

# HOME Smart Home

Life under control

## THE OLD VICARAGE

A past preserved  
and a future  
installed

### 5 NEED TO KNOWS

Get started on  
designing your  
smart home



### BUILT TO LAST

Finding control  
after tragedy



### Taking on Autism

How can a toy train  
and a touch screen  
help change a life?

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## BRODY VS. AUTISM

Meet Mark Buzzard, his wife Robin, and Brody, their three-and-a half-year-old son with autism. A not-so-ordinary family doing extraordinary things with control.

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## NEW DIGS FOR KEVIN ROSE

Yes, we dig! Internet entrepreneur Kevin Rose is building a new home in San Francisco and owning it with his unique brand of control.

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## RESCUE REMODEL

A playful push into a pool left Rachelle Friedman paralyzed at her very own bachelorette party. But it didn't dent her spirit. See how she's in control of her life.

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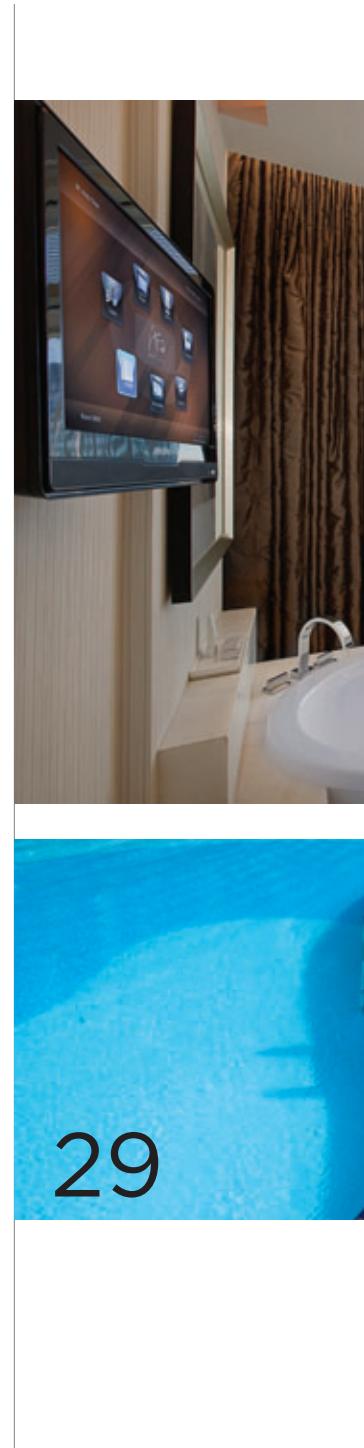
## 5 NEED-TO-KNOWS

Interested in home automation but don't know where to begin? Fear not! These five need-to-knows will welcome you to your dream smart home.

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A Control4® dealer receives his most challenging—and most rewarding—project when a client calls him to the outskirts of Yorkshire, England to outfit AND retrofit a uniquely vintage historical home.



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# EDITOR'S NOTE

What does control mean to you? More organization? More power? More discipline? Whatever your answer, it's no secret that we could ALL use more control in our lives. Now what does HOME control mean to you? Better lighting? The right music? Efficient use of energy? Well-behaved children? We've recently entered the era where all of this is possible. Well, almost all of it.

That's exactly what drew me to Control4 Corporation—a company that believes in the power of possibility. Its philosophy is simple and compelling: Life's better when everything works together. With my previous company, I helped introduce the idea of "TV your way" to the world—a brand-new concept at the time. Nowadays, nobody watches live TV; they decide when and how they watch it. Control4 takes this idea and multiplies it by infinity. You can watch what you want, when you want, but also tap a button that dims the lights, closes the shades, stops the music, raises or lowers the temperature, locks the doors—basically creates your unique, individual and absolutely perfect viewing environment. But that's just in the living room. Wait'll you see what's possible in the kitchen, upstairs in the kids' room, in the backyard, at the front door, even in your downtown office, but I digress.

The intention of this inaugural issue of *Home Smart Home* is to bring this 21st century concept of control to life by illustrating how it's making things a little easier in today's increasingly complex world. We'll show you how home control is transforming both people and places all over the world. In short, we're telling the truth about "control" in a vibrant and visual way. The result, we hope, will surprise, delight, inform and inspire you to think about what control means to YOU.

I'll look forward to hearing your stories.



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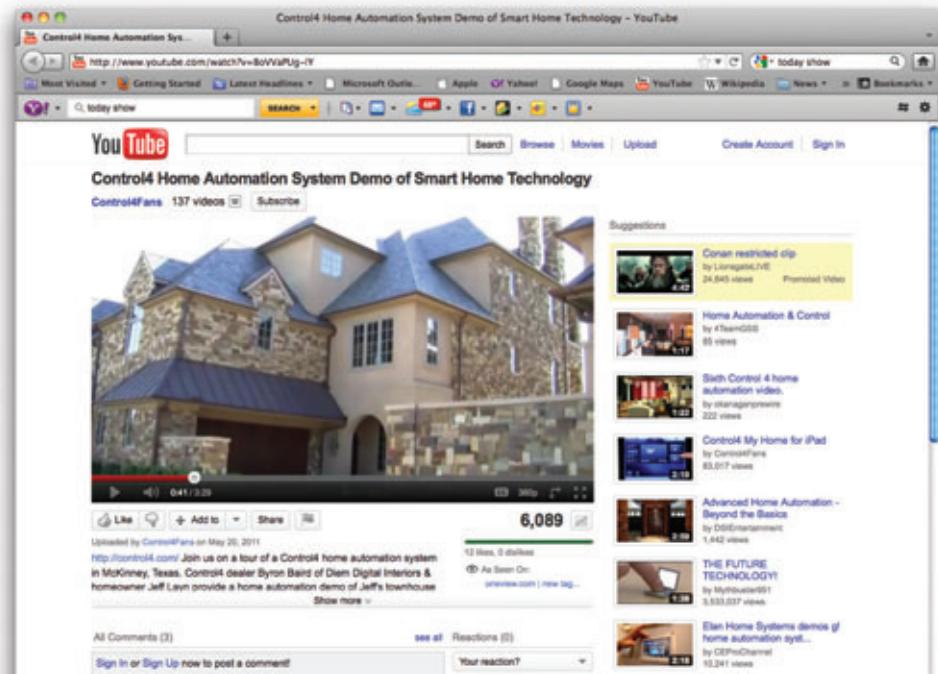
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# JUST BROWSING



Everything is bigger in Texas! Go inside this 3,000+ sq. feet townhouse to see home automation in action.

## Smart Home Video Tours

Wish you knew someone with a smart home so you could take a tour? No worries—we do, and we were welcomed in with a video camera so we could show you how a few of our favorite customers have enhanced their everyday lives with Control4 solutions. We've been to McKinney, TX; Sacramento, CA; Hollywood, CA and more cities are up next! Subscribe to our YouTube channel at [youtube.com/control4fans](http://youtube.com/control4fans) and look for our "Home Smart Home" series.

## MyHome is for Your Home



With the Control4® MyHome™ app, you can turn your favorite screen into your favorite control system. Control your lights, temperature, music, movies, energy, security, and more from your iPhone, iPad, tablet or laptop. See a video demo at [control4.com/myhome/](http://control4.com/myhome/).



## Why Do I Need a Control4 Dealer?

At Control4, we pride ourselves on delivering personalized control and automation solutions for everyone. In order to maintain the highest level of customer service and satisfaction for our customers, we require all Control4® solutions be custom-installed and/or serviced by an authorized Control4 Dealer. To find a dealer near you, look for the "Ready to buy" link at [control4.com](http://control4.com)



### Stay in Control

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# YOU ASK. WE ANSWER.

*Paul Williams, VP of Support Services, answers your questions.*

### Q. What is home control and why the buzz?

**A.** In a nutshell, home control is taking technology that already exists in the home and making it all work together so it's simple and easy to use. Today, more than ever, we bring all kinds of electronic gadgetry into our homes with the hope of enhancing our lifestyle, but oftentimes, it leads to frustration. Take for example, watching TV at the end of



a long day. You've got five remotes in front of you and now need to figure out which buttons to press in what sequence all in order to do what? Relax?

Home control transforms that experience by giving you one easy-to-use remote that makes it simple to control not just your home theater setup, but also manage other devices at home, too, like

turning off lights or locking doors, from anywhere in your home. You can even automate many events to happen in one button push: all lights go off, doors lock, alarm is armed, and the thermostat dials back to an energy-efficient setting as you exit the house. The possibilities are endless.

So why all the buzz? The idea of home control has been around for ages, but now it's more affordable and accessible than ever. And with the ability to use all your favorite tablets and smart phones to control your home, we've officially reached the tipping point. But the MOST exciting part? This is all just the beginning!

## A NEW ERA IN CUSTOM INTEGRATION

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Lever Locks  
Coming soon!  
Q4 2011

#### Features designed for today's home

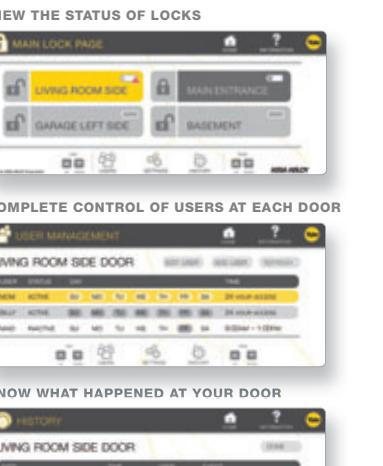
- Keyless entry for convenient access
- Available in two styles: elegant acrylic touchscreen or durable push button keypad
- Touchscreen and push button keypads are illuminated for convenient night time entry
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PHOTOS COURTESY BUZZARD FAMILY

# BRODY VS. AUTISM

Move over, meltdowns. And good morning, Sacramento! The Buzzard family has it all under perfect control.

The precipitous increase in autism continues to baffle experts. Despite millions of dollars in research—the National Institute of Health alone will spend \$99 million on autism research this year—we have yet to determine how it can be prevented or what catalyzed its sudden and dramatic rise. In the meantime, technology is playing a powerful role in enabling those who have the disorder, particularly young children.

This was not lost on Control4® dealer Mark Buzzard, whose son Brody has autism. “My home is like a mad scientist experiment,” he laughs about his country home in Sacramento, California.

With personal experience with both a child who has autism and what home automation is capable of, Mark engineered his house to make everyday life with three-



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and-a-half-year-old Brody a little easier. One-touch buttons and pre-programmed scenes do everything from help him start his day with a smile, engage harmoniously with his therapist and one creative application has even helped curb a new development of Brody leaving the house unannounced.

"I've seen many implementations of our products," says Control4 sales manager Mike Woods. "But the way Mark uses the system for his son is the most inspiring and thoughtful use case I've ever seen."

#### BRODY BUZZARD

Brody was born with autism as well as apraxia, a speech disorder that makes it difficult for him to articulate what he wants. Consistency and established cues are vital to his routine; any disruption or change to that routine come at him like an emotional curveball.

When Brody started pre-school this year, the earlier wake-up time proved to cause what the Buzzard family calls "meltdowns." "It was a nightmare," recalls his father. "He would throw a fit. He would throw his binky on the floor. His face would turn red; tears would stream down his face. He would slam his head against the floor and almost injure himself. As a parent you learn patience, but this almost brought us to a breaking point."

Three months later, the scene is totally different. Mark activated the Control4 feature Wakeup Agent, which programs things such as lighting and music to turn on at certain times. Now, at exactly the same time every day, Brody is gently roused by his favorite cartoon, *Thomas the Train*.

"He loves it," says Mark. "When he wakes up in the morning, he



Work never limits time with this family. Mark, Brody and Robin Buzzard love everything outdoors and take advantage Northern California's many local adventures along the Sierra region.

wants to stay cozy. *Thomas the Train* gradually wakes him up and lets him do that. It helps him feel ready for the day at his own pace."

Likewise, Brody can fall asleep to his favorite TV shows. Mark has it set up so that he can remotely turn off the television and the lights in his son's room so it's not necessary to enter and exit his room. Additionally, Mark set up the Control4 system to run playlists in the therapy room so his therapist can interact with Brody through his favorite music and songs.

#### SPEAKING VISUALLY

Susan Stokes, a researcher and autism consultant working for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, believes strongly that

"Various types of technology, from 'low' tech to 'high' tech, should be incorporated into every aspect of daily living in order to improve the functional capabilities of children with autism."

Along with a TV, Mark made an iPad available in a dock at Brody's height, so he can take it anywhere with him in the house. Mark's vision is to have a visual cue of each of Brody's routines—bath time, play time, outside time, haircut time, etc—to run on either the TV or the iPad possibly accompanied with text. This would help Brody both prepare for that activity and transition into it.

Typically, children with autism have an easier time processing visual information than auditory information. This makes cartoons

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Ron Maurer  
Executive Vice President

*focused image technology*

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## Inside the Well Connected Home™

### Surveillance Solutions {IP Cameras}



Channel Vision's IP cameras help keep an eye on what's important—near or far from home. Be able to view camera images from your Control4® touchscreen at home. And when away, monitor from the internet or any 3G phone.

### Multi-Room Audio {On-Wall Dock for iPod®}



See and control your music playlist and album art on any Control4® screen in the home. Developed with RS-232 technology to directly interface with Control4®, ARIA Audio Systems' dock for iPod can be easily integrated into existing distributed audio installations.

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on a television or visual prompts on an iPad a powerful tool, as it informs them through their strongest processing area. "Communicating with speech is hard for Brody and he can't read emotion," explains Mark. "He sees the world visually and literally."

### SAFETY, SECURITY AND SNEAKING OUT

Recently, the home security system alerted Mark that the front door to the house had been opened. What he discovered would keep him up at night. Brody, for the first time, had managed to unlock both his bedroom door and the front door, letting himself out of the house—something many toddlers eventually learn to do, but Brody is more stealthy than others. "That really scared me," recalls Mark. "He's smart; he knows how to unlock doors, and his room is on the other side of the house."

In short order, Mark set the Control4 system up with time parameters, motion sensors and speakers in every room. He integrated an IP camera in Brody's room, so that he and his wife could monitor Brody's playtime and therapy sessions. Now, if Brody tries to sneak out of his room or the house, Control4 sends email and text alerts to his parents, and activates a whole-house audio announcement: "Brody has left the building!"

"I have total peace of mind now," says Mark.

### EINSTEIN, VAN GOGH, MOZART AND BRODY

It's commonly believed that some of our greatest minds and contributors to society were people with autism, including Einstein, Van

### AUTISM: A NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that affects communication skills and the ability to develop social relationships. Additionally, children who have autism often struggle with behavioral challenges.

While fairly uncommon before the late eighties, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have now declared autism a national public health crisis. Autism spectrum disorders are currently being diagnosed in one in every 110 children in the United States. As staggering as that number is, it's even higher in boys: One in 70 boys is diagnosed with autism. Overall, autism has increased 600 percent in the past two decades. Both its cause and cure remain a mystery. For more info, search "UC Davis MIND Institute" online.

Gogh and Mozart.

While their predecessors may have used the piano, the paintbrush and physics, for children with autism growing up today, technologies such as the iPad are significant game-changers.

"So many individuals with autism who struggle with verbal communication are able to open up new doors to social interaction when they are able to use tools such as touch applications," explained David Canora, principal technology specialist at Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, and



This toddler can take on any touch screen! Brody especially loves the iPad, which he can easily take with him room to room.

chairman of Quest Inc., who is also father of a son with autism. "Parents are always looking for new strategies to engage their children with the people and world around them and technology has so much potential to do that."

### THE FUTURE: ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

Mark's latest vision for his company, Liberty Bell Alarm & Home Theater, is to create an app for Control4 systems that emulates the iPod/iPad version of iPrompts from HandHold Adaptive, which use visual prompting templates to help the user transition from one activity to the next, make decisions, be ready for the next task and focus on the current one.

To that end, Mark sent Liberty's top programmer to a Control4

developers' conference to coordinate efforts with the latest software release and Flash architecture. He's currently working on getting the coding to work. He admits it's hard, but he's determined.

"For so long I thought, 'I have to fix him,'" says Mark of his son. "And I didn't accept that he was different and not typical. Now, I recognize that he is unique and has unique gifts. He just has different needs for developing them and expressing them."

Mark pauses for a moment before adding, "Children with autism have such a narrow focus. I know Brody is going to grow up to just be so smart," says Mark. "Whether he's an artist or a Google programmer, he's going to be an amazing adult. And as our child, he's already a perfectly amazing gift just the way he is." ■

# Making breakthrough discoveries in the causes of autism.



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# BITS & PIECES

For big laughs &  
little-did-you-knows



The average American household has four remotes, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. (Control4® dealers usually count 7.)

**\$241 billion**

That's how much consumers spend each year on energy for home use. Energy efficiency improvements could cut this number by well over half.

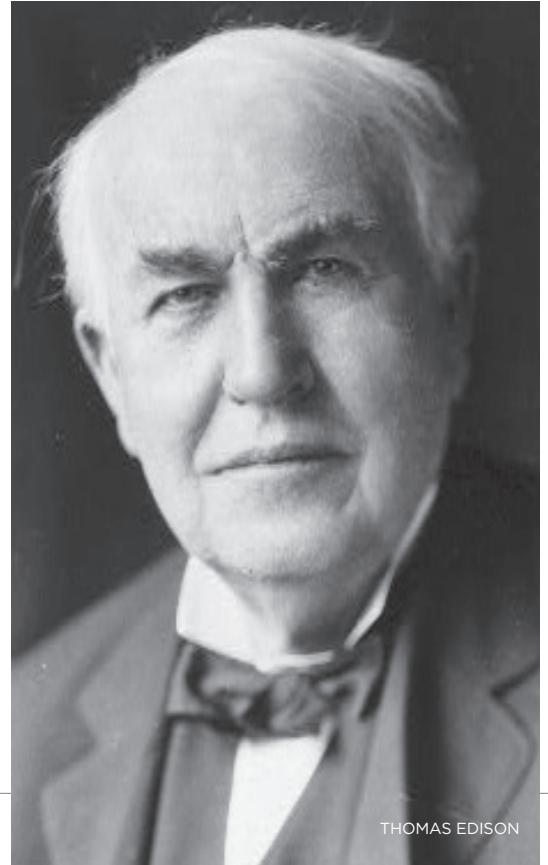
SOURCE: [HTTP://HES.LBL.GOV/CONSUMER/LEARN](http://HES.LBL.GOV/CONSUMER/LEARN)

According to the Alliance to Save Energy, 10 strands of holiday lights left on for 13 hours a day adds **\$50 to your monthly energy bill**.



**“We will make electricity so cheap that only the rich will burn candles, and that only for show.”**

—Thomas Edison, when asked what his light bulb would mean for the future of the candle industry.



The introduction of electricity into homes could be considered the **beginning of modern home automation**.

ISTOCK PHOTO, HANNA BARBERA, COURTESY SUBZERO, WWW.ARCHIVE.ORG

**2062**

That was the timeframe of Hanna Barbera's animated series, The Jetsons. The show rocketed into primetime TV in 1962 and was set "100 years into the future."



**\$1,380.** That's the amount the average U.S. household spent on consumer electronics (CE) in 2010. The average household reported owning 25 CE products.

SOURCE: CONSUMER ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION



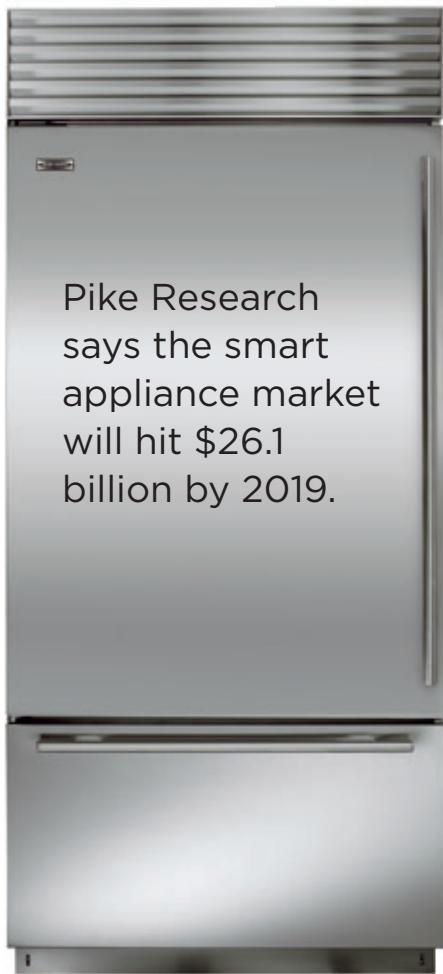
Revenues from shipments of home automation systems will grow from \$2.3 billion in 2010 to **\$9.5 billion in 2015**

SOURCE: BERG INSIGHT



In 1962, the "Automatic Dialer" was introduced as 21st century technology that would "dial more quickly and easily than you can do for yourself." Numbers were pre-punched into a card to insert into the phone, and voila!

WWW.ARCHIVE.ORG



Pike Research says the smart appliance market will hit **\$26.1 billion** by 2019.

**>41 INCHES**  
Or larger. That's the screen size that's seen in US living rooms as of late. HDTV sets have increased 26.9% and LCD flat screens are up 48.2% from Q3 2008 to Q2 2010.

SOURCE: NIELSEN, 2010

# New digs for KEVIN ROSE

He's smart, successful and building his dream home. He can push our buttons any time.

**W**hen self-proclaimed geek and industry-proven Internet guru Kevin Rose bought a new home in San Francisco's Mission District, he knew he wanted home automation to play its part. With Control4® already on his radar, he announced his intent to talk to someone at the company on Twitter, where his followers well surpass the million-mark. The level of response and passion that came back caught him off guard. "I didn't realize how many people out there already had home automation," recounts Kevin. "It's been a whole other world diving into this stuff."

Control4 was quick to respond and Kevin was quick to connect with local Control4 dealer Sean Toland of Engineered Lifestyles to get into all of the geeky details. After discussing everything from multi-room music and security to having heated bathroom floors to warm his feet as he wakes, Kevin

says this about Control4: "I knew that a lot of these things were possible, but I didn't know that it was available in a single system. I assumed it was coming, but I had no idea it was already here."

We caught up with Kevin at Café Gratitude in San Francisco to hear more about his current projects and—even though his new home is still in the design and construction phases—his thoughts on what life in a "one button does all" world might be like.

**Q** What are you up to these days?

**A** I'm still actively doing technology angel investing. That's an ongoing thing. I have a small incubator here in San Francisco called Milk. It's essentially a mobile application company, so we build iPhone apps, and eventually will do them for Android, too. We haven't announced any of our apps yet, but we plan on doing about two to

PHOTOS COURTESY KEVIN ROSE



Barely in his thirties, Rose has been featured on the cover of Inc. Magazine, BusinessWeek, and RedHerring. Kevin was named a "Top 25 Angel Investors (#14)" by Bloomberg, "Top 25 Web Celebrities" by Forbes, "Top 25 Most Influential People on the Web" by Time and BusinessWeek magazines, and one of MITs "Top 35 Innovators under 35."

I assumed it was coming, but I had no idea it was already here.



@Control4 Would love to chat w/someone at your company re: home automation!  
—Kevin Rose

three apps a year right now. Mostly social things.

#### **Q. Why the name Milk?**

**A.** We are big fans of minimal design—the idea that less is more. There's something about milk being clean and silky. It's one of those things where we were brainstorming ideas and we landed on that. Just something fun. We have little milk cartons and bottles around the office. It makes for cool cocktail parties—milk-themed parties and what not.

#### **Q. When you tweeted about Control4, what was the response like?**

**A.** It was a mixture of people who are absolutely passionate about Control4 and then there were people who had seen the even lower-end stuff and didn't know that this existed and were curious about the next level. Some of the stuff out there you'll look at and think, "Wow, you can do that for \$99?" and then you realize, yeah, that's cool for what it is, but it's not really "next level."

#### **Q. Why did you ultimately select Control4?**

**A.** I'm heavily dependent on Apple products in my house. So when I saw that there was a solution out there that would let me control things from an iPad and iPhone, I was in.

Also, the reviews on the iTunes

store mean a lot to me. I saw that Control4 had hundreds of reviews and they were all very highly rated. Which means that a lot of people had installed the product, played with it and thought that it was awesome!

Then I started researching how much a system like this would cost. There are a lot of very expensive high-end systems out there and this was something that was reasonably priced and had all the features that wanted—so it just made sense.

#### **Q. People turn to home automation for different reasons—security, comfort, to entertain in a certain way. What was the draw for you?**

**A.** It's all of the above. I'm a geek and I like to do anything and everything that is geeky. Part of



that includes having custom music play when I enter my house and having a certain station play in my bathroom when I wake up in the morning. Really stupid things, but I think they're fun and cool.

When I found out I could control every part of the house from these different touchpads—and they're all programmable—for a geek, that's paradise.

#### **Q. Did anything surprise you about home automation?**

**A.** Yeah, there are definitely a few things that I was pretty impressed were even possible. Like the idea that it can understand when the sun is rising and hitting certain windows at certain times, and automatically bring the shades down instead of triggering the air conditioning. Knowing the right times of day to lower and raise the shades? That's pretty amazing to me.

You always hear about different pieces of technology that people have, like different apps that can open your front door or monitor your baby room—but to have it all tied together into one system is pretty fascinating.

I was pleasantly surprised to find out that it's all available today.

#### **Q. As you were putting your automation plan together, did your girlfriend have separate concerns or requests?**

**A.** Not really, she's a geek, too. When I told her what was possible, she thought it was awesome. We have Sonos throughout our house right now, a great music playback system for streaming music, which she uses all the time, she loves it. So, when she found out that this was like Sonos, but with all these extra things you can do, she was like, "Wow, we can

# Sherbourn.



## Ultimate power with Control4 integration.

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The PT-7020C4 offers the latest in HD audio decoding and video scaling, and plenty of inputs for every imaginable type of source component. It features the detailed level of control you expect from a flagship processor, including fully-integrated Control4 home automation capabilities.

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#### **PT-7020C4 7.1 Channel AV Processor/Preamplifier:**

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- 3D capable HDMI with full color OSD over live video
- Professional balanced outputs and inputs
- Full-function Control4 subsystem acts as the cornerstone of a complete home automation system

#### **PA 7-350 Seven-Channel Power Amplifier:**

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- Energy efficient, ultra quiet class H design
- Balanced inputs
- Unrivaled power reserves and musicality
- Largest seven-channel amplifier in its class
- Massive toroidal power supply

\* All Sherbourn products come with 5-year warranties



# Fusion Research

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PHOTO COURTESY BAR JULES

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*The ONLY Movie Server with a Certified Two-way Control4 Driver!*



do that from an iPad?" She was totally in.

**Q. Any advice for someone considering home automation? Features they should start with?**

**A.** That's a good question. What got me hooked initially was the multi-room music thing. Being able to play your music in every room, even different music, simultaneously.

**Q. Describe walking through the front door once everything's installed.**

**A.** In an ideal world, it'll know the time of day, and change the mood according to what's going on. For example, if I'm coming home late at night, it won't blast the lights at me, but have them dimmed instead. I also plan on programming buttons for things like dinner mode, where it drops the lights down in the dining room and plays something chill like jazz.

**Q. Do you have an entrance song?**

**A.** I'm thinking about doing a Darth Vader theme-type thing.

Actually, I thought it would be really cool to program it so that when family members or different people come over, you have their favorite channel or favorite song play when they enter.

**Q. During a party at your house, what would most impress a guest?**

**A.** For sure, the music. Along with a dinner mode, we're going to set up a party mode. It will turn each of the wall units—these light switches we have on all the walls—into forward and back buttons, so you can change the

tracks just by pushing the buttons.

The speakers run throughout the entire home. So, no matter where you are, you'll never have to fumble around wondering how you can change the track or wonder where the remote is. You can just walk up to any wall outlet, where it will be illuminated in a certain color: Hit it and it takes you to the next track or the previous one. You can control the volume from there, too.

It's pretty neat that what was once used to control a light just a moment before can now control the music.



Kevin's favorite meal is the food at bar JULES in the Hayes Valley neighborhood of San Francisco, Calif.

**Q. What would most impress an industry peer?**

**A.** Beyond the party mode, I'd say the monitoring of the wine cellar. We can control the temperature of the wine bottles. That's pretty sweet. That's not specifically Control4, but it is connected to the Control4

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE...

**TIME OF DAY:**  
Evening

**ROOM IN HOUSE:**  
Den

**MEAL:**  
The food at bar JULES

**MUSIC:**  
All types, really

**MOVIE OR TV SHOW:**  
Love the new TRON

**GADGET:**  
iPhone

**ONE-TOUCH BUTTON:**  
Party mode

system so I can manage and control it.

**Q. Your father?**

**A.** Probably the piece that has to do with granting access to people remotely. The idea that you can give a guest or a house cleaner

a disposable code to get into the house for a certain amount of time or only access the facility during certain hours or days of the week. The notifications are also pretty cool. You can be alerted if there are any weird doors opening. That kind of stuff is pretty sweet.

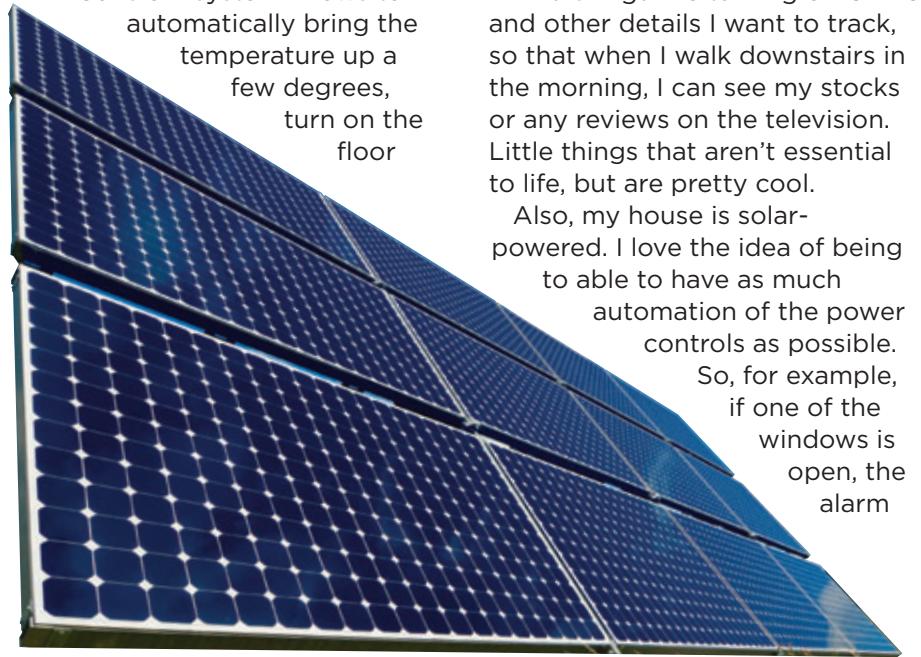
**Q. Your grandmother?**

**A.** The oven we're having installed. It has an internal thermometer that will monitor the turkey you're cooking and make sure it stays at a certain temperature. It's awesome!

**Q. What about you?**

**A.** The feature I'm most excited about has to be

the morning wakeup routine. When I have to wake up, the Control4 system knows to automatically bring the temperature up a few degrees, turn on the floor



heaters and start my music playlist in the master bathroom.

And things like turning on CNBC and other details I want to track, so that when I walk downstairs in the morning, I can see my stocks or any reviews on the television. Little things that aren't essential to life, but are pretty cool.

Also, my house is solar-powered. I love the idea of being able to have as much automation of the power controls as possible.

So, for example, if one of the windows is open, the alarm

system will know that and will automatically shut off the heater if we're not there. It knows whether or not we're in the house, so if I forgot to turn off the air conditioning, and I'm away in L.A., I know that I can pull up my phone and instantly make that happen.

That kind of stuff is amazing and there's something fun about the game of figuring out how to save as much money on power consumption as possible. I always thought it would be fun to have an app that would allow you to track your power usage versus your friends'. Then make it like a game, so that you get more points throughout the week and it encourages you to shut down certain things in your house at certain times, use less, etc.

Once you start explaining what you can do, they're like, oh my gosh, I need to have this system.

**Q. Any parting thoughts?**

**A.** Just that I'm excited to get it all installed and working. I'm telling a lot of my friends about it. I have a handful of

friends who are building out their places now.

You know Tom from MySpace—he started MySpace, and was everyone's first MySpace friend? He is building out his home in Vegas right now and he's installing a bunch of Control4 in there. I was just talking to him about it. It's interesting to see how many geeks really get excited about this stuff. Once you start explaining what you can do, they're like, "oh my gosh, I need to have this system."

A lot of people just don't know about it. It's one of those things that hasn't quite tipped yet—and that people just assume is going to cost so much money. And when they find out that it's a lot more affordable than they thought, suddenly it's really attractive. ■

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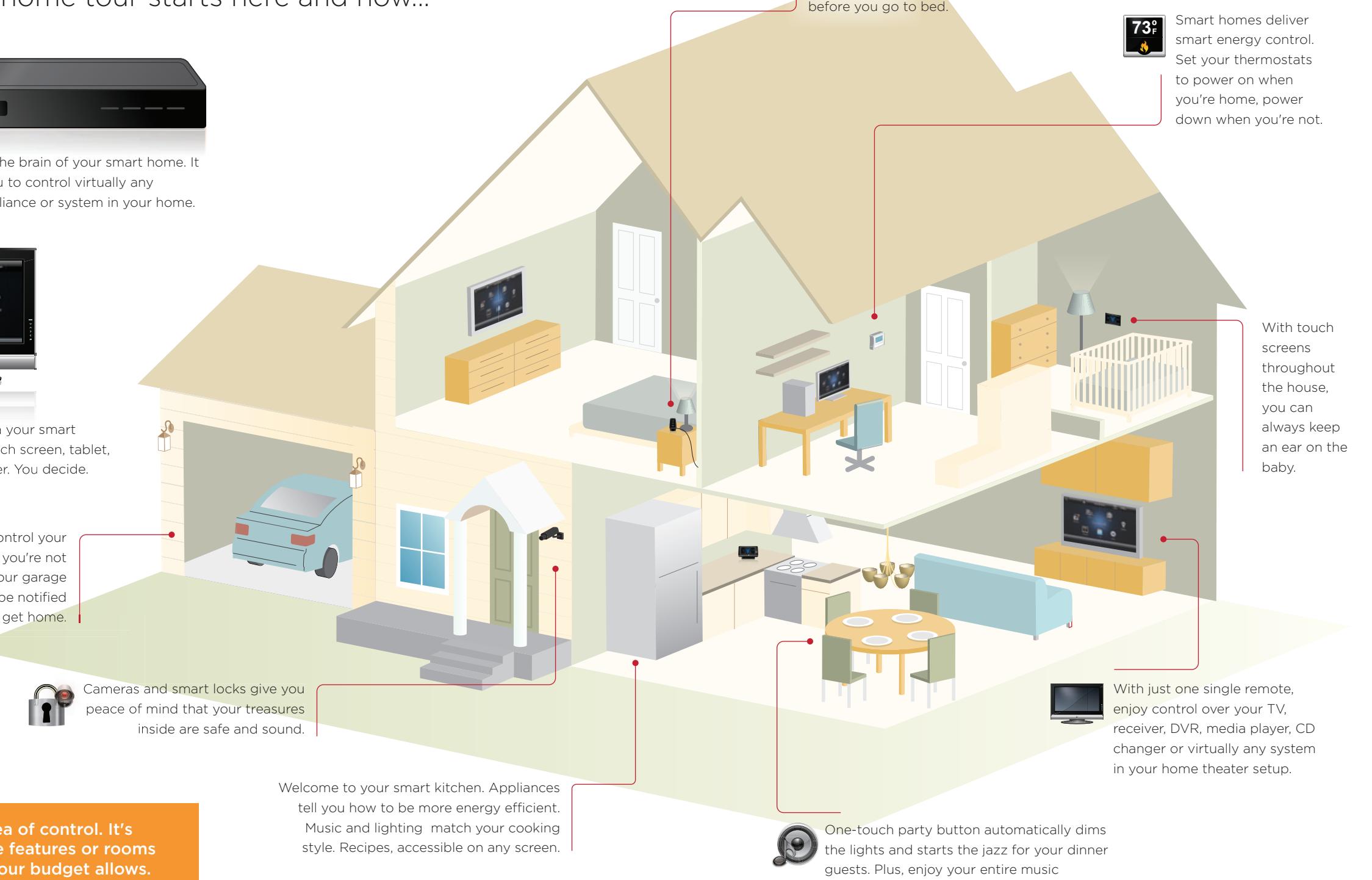
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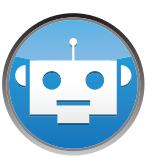
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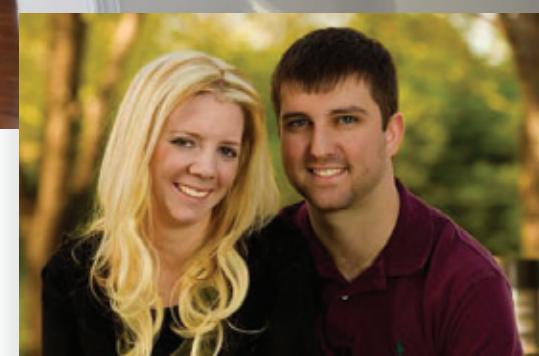
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# A RESCUE REMODEL



Introducing... The  
Chapmans! Rachelle and  
Chris finally tied the knot on  
July 22, 2011, in Raleigh, NC.



A playful-turned-tragic push into a pool kept this bride from walking down the aisle. But nothing will break Rachelle's spirit as she finds new ways to take more control every day.

**A** year ago, Rachelle Friedman worked as a dance and aerobics instructor at a nonprofit. She was engaged to the man she loved, Chris Chapman, who worked as a middle school teacher. "We were a young couple. We were healthy. We were in love," recounts Rachelle. "Even on our small salaries, we bought a home that we loved.

We were living the American dream." A freak accident at her bachelorette party would change everything.

Rachelle would be paralyzed from the chest down; her two-story home would suddenly be inaccessible to her; she would no longer be able to perform her job; she wouldn't be able to marry Chris without losing her Medicaid benefit. And while her fiancé would never

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waver in his devotion to her, she would lose something else that was as close to her heart—her independence.

While the couple was facing the prospect of exhausting their entire savings just to make their bathroom handicap-friendly, an unexpected gift transformed their home and restored an invaluable degree of Rachelle's independence. And it happened on live television.

### YOU NEVER THINK IT'S GOING TO BE YOU

It was just a month before her wedding day, during her bachelorette party, that Rachelle's best friend playfully pushed her into the swimming pool. "I heard my neck crack and my entire body stiffened," recalls Rachelle. "I just went numb."

She had hit her C6 spinal vertebrae and was instantly paralyzed from the chest down. She would never walk or stand again, or fully use her fingers. Says Rachelle, "You see people in wheelchairs and you don't ever think that's going to be you."

Upon hearing the bride's tragic story, Control4® dealer Mark Masters of Neuwave Systems in Raleigh, North Carolina, thought to himself, "She's a very independent person who is suddenly handicapped. Right off the bat, home automation is an obvious answer."

Shortly thereafter, he was contacted by The Remodelers Council of the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake County (HBA). NBC's *TODAY* show and *George to the Rescue*, a home improvement television show, were coordinating a surprise home renovation project for Rachelle and Chris. They tapped HBA to be the certified experts.



HBA asked Mark what he could recommend or contribute to help make the couple's Knightdale home accessible and functional for Rachelle. "I reached out to Control4 to see what we could do from a charitable donation standpoint," says Mark. "They were already thinking about it. We [Neuwave Systems] were prepared to step in, but Control4 totally stepped up to the plate. It was pretty neat."

### 12 DAYS, 112 COMPANIES, 200 VOLUNTEERS

The pressure was on. A fully functional system needed to be installed and tested within a week. Walls were only going to be down for half a day. They wouldn't even



PHOTOS COURTESY HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF RALEIGH-WAKE COUNTY

Someone donated a TV. It was just amazing."

They worked around the clock to transform the two-story home. In exactly twelve days, the all-volunteer cast turned Rachelle and Chris's home into a completely automated, wheelchair-accessible living space.

The project was revealed during a live episode of NBC's *TODAY* show on February 22, 2011. The behind-the-scenes transformation was featured during the April 2 episode of NBC's *George to the Rescue*.

"We knew they were updating the house," says Rachelle. "But we figured it would just be helping us get to our bedroom upstairs. We had our bedroom downstairs in the living room, essentially behind a curtain, so we had very little privacy. We had no idea it would be everything it turned out to be!"

"We had no idea—at all," agrees Chris. "We are so appreciative of everything. Insurance doesn't pay for things like this. It's just been incredible."

### AN ALL-STAR ALL-INCLUSIVE SYSTEM

The all-inclusive Control4 system setup in Rachelle and Chris's home includes a slew of one-touch features. For example, on a three-button keypad by the entrance, a welcome-home button fires up all the lights, starts a playlist in her bedroom and turns the TV on to ESPN, Rachelle's favorite channel. By the time she gets up to the bedroom on the second floor, Rachelle enters a home tuned to all her preferences.

"I had only ever seen home control in the MTV Cribs episodes," laughs Rachelle. "I didn't think average people could have these things."

When asked about his favorite feature, Chris explains that it doesn't boil down to any one specific aspect for him: "It's the whole concept. At the end of the day, you just want to crawl into bed, and if you forgot something, like the lights downstairs or the thermostat, you can just turn it off from bed." Body temperature is a big issue for Rachelle, so being able to control the thermostat remotely is extremely handy.

When asked to list the single biggest difference home automation has made for her, Rachelle replies without hesitating: "Independence."

### CHANGING SOMEONE'S LIFE

Mark believes that the reason there was such an outpour of support is that everyone recognized that they had an opportunity to change someone's life. He says this really hit home when he got a call from Rachelle the day prior to the big reveal on the *TODAY* show.

Because the Rhapsody subscription was in her name, Rachelle—a huge country music fan—accidentally received a notification. She called up the number listed, which was Mark's number at Neuwave Systems, and said, "I don't know who you are. But thank you so much. You don't know what this means to me."

"We talk about these things, but we rarely get a chance to act on them," he mused. "Yes, we can enhance people's lives. We can help them turn on music from their bathtubs. We can install luxury items. But this was completely different. What we installed for that young lady made a profound difference for her—it changed her day-to-day life." ■

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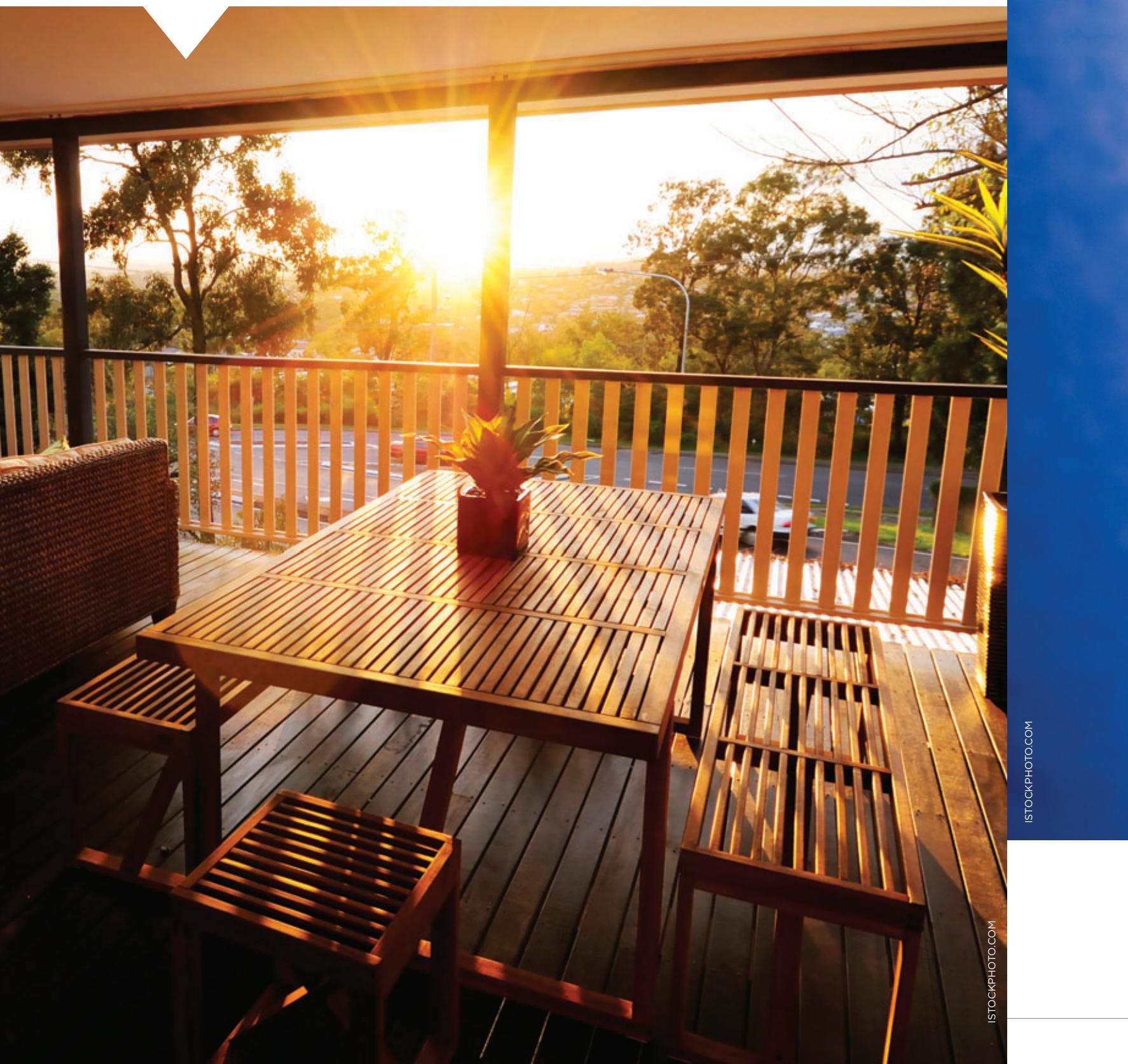


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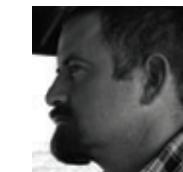
We don't just "like" our social media communities. We absolutely love them. Our Facebook page especially is alive with colorful personalities, overflowing with great intelligence and even greater passion. By sharing their favorite features on our wall, our customers don't just give us a peek into their everyday lives; they inspire us with their ingenuity. Maybe they'll inspire you, too...



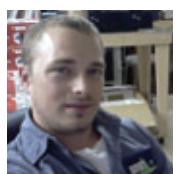
**Diane Hirsch** Music in selected rooms—it's so easy to listen to my iPod on the patio :-)  
July 24 at 8:24pm • [Like](#) • [Comment](#) • [Share](#)



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**Victor Gurel** Control4 is awesome. Leave the door open for more than 30 seconds, when the air conditioner is running... and the Control4 system will ask you to close the door and save electricity ;-)  
April 2 at 11:24am • [Like](#) • [Comment](#) • [Share](#)



**Mark Duane Peterson II** I programmed a keypad button for my customer to activate Vacation Mode in two taps. Lights then randomize every hour throughout the house so it looks like they're home. When my customer gets back, they double-tap the keypad again and all lighting scenes go back to normal.

March 16 at 3:24pm • [Like](#) • [Comment](#) • [Share](#)



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**Jerry White** When I triple tap my bed light at night, here's what happens: The doors lock, thermostat gets set, and all lights in rest of the house turn off. 1 minute later after the wife and I have crawled into bed, my bedroom lights go off.

July 27 at 7:27pm • [Like](#) • [Comment](#) • [Share](#)

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**Travis Jeppson** One button for movie-watching heaven. My lights dim to perfection, TV tunes to the right input, the surroundsound is pre-set to the right level and the movie fills the screen. I'm expecting it to pass the popcorn any minute.  
August 11 at 3:45pm • Like • Comment • Share

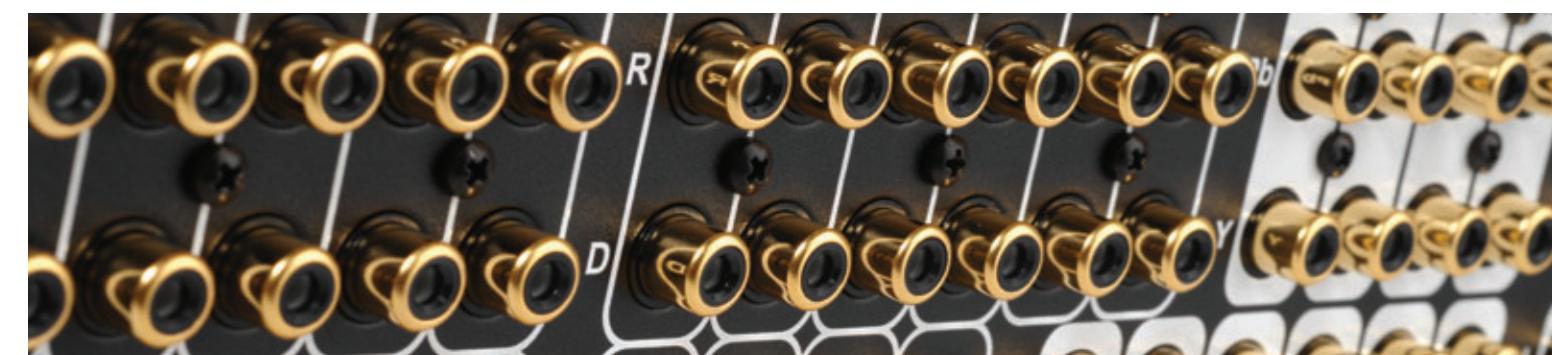
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**Phillip Brown** My one-touch pool scene, which looks like this: Pool lights go on, pathway lights come up, playlist kicks in and the outside TV tunes into NFL network. Paradise :-(  
June 21 at 6:42pm • Like • Comment • Share



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# 5 NEED-TO-KNOWS

## Designing your smart home



Imagine waking up in the morning, not to the glaring blare of an alarm clock, but to your favorite song streaming through speakers in the ceiling, as your blinds slowly open to reveal the morning sun. Touch one button by your bed and the lights in the hallway turn on so you can safely navigate to the kitchen where the TV is already tuned into your favorite morning news program. As you race out the door for work,

smile as everything powers down—the lights, the TVs, the audio—even the thermostat dials back to more energy-efficient setting. The alarm arms, the garage door closes and every door in the house gets locked. Automatically.

It might sound like the ultimate in luxury, but really, having a home automation system today is a very affordable reality. Plus, not only does it make life a little easier, it can also help you save time and money.

One remote comes in many forms: your iPhone, a tablet, a touch screen, even your laptop.

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How's this possible? Imagine a sophisticated, but ridiculously easy-to-use universal remote that controls all of your home's otherwise disconnected electronic systems and devices. With this one mighty remote, you can control everything from entertainment systems to heating and air conditioning, lights, shades, garage doors, security systems, exterior door locks, and so on. Better still, this one remote comes in many different forms: the traditional wand that you're used to wielding in the family room but also, with Control4®, you can control everything in the house from virtually every screen in the house—your iPhone, a tablet, a touch screen, even your laptop.

And once you've got your house "under control," there's no going back. But before you take the plunge, here are a few need-to-knows that will come in handy as you journey to the "other side."

## 1 You'll want to read, research, and revel in the possibilities.

Aside from the articles in this magazine, which give some great real-life examples of everyday automation, the Control4 web site ([www.control4.com](http://www.control4.com)) is a great place to more deeply familiarize yourself with the concept of home control and the endless possibilities you have to personalize it according to your lifestyle. Spend some time reading over the site

## What if my house is "old"?

It can still learn new tricks. Control4 home automation works equally well in homes from 1-100+ years old.

to get ideas around the sort of automation system you'd like to see for you and your family.

## 2 You'll need the help of a professional—and that's a good thing.

While Control4 home automation solutions will be easy for everyone in your house to use, your system will be a complex design, linking multiple devices in your home to make it possible for them to communicate over a network. Naturally, this is the kind of work that requires a professional. We call this professional a Control4 dealer. Certified by Control4 after rigorous training, your dealer is equipped to work closely with you, from the planning and installing of your system to teaching everyone in the house how to use it to giving ongoing support and upgrades after the system is up and running. It's possible that you will work together for years to come.

If you don't yet have a dealer, at [www.control4.com](http://www.control4.com) you'll notice a "Ready to buy?" link. There, you can enter your zip code and find a few local options. Make some calls or visit the dealer showrooms. A good dealer will be happy to show you sample systems at his/her place of business, or perhaps even take you on a tour of existing installations (with the owner's permission, of course). Ask anything and everything about home control. Take advantage of your time with an expert.

## 3 You'll want to get specific about what you think you want to control.

"Think" is the operative word, because once you share some ideas with your dealer, your wish list may expand, change or get increasingly personalized. You'll probably be surprised to hear that your Control4 system can do all the magnificent little things it can do.

One way to approach this is to ask yourself what sort of automated solutions would make your life easier or help you worry less in your everyday activities. Do you want all of the lights in your house to go off when you leave for work? No problem. While you're at work, do you worry about when your kids get home from school? We can eliminate that concern by making sure you get a text message the instant they walk through the door. Want the lights to turn on and off at certain times, so it looks like you're home, even when you're not? With a Control4

system, it's easy to automate (or randomize) any event, day or night, and even switch it up depending on the seasons. And remember, you can automate your swimming pool or spa, outside lights, electronic gate, sprinkling system, garage door opener, inside lights, music, movies, TV, heating, security system, IP cameras, and whew! You see where we're going here...

## 4 You can expect some wonderful unexpected benefits.

As soon as your new home automation system is in place, you might notice there are opportunities to reduce your energy usage and hey—maybe save



You can see who—or what—is at your front door from almost any screen in the house. A Control4 system is compatible with many of your favorite devices.

some money. Here are just a few possibilities. Your dealer can give you other suggestions, too.

- Use Control4 dimmers, switches and keypads to lower the light levels throughout the home by 20%. Family members won't even notice the difference, but this small adjustment can save a lot of money on your monthly electricity bill.

• Install and program a Control4 thermostat to automatically adjust to more energy-efficient settings when you go to bed or leave for work. This can quickly add up to significant money and energy savings.

- Ask your dealer about apps you can download to your Control4

system to help you monitor your energy use.

## 5 Definitely dream big. And start small.

Many homeowners probably never give any serious thought to automating their homes because they think it's cost-prohibitive. But the truth is that home automation is far more affordable than most people think. Control4 makes it possible to design a home automation system to match your budget, big or small, right out of the gate. You can start with a very basic system—just automating a family room, for example—and add

more control down the road as time or budget allow.

No matter what kind of money you plan to spend, try to brainstorm all of your ideas upfront, and just like you would approach a building or remodeling project, develop a priority list. When you're ready to share it with your dealer, he or she can help you develop a plan, timeline and a budget to build your dream system over time.

Even if it turns out that you have to wait to implement a few of your favorite ideas, you will have a solid foundation of a smart home that can easily get smarter and smarter over time. ■



# BRINGING CONTROL TO CHINA

How one cutting-edge company on the other side of the world makes its employees feel very much at home.

PHOTO COURTESY JINWO INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGY

**N**estled by the beautiful Yang Cheng Lake in the middle of the Yangtze River Delta is China's leading digital intelligence company and home automation specialist, Suzhou JINWO Intelligent Technology. But inside this impressive building, JINWO employees aren't just working out of an office that sells smart home products: They've designed the office to look, feel, and "work" like home, even when they're not there.



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SHOWROOM

The sleek new offices are home to a staff of thirty-five and include eight rooms: a conference room, theater, design shop, training facilities, the restroom and three executive suites. At 17,760 square feet, this office is one of the largest in China to incorporate home automation.

Using Control4® keypads, wireless switches and dimmers, and touch screens, it's very easy for any team member to demonstrate the control of lights, home appliances, heating, and air conditioning to their customers, no matter where they are in the building. They can also demonstrate multi-room music and audio with the integration of many products, including iPod docks, an iPod, and a Denon Amplifier. The home theater incorporates a Pioneer Blu-Ray DVD player, BenQ Projector and a



Even in many different languages, the Control4 interface is always exactly the same.

Samsung TV, which they also enjoy for a little downtime.

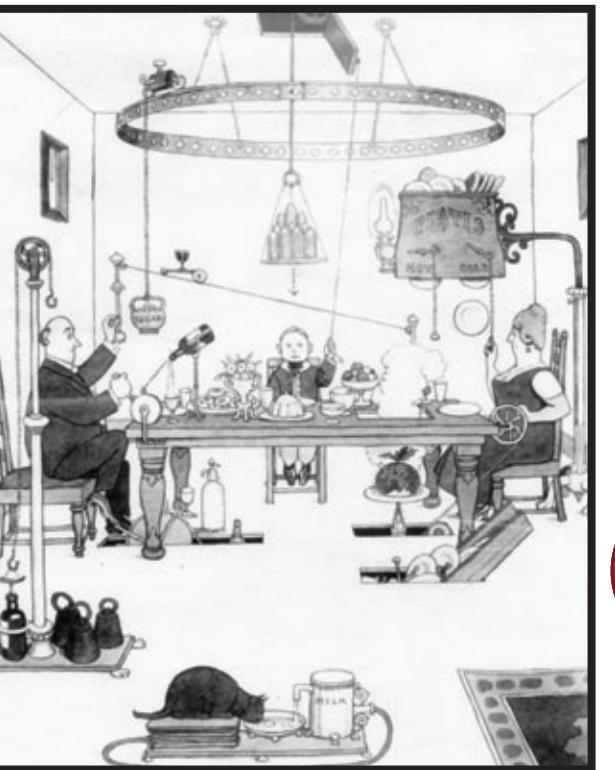
And absolutely everything works together. With many of the staff being big Apple fans, they were especially delighted to learn that they could use their iPad or iPhone mobile device to control the office. When employees leave at the end of the day, they don't have to fumble with keys or access cards. ■

Instead, they use their own iPhone or iPad to control everything—from the lights to the music to the curtains. The last person leaving the office powers down everything in the expansive office with one easy tap.

"They enjoy the work style here," says Henry Ho, director of international business in KOMSA. "They are relaxed and feel fantastic working in this office, just as if they were at home."

"We love this system because it makes our life convenient and safe," says Yang, general manager, JINWO Suzhou City office. "We can check the status of different things in real time—even when we are far away—and we love how easy it is to use. Meanwhile, we don't need to worry if we forget to turn off any of the appliances as we can do that remotely, too. It's great!" ■

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## NO STRINGS ATTACHED

Ever since man got his cave, ideas of automation have evolved accordingly, with imagination and technology driving both wild ideas and real innovation. Thanks to both, we're lucky enough to have hit the sweet spot. In the 21st century, home automation isn't just a reality for the ultra-wealthy or the tech-savvy who know how to



Control4 uses ZigBee technology because it's an affordable, retrofittable, no-new-wires system. It also makes it possible to start with the control of just a few products and it's easily add more over time.

Illustrated in the late 1800s, this comic depicts a Victorian-era fantasy of automated dining.

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Part Number: MX-0808-PRO

**16 x 16 Cat5e HDBaseT Full HD Matrix**  
Part Number: MX1616-HDBT

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# SPOTLIGHT ON THE OLD VICARAGE

What was once shelter for the faithful and devoted is now home to the newly converted.



PHOTOS BY ANDY OLIVER PHOTOGRAPHY

The man of the house, of course, wants a TV in the room.

Screening room incognito, left. Can you spot the TV? It's in the shot, but out of sight. The Old Vicarage, right, proudly flaunting its new ultra-modern wing.



Dave Hicks is a certified Control4® dealer working out of MAX AV in the UK. “The Old Vicarage” is how he fondly refers to one of the more challenging projects that he, alongside his head design engineer, Daniel White, took on in recent months.

Picture this: In a remote location, out in the far reaches of Yorkshire sits a large 3-story brick house built in 1873. It was once used to accommodate a small congregation of devout clergy in its seven bedrooms. The original plans were consented to and signed by none other than the Archbishop of York. Eventually, it fell into the realm of private residence, and its current owners have been making some most impressive changes by transitioning it into our most recent century, while still preserving its past.

Because an unused portion of the property had grown decrepit, the owners decided to raze the

old coach house and stables, and use the space to build a new wing. The coach house became a two-level gymnasium/office, and they connected it to the main house with a lengthy barn-shaped garden room that stands where the stables once were.

## WALL SPAT

Anyone who has experience with a redesign understands that disagreement, at some point in the process, is inevitable. One of the more delicate situations in which MAX AV found themselves was when the clients diverged with regards to the garden room. Its design is long, clean, and serene, and the décor is minimalist and modern. One of its walls is all glass, providing a gorgeous view of the grassy, tree-lined grounds. And that's just the reason the lady of the house wants to maintain the room's peaceful feng shui. To that end... NO television.

## Open a new window.



The man of the house, of course, wants a TV in the room. Sure, it doesn't always have to be on, but they're good to have around. In the middle of the room sits an extended five-segment L-shaped couch. When not gazing out the window, the man of the house figures, one can check on a few sports scores. He felt pretty strongly about that.

The lady of the house did not back down. This room was to be an escape from blaring screens.

Dave and Daniel looked back and forth between the two clients and then at each other. This is kind of dispute that can stall the process indefinitely. Then an idea formed in Dave's head. He proposed a creative suggestion to his clients that delighted them both, and the project could proceed.

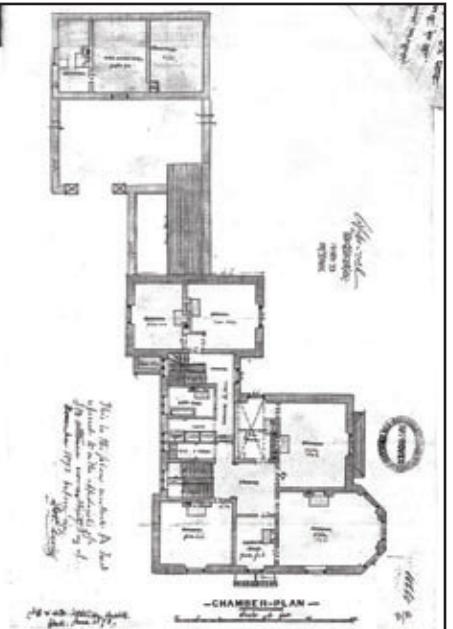
In addition to the Control4 basics—lighting, temperature,

music, curtains—MAX AV installed something special, something unexpected. A painting. It depicts a cluster of trees sitting atop a mountain under a vast orange sky. And at the tap of a Control4 touch screen, that painting raises itself another three feet up the wall, revealing the 60" plasma TV that's perfectly positioned behind it: art and technology converge.

### FROM PULL-STRINGS TO TOUCH SCREENS

For Dave and Daniel, The Old Vicarage was an especially fun project, because not only did it give them the chance to outfit a magnificent, historical home with a full menu of Control4 features, but it also gave them a full menu of interesting puzzles to solve and obstacles to overcome.

Not only did the couple want to



The Garden Room, left, with painting raised and hidden TV revealed. Original 1873 Chamber Plan for The Old Vicarage, above, signed by the Archbishop of York (center right).

automate the new wing, but they also wanted to retrofit the older part of the house with the highest caliber of music, home theater, lighting, and security solutions.

Every Control4 dealer knows that retrofitting a house of any age is hardly an issue, but The Old Vicarage is not just any older house. For instance, the client wanted to be able to work from home. A common practice and not usually a problem, but this house is located in a far removed area that has spotty broadband coverage at best. Add to that the thick walls of stone that form the bones of the house, and you've got yourself one tricky Wi-Fi situation.

Dave had to test a good number of wireless access points before finding the ideal set-up. He had to also install fallback routers in case the primary Internet line ever went down. Though it took time to figure

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The office, located directly above the gym. Productivity is easiest when you have all the bells and whistles of home automation in such a calm and natural setting.

out, this networked infrastructure shines as one of his proudest achievements in this project.

The owners had no interest whatsoever in stripping The Old Vicarage of its charm. On the contrary, they requested the period fixtures and fittings be retained. This includes a pull-string system, used by the original owners to call the servants from any room in the house—how's that for an early example of home automation!

MAX AV succeeded in preserving the vintage brass light switches. Daniel hooked them up to inline dimmers hidden out of sight in the rafters. Likewise, a tower of hardware—receivers, players, and a cutting edge HDMI matrix—does its thing out of sight, tucked away in a hidden closet.

What is NOT tucked away in a hidden closet are the new Panasonic and LG televisions reliant on said HDMI matrix. They have been installed around the house,

including a 50" 3D TV retrofitted into a very large fireplace.

When asked if there were any unusual features of automation in this install, Dave chuckles: Indeed, the man of the house also had a particular idiosyncrasy that needed to be accommodated—he could not sleep with any light or glow in the room. As head design engineer, Daniel was the one to program the master bedroom to give the client just what he wanted, pitch black. At the touch of a screen, everything goes dark—all screens, all switches. The client himself had even constructed a wall in front of his bedroom window to block the morning sunlight, and nighttime moonlight.

#### HOME OFFICE HIDEAWAY

In contrast to the old part of the house, the new wing required no retrofitting. Its ultra-modern look was both receptive and

complementary to a full Control4 package.

The gymnasium, with its big glass wall, looks out at the garden. The décor is minimal. The gym equipment rests on a clean hardwood floor, and the walls are bare except for a 50" LG television, the Control4 home screen on display when it's not in use. In-ceiling speakers blend in perfectly, and play whatever satellite radio best helps them sweat.

Above the gymnasium is Dave's favorite room in the house—the office. It too has a glass wall, offering a view of the garden from above. The A-shaped rafters in the peaked ceiling provide organized clean lines, a repeated motif found in every room in the new wing.

Everything in the office is wood—floors, cabinetry, desk, rafters—yet it's all sanded fine, not a splinter in sight. Clear surfaces, simple decor, natural light, and the airy spaciousness make this home office truly ideal. It's easy to think straight in here. And if you get temporarily overwhelmed by a hectic day of work, simply step onto the balcony outside with its commanding view of the estate for a breath of fresh air. It's an environment exceedingly conducive to peace of mind.

The clients are thoroughly satisfied with their newly automated 138-year-old home. They mentioned that they take pride in bringing their house to life during their annual Christmas parties. Now, in its first year as a Control4 smart home, with its programmable lighting and music, the house is in prime shape to host its most joyous Noël yet. It makes Dave Hicks proud to see the owners of The Old Vicarage embracing and enjoying their new installations. ■

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PHOTOS BY ANDY OLIVER PHOTOGRAPHY

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“Very Batman-esque.”



That's what one Yelp reviewer said of the ability to control lighting, drapes, audio and more from the small touch screen on his nightstand at the Aria Resort and Casino at CityCenter Las Vegas. Turns out a Control4® automation system gives you control of nearly everything in your room—from wake-up to room service. “Even some of our older, less-technology-savvy customers get it. It's easier than running a computer at home,” resort President Bill McBeath says. The Batmobile awaits...let's head to Sin City!

PHOTOS COURTESY ARIA RESORT AND CASINO AT CITYCENTER LAS VEGAS

# Recommended **READING**

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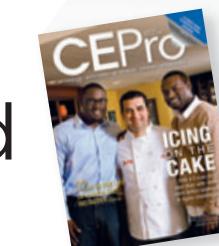


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