

Home automation on the lough

Home automation systems from the Square D and Clipsal brands of Schneider Electric are adding a final touch of luxury to an impressive self-build property on the banks of island-studded Strangford Lough in Northern Ireland. The lough, which is renowned as an area of outstanding natural beauty, is also the UK's largest marine inlet.

With the clear objective of maximising comfort, convenience and control for the owners of the house, Northern Ireland's leading home automation specialist, INit, worked closely with the designer of the property to devise a system centred around a colour touch-screen from the Clipsal C-Bus range.

Centrally located in the property's open-plan kitchen/dining area, the touch screen gives complete control over lighting throughout the house with, for example, instant selection of preset lighting scenes. The screen is also configured to control the home's impressive audio-visual installation, and to provide access to the Internet, allowing it to be used to send and receive email, as well as for web browsing.

Remote control facilities are incorporated to allow key functions to be accessed from any location in the house.

To complement the C-Bus installation, INit installed a LexCom Home system from the Square D brand of Schneider Electric. This provides distribution of TV, broadband and telephone services to the living areas and bedrooms, enabling the occupants to enjoy their favourite forms of entertainment throughout the house.

The finishing touch is an iPod dock installed in the hallway, which, in conjunction with the LexCom Home installation, means that the owners' music collection can be accessed from any room, including the bathroom.

“The innovative products from Clipsal and Square D made it possible for us to develop a home automation installation that puts the finishing touch to this magnificent property,” said Conor McCarthy, managing director of INit. “Not only are the products easy to install and use, they’re also exceptionally stylish and, particularly when their advanced functionality is taken into account, very good value for money.”



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