the router and the satellites. Its 2.5 Gig internet port unlocks the ability to fully experience the multi-gig internet speeds available today, making it future proof for a new era of entertainment, hybrid work, and next generation devices and applications. The ample 2.5Gig LAN ports on the router and satellite can be used for multi-gig wired connections between the two or to connect a shared storage or a gaming PC/console.

The slim, cylindrical bodies of the Orbi router and satellites are purposefully designed for optimal performance and make them a subtle addition to any desk, shelf, or entertainment unit. Each unit features four high-performance internal antennas with high-powered amplifiers for 360-degree coverage, regardless of the home layout, from the front door to the backyard. Orbi 770 offers a robust Wi-Fi connection using preamble puncturing which selectively blocks interference for a stable connection, keeping the home network functioning flawlessly.

The Standalone Router – Nighthawk RS300
The Nighthawk RS300 Tri-band router introduces blazing-fast Wi-Fi 7 for speeds up to 9.3Gbps to budget-conscious but high-tech and gadget users. Its sleek new body and

patented omni-directional internal antenna design improves coverage and pushes signals to the farthest range, providing up to 2,500 square feet of Wi-Fi coverage across a max of 100 devices.

Everyone in the household can access the latest multi-gig internet speeds with the 2.5 Gig internet port, and the additional 2.5Gig and two 1Gig LAN ports can be used for fast wired connections for latency intolerant, devices such as a gaming PC or console.

For added protection, both Orbi 770 and Nighthawk RS300 include a 30-day trial for NETGEAR Armor™ Powered by Bitdefender, providing an automatic shield of security for connected devices and added privacy with VPN. Unlike traditional endpoint antivirus products, Armor is built into the router as an all-in-one security solution, protecting computers, security cameras, baby monitors and other IoT devices on the network and eliminating the need for multiple security subscriptions or software.

Both also come with NETGEAR Smart Parental Controls™ to easily manage kids' time online across their connected devices and promote good online habits for the family. Basic features are available free of charge. A subscription fee applies for a Premium Plan after a 30-day trial.

Theory Audio Design Launches New DLC Loudspeaker Controllers

Theory Audio Design has unveiled its latest range of DLC loudspeaker controllers, introducing three new models that are set to enhance the audio experience in both residential and commercial settings. The new models, the DLC-250.4d, DLC-1500.4d, and DLC-250.8, feature advanced functionalities and improved design, aimed at offering greater flexibility and performance.

The new DLC controllers are designed specifically for use with Theory loudspeakers, boasting a cosmetic refresh, Dante network audio compatibility, and an all-new 8-channel amplifier. They cater to a variety of installation



needs, from small residential setups to larger commercial environments.

The models provide intelligent power management, a full DSP matrix, and TCP/

IP control via a wired connection or through an onboard Wi-Fi access point. Two of the models, the DLC-250.4d and DLC-1500.4d, also incorporate Dante and AES67 audio-over-IP digital I/O compatibility, making them highly versatile for different audio distribution needs. Model Breakdown:

DLC-250.4d: This 4-channel loudspeaker controller is compact yet powerful, designed for core distributed audio systems. It offers channel-pair power sharing of up to 250W, making it adaptable for various system sizes. The half-rack unit can be mounted using the included rack kit, with an optional surface mount kit for discreet installations.

DLC-250.8: Ideal for surround and distributed audio systems that do not require Dante and AES67, the DLC-250.8 provides the same power per channel and power-sharing capabilities as the DLC-250.4d but with four additional channels in a 1U chassis. It is suitable for more extensive setups where more channels per chassis are desired.

DLC-1500.4d: The most powerful of the new models, the DLC-1500.4d, offers 3,000W of power from a 16-pound, 2U chassis. It delivers 1,500W into 4 or 8 ohms from any channel pair, or 800W into 2 or 4 ohms with all channels driven. This model is designed for high-output distributed or surround audio systems, making it ideal for large screen and professional loudspeakers and subwoofers.

The new DLC controllers are suitable for a wide range of applications. In commercial environments such as hotels, educational facilities, and corporate settings, the DLC models offer flexibility in power distribution across multiple rooms of varying sizes. The

S/PDIF master/slave functionality allows for seamless integration of multiple DLC units, ensuring efficient coverage and minimal rack space usage.

For houses of worship, the DLC loudspeaker controllers provide reliable, high-quality amplification of voice, ensuring clear and intelligible speech across large areas. In residential settings, these controllers can enhance home cinema and surround sound systems, with the DLC-250.4d perfect for 3.1 systems, the DLC-250.8 suitable for 7.1 systems, and the powerful DLC-1500.4d handling larger setups with ease.

The new DLC platform is certified for safety and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) and complies with ErP and EnergyStar standards. This ensures that the products not only deliver high performance but also adhere to stringent energy efficiency and safety regulations.

Paul Hales, CEO and product designer for Theory Audio Design said: "The new generation of Theory DLC loudspeaker controllers offer all the advantages of their predecessors with the addition of audio over IP, an entirely new 8-channel model, and a cohesive new industrial design across the line. Now with Dante and AES67 compatibility, even the most complex Theory distributed audio systems can be set up and deployed quickly and painlessly with no bulky analog audio cables required. And the system is bulletproof so when the job is complete the installer can move on without concerns about support calls or truck rolls."

Theory Audio Design's new DLC loudspeaker controllers are available for purchase through authorized US and international representatives.

URC Integrates with WiiM for Enhanced Control and Automation

URC (Universal Remote Control) and WiiM has unveiled a new, certified integration designed to streamline control and automation for both residential and commercial environments. This collaboration aims to deliver a seamless

and intuitive experience by combining the strengths of URC's Total Control system with various WiiM audio products, including the WiiM Amp, WiiM Pro, WiiM Pro Plus, and WiiM Mini.



"This integration is a natural fit of two brands with similar goals of choice and affordability. Combining WiiM streaming devices and Total Control, URC's certified dealers can efficiently install premium, highly customized systems with world class, premium audio," stated Lars Granoë, URC's VP Product Development.

Elevated Audio and Control Experience: The primary benefit of this integration is the enhanced audio experience it offers. WiiM is renowned for its high-fidelity streaming audio, and when paired with URC's High-Definition Audio (HDA), users can expect studio-quality sound. This integration ensures that homeowners and businesses can enjoy superior audio performance while maintaining easy and efficient control over their systems.

Unified Device Management: The integration allows users to manage a wide range of devices through a single interface provided by URC's Total Control system. This unified function minimizes the need for multiple controllers and remotes, simplifying the user experience. With Total Control, users can operate various interfaces and sub-systems effortlessly, whether they are at home or in a commercial setting.

Hands-Free Operation: URC's voice command capabilities add another layer of convenience. Users can control their entertainment devices and other connected systems using simple voice commands, acting as a virtual remote. This feature enhances the hands-free operation, making it easier to activate devices and manage their environments without physical interaction.

Affordable and High-Quality Integration: Both URC and WiiM are committed to offering high-quality products at attractive prices. This integration continues that tradition by providing an affordable choice for consumers and businesses. The agnostic integration approach ensures that users can enjoy great audio and control systems without having to invest in additional expensive hardware.

Advanced Scenes and Voice Events: The Total Control system is known for its ability to execute complex scenes and voice events. With the WiiM integration, users can create and manage various scenarios, such as announcing visitors, hosting parties, or setting up movie nights. These scenes combine WiiM's high-fidelity audio with other devices, enhancing the overall automation experience.

Secure Remote Access for Dealers: For installers and service providers, the integration offers secure remote access. This feature allows dealers to troubleshoot, monitor, and adjust the Total Control system remotely, provided they have user approval. This capability ensures that any issues can be resolved quickly and efficiently, reducing downtime and maintaining system performance.

Dr. Lifeng Zhao, CEO, WiiM said "We are thrilled to partner with URC to bring our high-fidelity audio solutions to their advanced control and automation systems. This collaboration enhances the smart home experience, offering our users seamless integration and unparalleled convenience, which our team stands for."



Bang & Olufsen App Integrates with TIDAL

Bang & Olufsen and TIDAL are partnering to bring hi-res music experiences to Bang & Olufsen customers. The Bang & Olufsen App now has full integration and easy access to hi-res, lossless, and immersive spatial audio formats from TIDAL with more functionality and experiences coming.

“With the partnership, we are merging the best audio formats from TIDAL with high-end sound systems from Bang & Olufsen”, says Christoffer Poulsen, SVP of partnerships and business development at Bang & Olufsen. “We strive to bring the best music experiences to our customers, and the sound quality of music streaming is imperative to that journey. What we are delivering to our customers today is only the beginning, and we are looking forward to delivering even more in-app music

experiences down the line.”

“TIDAL is delighted to partner with Bang & Olufsen who share a legacy in giving fans music experiences with best-in-class sound”, says Dan Murphy, SVP of partnerships and business development at TIDAL. “Listeners can now trust that they are experiencing music in high-quality audio formats when streaming TIDAL with Bang & Olufsen products. We understand the importance of sound quality for both artists and listeners and are excited to now make TIDAL easier to access in the Bang & Olufsen app.”

TIDAL offers most content in lossless quality and more than 100M songs in studio quality with FLAC, now available directly in the Bang & Olufsen App.

JUNG Updates the Smart Visu Server

The latest update for the JUNG Smart Visu Server brings improvements and additions that increase performance and user-friendliness.

One of the most important innovations is the introduction of the completely revised

SV-Control commissioning interface. The interface has been visually modelled on the SV-Home user interface to ensure a consistent and seamless user experience.

Numerous improvements have been implemented in SV-Control to make working with the Smart Visu Server more efficient. These include faster storage times, which increase both productivity and accuracy. The introduction of a search and filter function enables system integrators to find what they

are looking for quickly and easily. In addition, the display has been optimised for mobile devices so that the content is easy to read even on small screens.

The redesigned SV-Control has been visually adapted to SV-Home. This warrants more convenient commissioning as the entire system can be operated in a more standardised way. Standard templates make commissioning easier. Setup is simpler as the templates save unnecessary clicks. Standard users such as admin or guest are created with just one click. In addition, the same rooms or functions can be copied in subsequent updates. System integrators no longer have to create each room separately and assign

functions to them.

Overall, the Smart Visu Server update offers a variety of improvements and new functions that increase the user-friendliness and performance of the system. With the new SV-Control user interface and the numerous optimisations, users can work faster and more efficiently, while the security functions ensure that their data is protected. Following the technical redesign (the Smart Visu Server has anodised aluminium housing and improved hardware), the update now also takes the Smart Visu Server software up to a new level and offers an even better smart home experience.

Crestron Control Empowers Users with Flexibility in Unified Communications

Crestron Electronics has added new points of control for unified communications systems, making it easier than ever to take advantage of in-room automation for every meeting or presentation. Crestron Control has long been available on Crestron Flex solutions, and this latest expansion brings native control to more UC platforms. What was historically handled with two separate devices has been simplified into a singular interface, cleaning up the table and removing barriers to grant more users access to leading room controls from Crestron. Through direct integration with the UC platform providers to streamline the meeting experience, users can reach their Crestron Control solutions from any hardware vendor. Previously introduced with Zoom Rooms software, Cisco Webex meetings, and the Google Meet platform, Crestron Control is now available on Microsoft Teams Rooms on Windows OS with page flip integration.

The control page fits seamlessly with each UC platform, creating an effortless transition for users to go from meeting controls to room controls. With Crestron Construct configuration software, the control GUI can match the standard platform interface, creating a familiar user experience and



keeping control at their fingertips from one device.

Even if an organization has selected another provider for UC hardware, control is now only a tap away, and users can access the most seamless control experience from Crestron. Crestron Control brings meetings to life while simplifying the experience for any user.

Crestron Control has a legacy of managing small huddle rooms to the most complex, mission-critical spaces. Now, that flexibility expands beyond room size and complexity to bring added versatility and choice to the interfaces where these controls are selected. With this latest expansion, users can leverage the reliability and expansive features of Crestron Control, regardless of the UC platform and hardware provider.



CP PLUS Redefines Night Surveillance with Smart Dual Illumination Technology

The all-new CP PLUS IlluMax Series of Dual Light Cameras, sets a new standard for clarity and security, regardless of the hour. Dual Light Illumination is like having two powerful guardians watching over you. One guardian, the White Light LED, bathes the scene in visible light, capturing vibrant color video even as the light fades. This guardian ensures that every detail—be it the color of a car, the shade of a jacket, or the hues of a landscape—is vividly recorded.

The second guardian, the Infrared (IR) LED, takes over when darkness falls completely. It shines an invisible light, allowing the camera to see in the dark, capturing clear images even in pitch-black conditions. Together, these two guardians ensure that no detail is lost, no matter how dark it gets.

CP PLUS IlluMax Series.

The CP PLUS IlluMax Series is the crown jewel of this technology, featuring standout models like the CP-USC-TA24L2C-L, CP-URC-DC24PL3C-L, and CP-URC-TC24PL3C-L. These cameras are designed to perform flawlessly, ensuring your security is never compromised.

CP-USC-TA24L2C-L:

Glimmering Features: With 2.4MP Full HD resolution and a sleek bullet design, this

camera stands ready to guard the night.

Magical Abilities: It boasts dual light night vision in warm light for color images and IR for black-and-white. It illuminates up to 30 meters, catching every detail in its watchful eye.

Perfect Role: Ideal for outdoor surveillance, this camera's smart night mode detects motion, deterring potential intruders with its vigilant light.

CP-URC-DC24PL3C-L:

Dazzling Features: This dome camera also offers 2.4MP Full HD resolution, ensuring no detail is too small to capture.

Mystical Powers: It shares the same dual light capabilities, with a built-in microphone for clear audio. Its user-friendly menu allows for easy adjustments.

Prime Placement: Perfect for indoor settings, this camera ensures your home or office is under constant, clear surveillance.

CP-URC-TC24PL3C-L:

Shining Features: Another bullet design, this camera excels with 2.4MP Full HD resolution and dual light vision.

Enchanted Abilities: Equipped with a built-in microphone and versatile compatibility with AI DVRs, it stands as a sentinel in any environment.



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