

Best Light

WESTCHESTER, NY

CASE STUDY | RESIDENTIAL

➔ Challenge

Modernize the control and lighting technology in a beautiful home to enhance the design and complement an extensive art collection.

➔ Solution

Crestron lighting, shading, and home automation systems.



“

The home is spectacular through and through. Its beauty is now more than skin deep, as its automated systems simplify the use of the house and help the homeowners thoroughly enjoy their bright rooms and spectacular artwork.”

— **Dave Raines**
Osbee Industries President

Crestron Solutions Show Off Light-Filled Contemporary Home

Crestron motorized shades and lighting controls enhance the calm, modern aesthetics of the home and allow homeowners to fully enjoy beautifully landscaped grounds

There's a life-giving energy in sunlight.

It's an energy that's tangible, something we can feel, and something the designers of this beautiful contemporary home in Westchester, New York wanted to capture.

Walls of windows welcomed the power of the sun into the home's spacious interiors, providing an ideal setting for the owners' extensive art collection while affording a view of the home's gorgeously landscaped grounds. Only one detail stood in the way of a picture-perfect dream house.

“The opulence of this stunning home was dimmed by its old-school lighting control, its clutter of switches, thermostats and video gear, and its lack of cohesive controls,” says Dave Raines, President of Harrison, NY-based Osbee Industries. “It was time for a complete transformation to make the home systems as exceptional as the art collection and designer spaces.”



Pieces to the puzzle

According to Raines, the problem with the home was not a lack of technology, but rather a lack of vision on the original integrator's part. He and the Osbee team met with the homeowners then focused their efforts in three areas.

1. Replace the original lighting and shading control with Crestron systems.

In a house this large (8,000 square feet), it's crucial that all of the home systems be as easy to use and as automated as possible. Yet the original lighting control was a mixture of traditional on/off switches and a dated centralized system that covered only part of the house. That was a major problem. For example, it took ten loads of lighting to showcase just the areas of the living room and each piece of artwork displayed there—with 178 total lighting loads in the house. Before guests would arrive, the owners would have to run from room to room, flipping individual switches to set things up the way they wanted. Turning lights off at the end of the night was also a daunting task.

Osbee engineers redesigned the entire lighting system using Crestron infiNET EX® wireless dimmers and a centralized Crestron control system. Today the homeowners can choose from a number of pre-programmed scenes to adjust the lights perfectly for any given room, for multiple rooms, and even for the whole house.

The infiNET EX technology offers a number of benefits to installers and homeowners alike. The wireless dimmers saved Raines' team from having to run additional wires, except where new lighting fixtures were added. This saved the team time, as well as labor and material costs for the homeowners. With 50 Crestron Cameo® lighting keypads, 24 lamp dimmers and 48 in-wall wireless dimmers, plus 11 new Crestron touch screens located in various rooms of the house, the homeowners will enjoy greater energy savings and convenient control of all the lights in their home.

The new system also integrates 30 new Crestron motorized shades, controllable from the lighting keypads as well as the touch screens. After the team installed the new lights and shades, an Osbee technician walked through the house with the homeowners to make sure each light and each shade was programmed to their exact wishes—making sure the lighting, shading, and lighting/shading presets would work for their lifestyle.

“Our goal was to make this as simple as possible,” Raines says. “They don't have a lot of extra controls to worry about. If they walk into the living room they can press one button. The lights are on, the scene is set and it's beautiful. In the same way, if they are waiting for guests to arrive, they can access a 'party' button from the touch screens and know that the lighting and shading for the entire house will be perfect.”

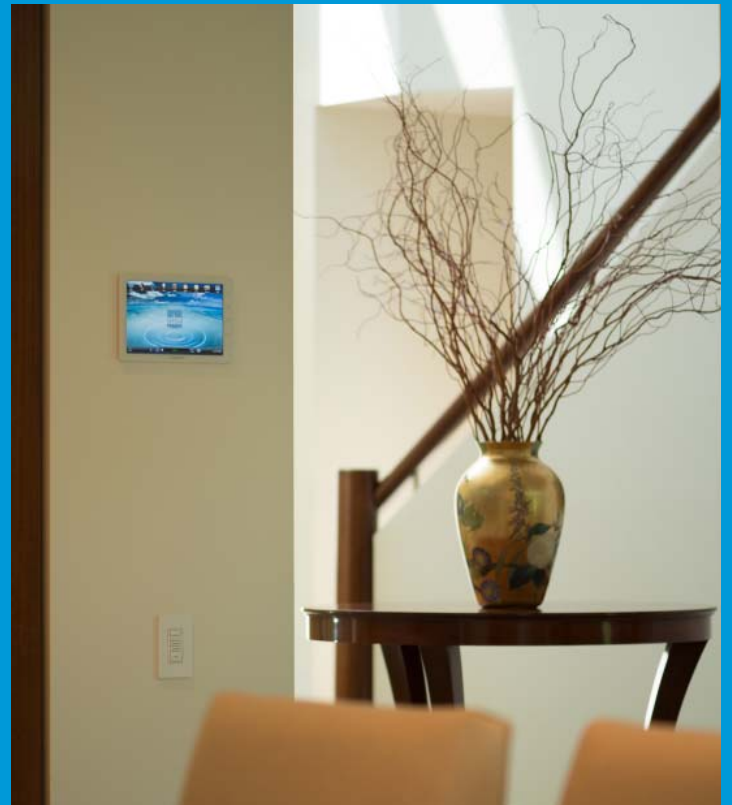


2. Remove all the local audio and video components and replace them with a centralized network based on Crestron DigitalMedia™ technology.

Raines says the homeowners were also unhappy with their AV systems. First, they felt the audio and video gear and its remote controls cluttered the house. They said it was hard to find the right audio or video media when they wanted it, and it was difficult or impossible to play the music or video they wanted in more than one room at a time.

To address these problems, the Osbee team installed a Crestron DigitalMedia network that allows any family member to access and play any movie, video, or collection of music in any room, select rooms, or across the entire house. DigitalMedia carries high-definition audio and video throughout the home over standard Cat5 cabling, while meeting all of today's digital TV requirements. One of the nicest things about DM is that it has the signal speed required by tomorrow's entertainment standards, including 4K ultra high-definition video.

The homeowners now have nine centralized HD video sources, two centralized audio sources, plus five Crestron docking stations for iPod in various rooms of the house. There are 19 indoor and five outdoor audio zones, enabling the family to play music in different areas of the property—or send any combination of audio sources to any combination of zones.



➔ One of the nicest things about DM is that it has the signal speed required by tomorrow's entertainment standards, including 4K ultra high-definition video.



DM® distributes HD video to the dedicated home theater, a projection-based golf simulator, a 65” mirror TV in the living room, and flat-panel televisions throughout the house.

In an additional effort to remove clutter and improve the comfort and convenience of living in the home, the Osbee team also replaced 14 ugly wall-mounted thermostats with nine invisible Crestron temperature/humidity sensors.

3. Use Crestron controls to give homeowners simplified, automated operation of all of their vital home systems.

The 11 touch screens provided by Osbee not only control the lighting and shading, but also the audio and video, the heating and air conditioning, and the security and surveillance systems. Each screen is highly intuitive. Users work from a floor plan of the house, touching the rooms they want to send music or video to or adjust the lighting or temperature.

The team wall-mounted seven of the touch screens (four are wireless) and two audio keypads. Six additional ML-600 remote controls, which look and act much like a TV remote, control temperature, lighting and shading as well as the audio and video systems.

The security system includes 10 CCTV cameras connected to DigitalMedia. With the touch of a button, family members can view images from the cameras on any video display or Crestron touch screen.

As they do with the lighting and shading, the Crestron controls automate related functions in the security, climate, and entertainment systems. Press “play” in the theater, for example, and the projector turns on and the lights dim. Press an “all off” button at the end of the day and the system turns lights off throughout the house, makes sure the doors are locked, and activates the security system.

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Meet the Team

Integrator
Osbee Industries
www.osbee.com/