

Case Study

LA County Home

January 5, 2006



In the LA County home of Dr. Anthony Borquez, the Professor of Innovative Information Technology at the University of Southern California, Nobu implemented their latest Home Técor™ control solution. The Home Técor™ control solution is centered around the N8, a fourth generation inwall touchscreen from Nobu. Unlike its predecessors, the Home Técor™ control solution has been combined with an advanced automation software framework called Cielo™. The Home Técor™ system can be easily integrated with other Cielo™ enabled products from leading manufacturers in the consumer electronics industry.

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Dr. Borquez's unassuming tri-level home consists of numerous lighting groups throughout the home with a modest home theater system in the family room. His goal was to conveniently control the entire home lighting system and entertainment center from anywhere, in or around his house. His lighting system consists of 14 different zones on 3 levels in the interior and exterior areas of his home. The entertainment center included a Pioneer 45-inch Plasma TV, Sony Amplifier, Motorola Cable TV DVR box, Philips DVD player, and Xbox 360.

The Home Técor™ control solution included ZWave dimming light switches, Nobu's ZPC ZWave USB controller, a Global Caché GC-100, and Nobu's 8-inch inwall touch screen control center driven by CasaWorks Cielo™ engine. The Home Técor™ control solution is capable of controlling virtually ANY subsystem within the home making Nobu's Home Técor™ system the perfect choice for retrofit projects as well as any future system upgrades.



The lighting is controlled with the Nobu ZPC USB ZWave module hidden inside the wall, connected to the primary N8 inwall touch screen control center. The entertainment center was outfitted with a Global Caché GC-100 and a wireless access point. The GC-100 is a network device that requires only a standard power source and a 10/100Mb Ethernet connection. The GC-100 easily commands entertainment devices with either infra-red emitters and/or a serial cable. The N8 inwall touchscreen not only acts as an attractive user interface but also as the control center serving various custom interfaces to additional touch screen nodes such as the Nobu N12TBPC, a 12-inch touch screen wireless tablet PC that served as a mobile supplementary control point for the home.

The Nobu N8 comes standard with a fanless 1.0GHz Low Voltage Intel® Pentium® M processor. Because the system is designed with fanless technology and has no moving parts, it is highly robust and perfect for heat-sensitive applications such as inwall installations near the front door entry in homes. Combined with ZWave enabled hardware, Global Caché, and the ironclad Cielo™ engine powered by CasaWorks, the Home Técor™ control solution provides quality, reliability, unparalleled 3D graphics, and simplicity for future changes or additions to the system.