



## Now iPhone® users can issue simple voice commands to their home's entertainment systems

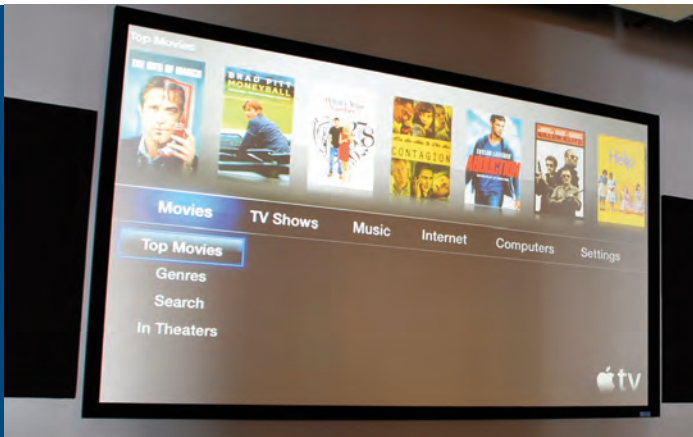
**There's an easier way to control all the electronic systems in your home.**

Just talk to them.

Ask your home systems to do what you wish in a normal voice with everyday language. You can say phrases including "Turn on the lights in the kitchen," "Turn on the heat," or "Set the temperature to 70 degrees," and the system will follow your commands and then let you know when the action has taken place.

This simple idea is a reality for customers of Carnes Audio Visual (CAV) in Little Rock, Arkansas. Recently CAV Owner and President Matthew Carnes purchased a new Apple® iPhone® 4S, which included the Siri® voice recognition app. "I thought it would be an interesting challenge to see if I could interface Siri with a Crestron control system," he says. A couple of overnight programming sessions and he had a working interface, which he then installed in the CAV showroom.

The hard part, Carnes says, wasn't the programming itself but understanding what had to be programmed to make the system work. "Once I was able wrap my head around the signal flow, it was a matter of a few hundred lines of code and a quick update to my Crestron processor." Carnes realized that, if the iPhone was running in WiFi mode, it would be possible to route Siri data to the Crestron system for further processing.



To make this work, Carnes created two modules – one that resides on the home server to catch and route the Siri data, and one added to the Crestron system to accept the data and return the “action taken” or “not understood” message that Siri speaks. For example, if the Crestron system, responding to a Siri command, turns the volume of the audio system to 75%, Siri will say, “The audio volume is at 75%.”

The combined system is quite sophisticated. “Say I give a command to ‘switch to ESPN,’” Carnes explains. “Siri and Crestron together will determine that I have to be on the cable box and a particular channel on that box, then they will switch both in turn.”

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**Matthew Carnes**, Carnes Audio Visual, Owner and President

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Once Carnes had a working prototype, he began showing it to CAV customers. “The response was overwhelming,” he says. “Most of our clients leave with a better understanding of how the Crestron technology can help create a connected home and make life more enjoyable.” Carnes is now in the process of installing it at a customer site.

The system does not do everything Carnes would like it to do, and he’s working on a version which will include component-level commands such as “play” and “pause” for a Blu-ray Disc® player. So far, the more basic but very useful system will

run with any 2-Series or 3-Series Crestron processor, and he expects it to work well, with little or no modification, on future Siri devices as Apple introduces them. “I think it would make sense for them to add it to the yet-to-be-released iPad® 3,” he says.

Carnes says he does not believe he would have been able to implement his system with any other brand of control system – certainly not the less-expensive pre-programmed controls that have become popular in the last few years. “Crestron is a completely open system,” he explains, “designed for extensive customization by programmers like me.”

Carnes also says that the manner in which Crestron handles programming with its SMPL and SMPL+ protocols helped make this project workable. “Without Crestron’s big picture approach to automation, I would have needed to write code for any number of third party devices to accomplish setting lighting levels, adjusting my thermostat, turning on my projector, surround sound receiver and sources. The Crestron platform made it easy to integrate all of those commands in one simple program.”

**To see the Carnes Siri/Crestron interface in action, [Click Here.](#)**

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