

Westchester County, New York



Where Technical Meets Traditional

Westchester County, NY home uses Crestron Whole Home Solution to provide an over-the-top entertainment experience

Background

If you were to walk into this large but traditional Westchester County home, you'd have no idea how "big and bad" its entertainment systems really are.

The detailed, comfortable decor offers little clue that behind the scenes is a whole-house audio and video system with 22 flat-screen TVs and a beautiful 3D home theater.

There's also a Crestron lighting system, 14 zones of heating and air conditioning with remote sensors and hidden thermostats, and a security system that includes eight television cameras.

Despite the extensiveness of the systems, "this is a really down to earth family," explains Dave Raines, President of Harrison, New York-based home automation contractor Osbee Industries, Inc., which designed and installed the systems. "They like gadgets, and they like to be able to have a wide variety of entertainment sources at their fingertips, but they didn't want their electronics to take over their lives. This is a very clean house with beautifully decorated rooms, and the technology is designed so that it's out of the way, unnoticed unless it's in use."

Because the family did not want equipment cabinets or electronic clutter throughout the house, Osbee engineers housed most of the system components in a single, centralized equipment closet. When family members want to access media, a Crestron DigitalMedia™ network ensures that big, bold, high-definition audio, video and computer signals go

where they're wanted without compromising quality or impact. The system is easy to use as well, with 11 Crestron touch screens and nine handheld Crestron remotes giving family members a simple, sophisticated way to access just what they want to see or hear, while automating important home functions such as lighting and security.

Touring the home

The kitchen of this beautiful house is, like many American kitchens, the command center. A 15" Crestron tabletop touch screen, which doubles as a TV, gives the family complete control over all of the home's electronics. An iPod® dock provides family members with a convenient place to tie their personal music collections into the system, and a single lighting keypad, located on the counter backsplash, takes the place of multiple traditional light switches.

A Crestron ADMS Intermedia Delivery System™, plus a 200-disc Blu-ray Disc® changer offers simplified search for movies, TV shows and other video and audio clips, whether in the family's own collection or available from cable, satellite and online service such as Netflix®, Hulu®, iTunes® and YouTube®. It also accesses digital video and audio files stored on the family members' computer hard drives and iPods.

A Crestron DVPHD multi-window video processor allows family members to display up to eight video and/or computer sources on any TV simultaneously. "It's the perfect setup for Fantasy Football and for keeping track of the stock market," notes Raines.

In addition to the DigitalMedia video network, the home features audio access in almost every room and outdoor area, with a Crestron audio switcher providing each of the 32 audio zones with access to any of 26 different sources.

The combination of these sources, the audio and video networks and the Crestron controls make it very easy to send any combination of signals to any or all sections of the house. For example, if the kids decide to throw a party for viewing Harry Potter® movies, they can have Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows® playing on any or all of the TVs on the main floor, plus the lower-level theater, while their parents hang out in the library or family room, listening to music or watching something else.

The very elegant home theater includes a 6,000-lumen 3D projector, a 180" curved screen with motorized masking, and a movie-theater-quality surround sound system hidden behind acoustical panels and the screen. Decorated like a contemporary





Crestron's whole home solution ties all of the technology together so entertainment can be managed, controlled and enjoyed from anywhere in the home, including the bedroom, kitchen and family room.

movie palace complete with fiber-optic stars on the ceiling, the theater includes motorized blackout shades, custom LED downlights and custom color-changing LED lighting. Because the sound system packs a 4,000-watt wallop from 12 speakers and four subwoofers, Osbee incorporated soundproofing treatments to keep movie watchers from disturbing people in other areas of the house.

In the family room, Osbee technicians worked with the interior designer to blend a 65" LCD TV and surround sound into the decor. Ceiling-mounted acoustic panels and custom lighting scenes add warmth to the room, visually and acoustically. As in other rooms, a choice of several possible scenes on the Crestron touch screen or lighting keypad adjusts the chandelier and table lamps simultaneously to create the perfect ambiance.

The master bedroom features a 52" mirror TV above a fireplace. When not in use, the TV looks like a standard mirror, and the room appears to be completely free of electronics.

At the entrance of each of the kids' rooms is a lighting keypad, an audio keypad, an iPod dock and a thermostat, which together gives them complete control of the sound and comfort levels of their rooms. There's also a table-top keypad which allows them to turn lights on and off without getting out of bed.

Raines says the scope of the project expanded as the homeowner realized what was possible. A visit to the Crestron Experience Center in New Jersey, for example, was the inspiration for the inclusion of the dedicated theater and the ADMS system.

The family has been very pleased with their new home and its powerful entertainment system, so much so that they have continued to add features and capabilities in the year since they moved in.

[Click here to take a tour of the Westchester Home](#)

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