

# Manor Home Condo Conversion Hertfordshire, UK

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This manor house in Hertfordshire, UK is no stranger to reinvention. Renovated in 1803 and converted into luxury apartments in the 1980s, the building has seen its share of refurbishment. But for one technology-loving couple, the previous modernization attempts of this imposing property did not go quite far enough. The current owners directed a technological overhaul that turned their stately apartment into a state-of-the-art home that provides the ultimate in modern living and high tech comfort and convenience.

With lofty home automation aspirations, the busy commuter couple turned to leading systems integrator and Crestron dealer, Hertfordshire-based ClearSphere, who selected a Crestron total home solution to transform the owners' vision into reality. The result is a fully integrated whole-home automation system that is friendly to the user and the environment.



“Crestron’s whole-home solutions include lighting, AV and home theater control, which really singled them out from the competition and made them the obvious choice for this project,” explains ClearSphere co-founder, Alistair Ingram.

A Crestron CP2E Control System enables seamless control and integration of all technology into a single, robust, yet easily manageable solution.

Serving a wide variety of multimedia content throughout the home, Adagio Media System (AMS) stores thousands of hours of the couple’s favorite CDs, DVDs and recorded TV programming, and effortlessly distributes music and video, including HDMI (High Definition Multimedia Interface) support for digital content, to every room, in high-performance 7.1 surround sound.

A CEN-IDOC Interface for Apple iPod® enables enhanced media server functionality, and provides the owners the versatility of serving up their favorite iPod content to all rooms, backed by the power of Adagio’s thunderous audio/video infrastructure. A Crestron APAD Wallmount Controller allows simple push button selection and ‘nav wheel’ scrolling searches of Adagio and iPod content, available audio sources, radio stations and CD titles and iTunes® library by playlists, artists and genres.

With a discreet, versatile design, nowhere in the home is AV technology more prevalent, yet less obvious, than in the living room. The multipurpose entertainment space includes a flat screen LCD television for everyday viewing, and a high definition home theater system with a 10’ screen – not that you’d notice it by walking into the room. A Future Automation lift mechanism

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The comprehensive design is impressive and complete, featuring Crestron solutions for lighting control, multimedia home entertainment, touchpanel and keypad user interfaces, thermostat control for an occupancy-based heating system, and energy management and monitoring capabilities. In addition, lighting and heating systems can be controlled remotely from either’s Apple® iPhone™, allowing mobile control from anywhere in the world.



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allows the 46" flat screen to be completely concealed in a recess behind a piece of artwork, and can be accessed or tucked away with a one-touch preset on any Crestron touchpanel.

ClearSphere also delivered big screen viewing excitement to the space without limiting the room to cinema use only. An additional lift mount enables a Panasonic HD projector to be hidden within a cabinet, rising vertically and revealing itself on demand, while the 120" Screenline movie screen also raises/lowers with a simple button press, disappearing completely when not in use.

User friendly touchscreen interfaces allow fingertip control anywhere in the home, eliminating the need to walk from room to room to adjust individual room settings. A TPMC-8X 8.4" WiFi touchpanel is docked in the living room for quick recharging and also used as a wireless touchscreen device when undocked. Two TPMC-4XG handheld touchpanels provide additional mobile control. A TPS-6L 5.7" Wall Mount Touchpanel is conveniently mounted in a central location just outside the custom kitchen and enables complete button touch control of the entire system.

Crestron Green Light™ technology was implemented to meet the owners' desire for combining energy conservation with versatile, cost-effective lighting control. A CLX dimmer module was installed to provide intelligent lighting to every room. With a single button press from any touchpanel or CNX Designer Keypad, a choice of preset lighting scenes, such as relaxing mood lighting for watching TV, or a party mode for entertaining, can be instantly activated. To substantially reduce energy usage and utility bills, natural lighting

levels are continually monitored, while lights automatically adjust accordingly. As nighttime approaches, the system gradually turns on necessary lighting fixtures. When sufficient daylight is present, lights dim or shut off as needed.

Five heating zones are automated by a Crestron DIN Rail relay module, with the temperature of each room individually controlled by embedded thermostats hidden in the CNX keypads. From any touchpanel, a custom preset can be selected that reflects how the house is currently being used, and the system automatically adjusts the thermostats in conjunction with the occupancy setting. A "house off" button in the entryway shuts off all lighting and AV components with one press, eliminating the need to check each room, providing a convenient option when rushing out the door in the morning. In addition, Crestron software enables the couple to monitor and track energy usage and costs, in real-time, from easy to understand touchpanel displays.

The couple can also adjust lighting and temperature settings from anywhere in the world, right from their iPhone™. The easy-to-use app allows control and real-time system status, whether from across town or across an ocean, ensuring the home remains efficient, secure and welcoming at all times.

"Crestron is a powerful solution with a complete product range that is both reliable and very user friendly. They are regarded, both by the industry and clients, as the leader in home control," adds Ingram.