

Waterfront Home Vero Beach, Florida

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Crestron Adagio® AMS-AIP Turns a Tough Room into a Home Theater Paradise

When a homeowner is described as “the most demanding audiophile we have as a client”, you can bet that nothing less than superior will be acceptable for his home theater and whole house audio distribution system.

Home technology specialists, Sound Insights, is quite familiar with this client’s desire for high performance acoustics, having installed a home control and entertainment system in his previous home. When the challenge was presented to design and install a home theater and distributed audio system that would drop jaws in the client’s new home, Jensen Beach-based Sound Insights again turned to Crestron.

The Audyssey MultEQ feature in the AMS-AIP allowed the entire system to compensate for and overcome enormous acoustic disadvantages automatically, and exceed all of our expectations. You don’t have to be an acoustician to achieve audiophile sound with Adagio AMS-AIP.

Not surprisingly, what began as a home entertainment installation, soon transformed into a complete Crestron home automation system, including multi-zone lighting control and climate management.



At his new waterfront home in Vero Beach, FL, the homeowner wanted two distinctly different types of audio systems. The 1,100 square foot family room called for a chest pumping surround sound theater that could be easily used by anyone, plus the distribution of whole house music from this central location. A dedicated listening room on the second floor serves as the owner’s private sound sanctuary.

With input from the sound-savvy homeowner, Sound Insights developed a cost-effective whole home entertainment design centered around the Adagio® AMS-AIP, Crestron’s high-performance, yet affordable digital home theater and multi-room audio distribution solution.

In one elegant component, AMS-AIP delivers the room-shaking 7.1 surround sound processing the client wanted, with a thunderous 7X100 watts of amplification, and advanced 1080p digital video processing. Additionally, AMS-AIP provides audio signal routing for whole house music distribution, and a built-in control system to manage the home theater and distributed audio from Crestron touchpanels and remotes. With limited storage space in the family room, AMS-AIP was the ideal fit.

Multiple audio sources – including CD/DVD player, a high end turntable, DirecTV, and satellite radio – are routed to eight audio



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zones across the property: the gazebo, pool area, and rear lanai completed the outdoor areas, and the kitchen, master bedroom, master bath, dining room, and loft comprise the indoor zones.

An AAE Adagio Audio Expander enables seamless expansion of the AMS-AIP, driving sound to the additional audio zones throughout the property. Listeners in each zone now enjoy their choice of radio stations, CDs or MP3s, or even a stereo downmix of the surround sound output from the home theater.

Marble Floors and Glass Doors, Now What?

The family room's highly reflective marble floors, glass doors and windows, and open floor plan was not the ideal space for a self-proclaimed audiophile's theater, and presented immediate acoustical problems. According to Sound Insights system designer, Steve Summers, "Immediately post-install, the theater sound was subpar at best." Then he put the AMS-AIP with onboard Audyssey MultEQ XT technology to work.

"We went to work with the built in Audyssey, hoping for some improvement, setting the microphone in about 30 different spots, and making sure we were paying close attention the area where guests would be sitting. After the final spot was calibrated we anxiously awaited the outcome. Wow! The improvement was unexpectedly spectacular," Summers proclaimed.

MultEQ XT is the only technology of its kind capable of properly measuring sound response throughout the listening area, and combining that information to accurately represent the acoustical intricacies of the room. You don't have to be an acoustician to achieve audiophile sound with AMS-AIP, as Summers experienced firsthand.

"The MultEQ feature in the AMS-AIP allowed the entire system to compensate for and overcome enormous acoustic disadvantages automatically, and exceed all of our expectations to provide a terrific multi-purpose entertainment area. While demanding the best, Scott (the homeowner) is without a doubt the most fun and rewarding to work for - his delight when the system exceeds his expectations is contagious."

The pristine sound and razor sharp 1080p HD video is output to a 42" Sony LCD TV above the fireplace, seven Speakercraft in-ceiling speakers, and a Sunfire Tru-Sub subwoofer to round out the home theater. Klipsch CA-800 and AWR-650-SM rock speakers fill the air in the Gazebo and pool areas. Additional Speakercraft ceiling speakers are positioned generously throughout the home.

"The AMS-AIP solved the distributed audio problem and provided a great sounding theater solution using a minimal amount of space. More importantly, it exceeded the client's expectations for sound quality after calibrating the theater using the Audyssey system," explained Summers.

From any of four Crestron touchpanels or waterproof handhelds, the homeowner can choose his music, and fine tune volume, treble, bass, balance and more, in any zone, to meet his discriminating tastes. "Scott is very detail oriented at setting



up his sound system and wanted extensive controls on the touchpanels to control the audio both inside and outside," added Summers.

InfINET EX Wireless Lighting and Climate Control Takes On Concrete Walls

Crestron wireless solutions made connectivity easy in the concrete-block-stucco constructed home, eliminating the need to drill holes and pull new wire through cement walls.

Compact TPMC-8X WiFi touchpanels enable convenient and reliable wireless control, providing the owner the freedom of mobile, 2-way feedback and command of all entertainment, lighting and thermostats. The embedded PC engine allows lightning fast Internet browsing, streaming video and more from its 8" active matrix display.

Upon completion of the entertainment systems, the focus turned to environmental systems control.

Property-wide lighting is managed by a Crestron PAC2M lighting control system. The PAC2M seamlessly integrates indoor and outdoor lighting from 25 wireless infiNET™ dimmers and switches, enabling finger touch control from any touchpanel, remote or the wireless infiNET tabletop keypad controller.

Three climate zones enable efficient management of the air conditioning system. Crestron CHV-TSTATRF infiNET Thermostats required no additional control wiring and mounted easily on the concrete walls, for a hassle-free installation. Temperatures in each zone are controlled from any touchpanel, providing an intuitive interface to cool the home during humid Florida summers, while conserving energy and reducing utility bills.

"The owner loves the system setup, design, and ease of use provided by Crestron control. He also loves the dedicated dealer support, and is continuing to upgrade and add features. All of these things combined have ensured a very happy client, which is our main goal," concludes Summers.