

Pacific Digital Home

Two years ago, a contractor introduced Pacific Digital Home to a family that was interested in a small distributed audio system with surround sound. The primary goal was to keep it affordable. When Jeff Goold, owner of Pacific Digital Home, took the client to the Electronic Home Expo, it was instantly clear that the project was going to be substantially bigger. Crestron Adagio™ family of products was the answer.



The discovery of all the possibilities inherent in a Crestron system turned the original six zones of audio into twelve. iPod docking stations became the next "must haves". The Adagio system was eventually maxed out at twenty-four audio zones, for which Pacific Digital Home created a custom touchpanel interface to accommodate full control.

And that was just the beginning. Lighting, swimming pool, surveillance camera, security, and gate controls were added next. Because of the way the family kept adding features, Pacific Digital Home ran out of control/com ports to integrate the sub-systems. For the three surround sound systems, Crestron QM-RMC room solution boxes enabled simple expansion.

The interfaces needed special attention as well. "Other distributed audio touchpanel interfaces have worked well for us in the past. However, we were only controlling 8-12 zones of audio in those instances," said Goold. "We had to go back to the drawing board for this one, and develop an interface that allowed the user to see all the audio zones at once, as well as control the sources and adjust the volume." This simple system is one Pacific Digital Home has subsequently incorporated into other projects. The client can select the room he wants to control and the source from a list. The volume is displayed as a percentage for each room, and to turn the zone or the room off, all that is needed is a press and hold in each room.

What started out as a "small distributed audio system with surround sound" ended up with a fairly significant system, including three Adagio Audio Expanders (AAEs); one Adagio Entertainment System (AES); 11 APADs; five CEN-IDOCs; two CNX-BN12W 12-button keypads; two MT-1000C compact wireless handheld touchpanels; one TPMC WiFi tablet touchpanel, two TPS-2000L touchpanels with video and audio, and one WPR-48 waterproof handheld remote. Per the client, "the Adagio system allows us to control everything for a lot less cost than other systems that were quoted."

With the ease of the Adagio system, Pacific Digital Home's client enjoys the luxury of top-of-the line home technology at the touch of a button at any of the sixteen key pads located throughout the house. Front door visitors can be screened; the kids can be monitored at the pool, and music can be turned down when the phone rings, all from the master bedroom, and the most popular feature in the entire system is the intuitiveness of the key pad control.

