



Success Story

Kent New Build Achieves Smart Home Serenity



Residential



Inspired
Dwellings



UK



Zyxel
Wireless
Solution

Overview

Challenges

- Achieving top-class uninterrupted connectivity across a 14-room, 12,000 square foot new build
- Managing a whole new world of connected devices and the pressure they cause on home networks
- Ensuring fast, reliable connectivity in every room of the house

Benefits

- USG60 Unified Security Gateway – to ensure secure and reliable network performance
- GS1920 (24 port & 48 Port) Layer 2 switches – to handle a large number of WiFi access points spread across the home
- NXC2500 Wireless LAN Controller – to control any aspect of the smart home from any location

Solution

- Zyxel Wireless Solution

“Working with Zyxel is brilliant and easy, we deal with very complex projects, so we always look for partners and solutions to prevent headaches – there are enough of those to contend with already! That’s why we chose Zyxel. The product arrives, we configure and install it, and it just works.”

Rob Sutherland
Managing director and co-founder, Inspired Dwellings

Background

Based in Heathrow, Inspired Dwellings is an award-winning provider of home technology solutions, specialising in the high-end residential sector.

With the help of a whole host of technology partners, the company works in consultation with their customers to create innovative yet beautiful smart spaces. It works on projects of varying briefs and scales, from equipping new builds all the way up to super yachts and boutique hotels.

Inspired Dwellings' partnership with Zyxel began in 2013, and has gone from strength to strength over the years. Now, every single residential project it gets involved in includes a Zyxel product of some description. Managing director and co-founder Rob Sutherland explains that

finding a high-quality, reliable networking partner has been absolutely pivotal to maintaining the company's stellar reputation, and the foundation upon which it is built.

"One of the reasons I started Inspired Dwellings was to continue what I'd learned from my 25-year background in IT", he says. "I was acutely aware of the need for high-quality connectivity to drive the smart home revolution." One of the company's biggest projects involved a 14-room, 12,000 square foot new build home in Kent. With features including a 14-seat home theatre, a gym and CCTV systems throughout, it required top-of-the-line connectivity. As always, Zyxel was the chosen networking partner.

Challenges

Nearly 20% of UK households now use smart home technology, and this percentage is projected to double by 2022. In addition, the sheer number of connected devices within the home has skyrocketed, placing greater pressure on home networks and posing a challenge when it comes to both connectivity and security.

Rob Sutherland sees this every day, and confirms that "the requirement for reliable networking in our projects is only increasing".

While you might automatically associate a new build home with fast, reliable WiFi technology, this is far from the case. Thinkbroadband revealed that 25% of new builds still can't get superfast broadband.

Ultimately, Rob explains, this depends to some extent on the "network enlightenment" of the developers. For some new build estates, the idea of high-speed connectivity is a

unique selling point, and developers pre-wire the houses in order to achieve this. However, this is often not the case, and Inspired Dwellings works with customers to help them get the best out of their home network, no matter what the chosen broadband company.

The scale and requirements of the Kent new build in particular required Zyxel solutions that are normally associated with business environments. As with most of its projects, Inspired Dwellings was involved from very early on in the process, taking on a consultative role with the customer to achieve a bespoke home network solution.

It's crucial in a large-scale project, like the Kent new build, to ensure that traffic can run smoothly and reliably across multiple access points. This prevents bottlenecks in the network, often caused by strain from multiple connected devices in the home.

Solutions and Benefits

The Zyxel-powered network underpins this shining example of a truly smart home. Its enterprise-grade solutions and seamless deployment allows the simple operation of a multitude of connected devices over a wide area.

The owners now enjoy secure and reliable network performance, allowing them to control any aspect of their

smart home from any location.

This was particularly key given the customer's request to be able to listen to music in multiple rooms of the house, as well as allowing several family members to listen to different music simultaneously.

A key advantage of using Zyxel wireless networking

1 Statista Smart Home Report, <https://www.statista.com/outlook/279/156/smart-home/united-kingdom#>

2 Hall, Kate. "Up to 25% of new builds still can't get superfast broadband - study," [theregister.co.uk](https://www.theregister.co.uk), (March 5, 2018). https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/03/05/new_builds_still_lacking_superfast_broadband/



solutions is the rapid setup time and reporting functionality. The technical support team is contactable for any network-related issue and can instantly monitor the WiFi signal strength and number of devices connected to the network, to help ensure the quality of access and connection is never compromised.

The Kent new build owners were keen to stay in control of

their WiFi use and drill down into usage statistics. Zyxel enabled them to assess data bandwidth, track download speeds and stay on top of any attacks on the system.

As a result of these technology enhancements, the Kent home has been recognised as a finalist in the 2017 CEDIA Awards, and was also named Best Residential Project in the D-Tools Design Awards for 2017.

About Zyxel Communications

Focused on innovation and customer-centricity, Zyxel Communications has been connecting people to the Internet for nearly 30 years. Our ability to adapt and innovate with networking technology places us at the forefront of creating connectivity for telcos and service providers, business and home users. Zyxel is building the networks of tomorrow, unlocking potential, and meeting the needs of the modern workplace — powering people at work, life, and play. Zyxel, Your Networking Ally.

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