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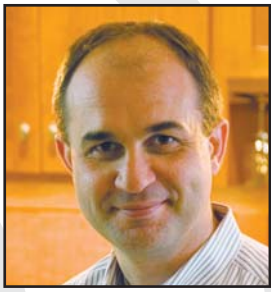
TRIAD SPEAKERS

By: Todd Fuzzey

Triad, a US speaker manufacturer located in Portland, Oregon, is proud to offer products that are handcrafted in America. Triad is one of the only companies to both design and manufacture a comprehensive line of high-end architectural loudspeakers. Their speakers offer the ultimate in custom speaker solutions by offering over 100 stock products and custom one-off solutions to fit any environment. With features like built-to-order, custom paint finishes, custom stain matching and available exotic wood species, it's easy to see why someone would find these speakers ideal for their home. Not only are the products beautifully crafted on the outside, their engineered, solidly braced speaker enclosures are "built like bank vaults". The speaker enclosures have extensive damping which allows clean audio



reproduction at any listening level. The speakers sound very neutral and faithful to the source. One of our favorite features of Triad Speakers is the ability to stay within the same product category whether specifying an in-wall, in-ceiling, bookshelf or wall-mount speaker. Triad offers a good, better and best in every category. Many of the new homes we work in are looking at applying for LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) accreditation and Triad is an environmentally conscious manufacturer. This allows us to specify products that are within LEED guidelines when working in homes seeking this accreditation. Triad speakers give us the ability to offer clients a high-end audiophile speaker solution that truly works into the architecturally designed space.



MARK'S VIEWPOINT

The Cloud

The first question I get from

people I discuss this topic with is "What is 'The Cloud'?" The easiest way to answer the question is "The Cloud" is a nickname for the internet. The second question I get is "How does it affect me?" The easiest way to answer that question is with another question, "How would you like it to affect you?"

When it comes to home entertainment "The Cloud" has already made a profound impact on how people access their entertainment. It was just a few years ago that if you wanted to watch a movie at home you needed to buy it or rent it at a typical brick and mortar establishment. Today services like Netflix, iTunes and Amazon allow you to search through their entire collection and start watching

a movie minutes later straight from "The Cloud." Did you miss the last episode of your favorite sitcom? Not a big deal. Simply grab your Blu-ray player remote and select the episode from one of the online services and watch it almost immediately for a nominal fee. The term generally used for this capability is called streaming and is currently available from many TVs, Blu-ray players or even your video game consoles. What, you're not at home? Then use your smart phone, iPad or computer to access the same information. Many people have already selected streaming as the best way to provide entertainment for their families because it is very simple and affordable. There are some people who are actually getting rid of standard cable or satellite TV and relying on "The Cloud" for all of their information and entertainment. So now comes the next question: "I already have a large collection of movies and music, how can I gain access to it easily?" In the past this has

been somewhat difficult due to the amount of storage necessary and the hurdles of copyright protection. As we move forward it may become much easier. Companies like Apple, Google and Amazon have all announced their upcoming "Cloud Services." Think of it like a personal hard drive that resides on the internet where you can store your movies, music, pictures, documents, etc. and access those files across any range of devices. Take a picture with your phone and it could automatically be uploaded to "The Cloud" and shared with friends and family. Buy a movie and watch it in your home theater or on your tablet device while you are on a business trip. The options for storage, sharing and remote access are pretty much endless in this scenario. Being able to easily access your content across a range of devices has been a goal for years and we are on the cusp of it becoming a reality!

LUTRON LAUNCHES HOMEWORKS QS

Here at CS Media, we have recommended and installed the Homeworks line of lighting control products from Lutron for many years with great success. Over time, the product has undergone significant upgrades allowing new features and better technology to be included while remaining fully compatible with past systems. This compatibility has been a benefit to our customers, but also has limited the product in some areas due to the need to remain true to previous hardware. Lutron has announced continued support for the current versions of Homeworks far into the future, giving the installed customers confidence their systems will continue to be serviced.

With the introduction of the new QS generation of Homeworks, Lutron has decided to make a clean break with the past to take advantage of many new technologies available.

Important benefits of this change include:

The QS line shares technology with all of the other product lines Lutron builds, allowing new features and hardware to



be added and launched faster.

Lutron continues to embrace "green" technologies by improving support of LED fixtures, window shading and, new to QS, the ability to integrate Climate Control into the lighting system.

Also given a new level of support will be occupancy/vacancy sensing and, in the near future, the ability to manage light levels in relation to sunlight in a room.

In conjunction with the release of Homeworks QS, Lutron released a new iPad/iPhone application providing control from your mobile device for all network capable Homeworks systems.



We at CS Media believe this new platform will be a strong one, despite being a new product with limited hardware and functionality. We look forward to opportunities to install QS on the projects with the right design while continuing with the current Homeworks product elsewhere. You can count on CS Media to design and install the best and most forward-thinking technology for your project.

STREAM ALL OF THE MUSIC ON EARTH IN EVERY ROOM

With all of the digital music options out there, how do you manage them and make them easy to use? Well, a product has finally come out that seamlessly aggregates all of your locally stored media and streamed media accounts into one easy-to-use interface. Today there are so many options available when it comes to music: You can purchase it digitally from iTunes and Amazon, or you can stream it from Pandora or Rhapsody. No matter where you get your media, Sonos has a way to play it easily and wirelessly in any room of your house.

The feature sets of the Sonos product line are too numerous to mention in this article, but I will try to lay out some of the main features. Sonos is a wirelessly distributed audio system that runs on your home network infrastructure. It allows you to play audio throughout your house either through the speakers you already own via the wireless amplifier or through their portable speaker system. It offers a wireless iPod dock that allows you to access all of your iPod playlists and cover art. It also searches your home network for shared music folders and iTunes collections. Plus, it gives you an easy place to search for your favorite song or generate a playlist that contains songs from all of your music collections. Sonos is also a multi-zone audio system, meaning you can play different audio sources in different rooms of your house and — best of all — you can control it with your Apple or Android device.

Sonos also has a long list of Internet music streaming services available. Pandora, Rhapsody, XM Radio and all of your

local radio stations are all at your fingertips and in every room of your house. And since it is wireless, you won't need to run any wires! If you want any more information concerning designing a Sonos system that is right for you, please don't hesitate to call or stop by the show room and see it in action.



WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME JASON DIRKS

CS Media is excited to announce that we have expanded. Jason Dirks may be new to CS Media but comes to us with over 12 years of experience in the AV industry. His specialties include AMX programming, Lutron lighting and general troubleshooting. We're very excited to have added such talent to our team!



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WE APPRECIATE YOU!

One big thank you goes out to our clients! CS Media is celebrating 5 years in business this year and we couldn't have done it without all of you. In your honor we hosted a large appreciation event at our showroom. Thank you to those those were able to attend. In our theater room we displayed 3D projection and how amazing it can look in the home. We also featured 3D gaming on the PS3 as well as an amazing outdoor sound system. Here are a few pictures of our staff having fun with equipment.



HOME THEATER | LIGHTING CONTROL | HOME INTEGRATION | COMMUNICATIONS



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