

smartlife

THE LUXURY LIFESTYLE BIBLE

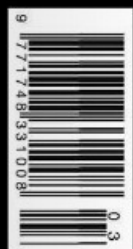
INTERNATIONAL

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made for...

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Classic Rally



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down in the prince of
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SHE'S ELECTRIC

Audi unveils the eco-car
of tomorrow, the e-tron;
and she's a beauty!

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Jargon demystified and lashings of gear – we explore the
'what, why and how much?' of the digital photography world



THE CONNOISSEUR'S GUIDE TO GIN • BRITISH AIRWAYS FIRST • A \$4.7-MILLION WRISTWATCH PLANETARIUM
• TOURING THAILAND'S TRANG PROVINCE • PORSCHE 918 SPYDER AND ALL THE FINEST THINGS KNOWN TO MAN...



Complete
Crestron control
simplifies all
aspect of this
amazing
apartment...
except getting
the windows
cleaned, of
course.

northern star

In God's own country, Manchester, there now stands a penthouse apartment so high and so highly specced, it's good enough to house Him himself. RICHARD HALL took a pilgrimage...

Assuming a commanding position on top of Manchester's iconic Beetham Tower, there is a penthouse like no other. Officially the highest living space in Britain, it occupies the top two storeys of the 168.87m building – the tallest in the UK outside London and the tallest residential development in Europe. Envious credentials indeed, and as you would expect from such a landmark development, the penthouse itself has been finished to the highest possible specification and boasts the kind of all-encompassing Crestron control system that takes the concept of home automation to equally impressive heights, winning integrator Custom Controls the coveted title of *Best High Rise* installation in the 2009 *Crestron Integration Awards*!

Spanning the entire top floor of the tower, the five bedroom duplex apartment boasts its own swimming pool, sauna and steam room complex, gym, staff quarters and indoor garden, complete with 21 four-metre high olive trees shipped from Italy and craned into

position before the roof! With such an impressive specification, home automation expectations were high. Total control was required for all the systems in situ; from the lighting to the multiroom AV, to the environmental control and the security – and all 47 floors up! A tall order for some, but not for Custom Controls, as Dave Chester explains: *"An installation of this size and complexity, in such an iconic development, certainly posed many challenges but it has also brought with it many rewards. The project allowed us to demonstrate not only our own integration capabilities but also those of the Crestron system. The result is a technical solution that we are really proud of and one that has delighted the client and won us a coveted industry accolade in the process!"*

A touch of tech

There is certainly an impressive array of technology in the apartment, all of which has been brought together and seamlessly integrated to deliver the ultimate lifestyle of comfort and convenience. Using intuitive

Crestron technology, Custom Controls have designed and installed a solution which completely eliminates the need to walk from room to room to adjust the lighting, temperature, security or audio visual components – very useful when your home is well over 1100m²!

The apartment benefits from music and High Definition video throughout, with the homeowner's entire CD and DVD collection held centrally on a Kaleidescape hard drive server system. In the snug, meanwhile, a custom home cinema featuring Bowers and Wilkins Signature 8NT speakers and a 50-inch KURO Pioneer plasma delivers an authentic cinematic experience, all readily controllable via an intuitive TPMC-8X Wi-Fi touchpanel.

AV provision in the master bedroom suite is equally impressive with B&W speakers in both wet and dry areas, there is even a pair integrated within the stunning feature bath. Control is provided via the TPS-6L mounted in the headboard and DB12 waterproof keypads in the 'his' and 'hers' bathrooms, allowing the owners to keep in control, even when having a soak.

All the main rooms in the penthouse benefit

from full Crestron lighting control, enabling access and scene setting from the touchpanels or any of the four Cameo wall mounted keypads located throughout the property. Lighting control in the cinema automatically dims and raises the lights to synchronise with the film, and one press of a button gently illuminates the living room and the garden to show the apartment at its best.

Elsewhere, four compact, wall-mounted TPS-4Ls deliver amazing touchpanel performance in the space of a common light switch, whilst two TPS-6Ls offer impressive control capability from high-contrast 5.7-inch colour touch-screens.

Touch and go

The Crestron system integrates seamlessly with a third party building management system, allowing precision control of temperature settings for the underfloor heating and ventilation, in addition to providing environmental control for the indoor olive grove. The same interface also allows for control of the sauna, steam room and swimming pool. As far as security goes, live CCTV images from around the property are relayed to all Crestron touchpanels to maximise the effectiveness and visibility of the system and to ensure complete peace of mind. Plus, for an added dimension, cameras can also be accessed and viewed remotely.

A Crestron PRO2 2-Series control system is the brains behind the integrated automation solution, allowing every audio, video, and environmental element within the penthouse to become integrated and accessible. Additionally, a PAC2M operates as a standalone controller for the apartment's lighting and blinds. A CNAMPX-16X60 provides 16 channels of world-class



Total AV access at the touch of a button.

KIT LIST

GYM

2x Loewe 36-inch TVs
TPS-4L
B&W in-wall speakers

KITCHEN

1x Crestron TPS-6L
2x pairs of B&W in-wall speakers

SNUG

1x Crestron TPMC-8X touchpanel
B&W Signature 8NT cinema system with Classe amplification
Kaleidescape Movie Player
Crestron lighting
2x Cameo lighting keypads

DRAWING ROOM

1x Crestron TPS-4L
1x Cameo lighting keypad

MASTER BEDROOM

1x Crestron TPS-6L (built in to bed head)
1x Cameo lighting keypad

HIS AND HERS BATHROOMS

1x Crestron DB12

STUDY

1x Crestron TPS-4L

HUB

1x Crestron PRO2
1x Crestron BIPAD8
1x Crestron AMPX16x60
1x Crestron C2N-TFM (Tuner)
Kaleidescape DVD server
Sky HD
1x Kramer component video switcher
1x CCTV recorder

LIGHTING

1x Crestron PAC2M lighting controller

audio amplification for the distribution of speaker-level audio in eight stereo room zones as part of the complete Crestron audio distribution system. And, as part of the Crestron lighting system, Crestron Greenlight lighting control modules provide multiple channels of dimming.

United in Manchester

So, with its unrivalled location, far-reaching views and award-winning technical specification, this is one installation that demonstrates that, when Crestron and Custom Controls combine forces, the sky really is the limit!



For further information contact: www.customcontrols.co.uk
www.crestron.co.uk