

COUNTRY LIGHT

INTELLIGENT LIGHTING CONTROL CAN BE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN ANY HOME. JACK BRAND HEADED INTO THE STICKS, TO A LUXURIOUS COUNTRYSIDE HOME TO SEE A FUTRONIX SYSTEM IN ACTION...

When you invest in a dream property it makes sense to do every last thing just right. Whether it's the décor, the home entertainment system or even the lighting, it's the details that can turn a great house into the perfect home. It was the latter that Futronix took care of in the stunning example you see before you and the company's wares have certainly made a big difference...

Location, location, location

The success of a smart installation will always, of course, partially depend on the recipient building... and this picturesque example was ripe for an upgrade. Located in rolling wooded countryside outside the capital, this desirable neo-Georgian

residence has recently been extended, with a new, contemporary styled wing added. The spacious building is set upon a terrace cut into a slope, with stunning views of its lawns and the surrounding woodland available from small paned, double-hung sash windows in the front facade or from the full-height picture windows in the new wing, at the rear.

A wrought-iron entrance gate opens onto a curved driveway, which leads up to a circular court with retaining walls of natural stone and brick, whilst a paved forecourt-perfect for summer barbecues and parties - is a short walk up some broad steps, leading to a faux-Georgian portico with panelled wooden front doors. The owner's yellow Lamborghini



(plus a selection of lesser automobiles) have a home in an attached multi-car garage, should the calm of the rural surroundings become too stifling and escape necessary.

In short, the home was perfect for a high-tech makeover, to augment its already considerable charms. With its white painted exterior and uncluttered interior, it already afforded a light and airy ambience throughout, but controllable artificial light was also deemed necessary.

Dimmer and dimmer

As it happened, the home's owner was a property developer who regularly specified Futronix's lighting controllers for his company's projects, so the choice to opt for their lighting solution was an easy one to make. Specifically, he wanted the convenience and control of fully-featured digital dimming, with access to stand-alone dimmers in every room in the house.

Futronix's P400 and P100 dimmers were decided upon as the perfect kit for the job and installed throughout the home. Both can be selected in a variety of solid metal finishes and have the capacity to recall up to 20 preset scenes, the former offering four digital channels, the latter two channels. Providing full access to scene-setting capabilities, they can help transform a room into the perfect place for entertaining, watching a movie, listening to music, dining or any other activity you can think of.

Thankfully, despite their considerable capabilities, the installed controls prove so simple that even visitors ignorant of the system or the owner's daily 'help' can operate basic commands with ease.

And the system offers far more than atmosphere and ease of use. Wake-up scenes and sleep-delay timers prove perfect for the home's bedrooms, whilst night lighting for the corridors and bathrooms is a particularly useful addition. Equally important is the control of the property's security lighting, which the P400s and P100s provide—just the thing for helping to keep ne'er-do-wells at bay.



Access all areas

This is far from the only influence the Futronix system has in the home, however. The living room, with its contemporary take on a traditional marble fireplace and stunning artwork, benefits from controllable recessed ceiling spots, found providing general illumination throughout the home, whilst table lamps afford convenient softer, atmospheric lighting. But that's not all...



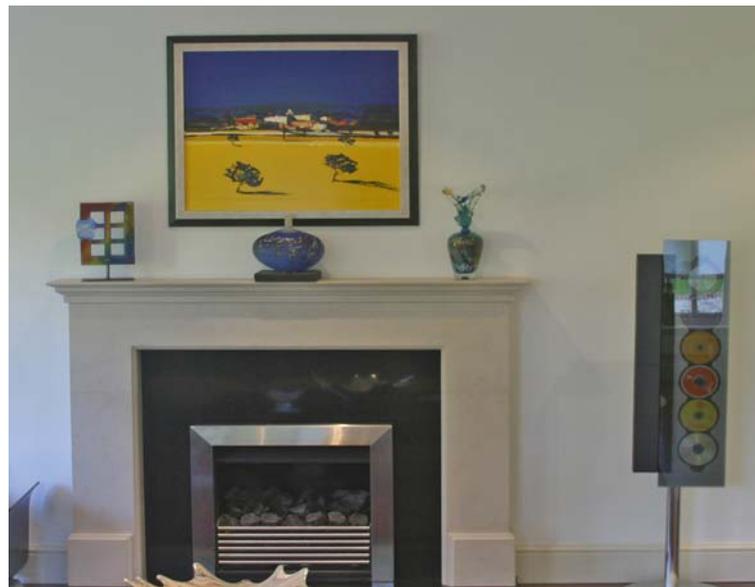
The room's AV kit ably demonstrates another capability of the system. Located in the corner and surrounded by stylish contemporary sofas and lounges in beautiful soft tan leather, is a floor-mounted Bang & Olufsen LCD screen, flanked by slim, vertical speakers and cube-shaped subwoofers.



Install: Futronix

All this kit can be accessed through the room's P400, which has also had its control extended to the curtains. The result? A complete home cinema experience, complete with pre-and post-show lighting and suitable sound effects at the touching of a lighting control system button.

Head to another corner of the property and you'll come across the dining room with its elegant glass dining table and full-height windows overlooking an expansive lawn. Square-grid radiators provide stylish modern heating, whilst overhead spots are again complemented by table lamps, as in the living room. It's clear that the Futronix system is usable throughout the home.



Indeed, a similar state of affairs can be found in the owner's bedroom on the second floor. Painted in soothing white and other neutral tones with black accents on the window shades, it is lit via dimmed spots and bedside table lamps, also in black. Demisters located here can also be controlled via the local P400 dimmer. Futronix, it's clear, can provide far more than a mere lighting system...

The superbly realised refurbishment of this countryside residence was the ideal candidate for an injection of smart technology and throughout Futronix's P400 and P100 dimmers have provided state-of-the-art and feature-rich lighting control.

Thanks to simple one-touch control from switchplates and convenient, full-featured remote handsets, making full use of the system's myriad features is a simple matter – and they even complement the house's clean and uncluttered contemporary style. What more could you want from your technology?

Contact

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