House of Continuum: Award-Winning Audio Meets Heritage Architecture

Amber TECHNOLOGY
CASE STUDY



Wired by MJD | Two-time winner at the 2026 CEDIA Smart Home Awards

Wired By MHD has recieved two major honours at the 2026 CEDIA Smart Home Awards, with its House of Continuum project winning ***Best Single Room Solution*** and the company taking home ***Excellence in Business – Integrator.***

The House of Continuum was recognised for the design and technical execution of its Great Room, earning the Best Single Room Solution award in the Asia Pacific region. The additional business award recognises Wired by MJD's achievements as an integrator. Set within a heritage-listed home, the project involved an ambitious renovation and a carefully considered technology installation. Working with builder MLS Built and the architectural and interior design teams, Wired by MJD delivered a sophisticated residential solution that respects the character of the historic property while meeting the practical needs of modern living.

A Great Room designed for living and entertaining

The centrepiece of the project is the Great Room, a generous open-plan space connecting the main living and entertainment areas with the kitchen, informal dining, bar and outdoor entertaining spaces. The brief was to create an inviting environment with the comfort and atmosphere of a luxury hotel. Lighting, audio, climate and other home systems needed to work together intuitively, without competing with the architecture or interior finishes.

The heritage-listed status of the property added complexity. Existing building elements and restrictions on cabling and equipment locations meant the installation required detailed planning and close coordination with the project team.






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Exceptional sound, discreetly delivered
Audio was a central consideration in the Great Room. The challenge was to achieve an engaging entertainment experience while keeping equipment unobtrusive and in keeping with the room's design. The original plan to reuse existing in-ceiling speakers was reconsidered when their size and positioning proved unsuitable for the finished ceiling. A smaller aperture speaker solution was selected instead, providing high output with minimal visual impact.

The Great Room features four ***James by Sonance SA853QT-9 Ultra High Output Aperture Speakers,*** supported by two ***James by Sonance 12-inch PowerPipe subwoofers.*** The subwoofer installation required a change to the original design. Rather than placing them within the joinery, the team developed a ceiling-mounted solution with custom isolation mounts to minimise vibration transfer to the metal ceiling structure.

A custom soundbar was also developed in collaboration with a specialist audio manufacturer. Designed to align precisely with the display, it provides the performance of a dedicated entertainment system while maintaining the room's clean lines. The design proved so successful that it has since become a permanent product in Sonance's catalogue. The audio system supports both background music and dedicated surround sound, with digital signal processing and detailed calibration used to achieve balanced performance across the main listening areas.

The homeowners were particularly impressed by the output and sound quality of the small-aperture speakers, commenting on the performance achieved from such a discreet speaker format.


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Working within the architecture

The property's heritage features and carefully selected finishes influenced many of the installation decisions. Shallow joinery, for example, presented challenges for equipment placement, particularly around ventilation and future servicing. The equipment rack was therefore relocated to a dedicated laundry cabinet, providing the required depth, airflow and access without taking up space in the Great Room.

The display installation also called for a custom approach. An 85-inch display was fitted to a motorised mount, allowing it to rotate by up to 90 degrees to accommodate different viewing positions. The soundbar was mounted independently to the marble wall rather than attached to the moving display, ensuring it remained correctly positioned.

Acoustic performance required further consideration. Marble, glass and timber surfaces throughout the room created a highly reflective environment. The speaker layout, isolated subwoofers, digital signal processing and careful calibration were all important in achieving a balanced result. Behind the finished spaces, cable pathways, equipment locations and service access were planned to support the installation's ongoing reliability and maintenance.

Intelligent control throughout the home

ABB's KNX technology forms part of the home's building automation system, providing control of lighting and integration with other technologies throughout the property. A centralised control platform brings together lighting, blinds, audiovisual equipment, climate control and security, giving the homeowners a consistent way to manage the home.

In the Great Room, approximately 30 lighting circuits are controlled through programmed scenes, allowing the atmosphere to be adjusted at the touch of a button. Homeowners can also change individual lighting levels, create schedules and use automated settings based on sunrise and sunset.

Four HVAC systems are integrated, with operation adapting to the home's stay and away modes. Motorised blinds and other connected services can also be managed through keypads and mobile devices. The result is a coordinated control system that makes managing the home's different environments straightforward, whether the space is being used for everyday living, entertaining or relaxation.



Technology beyond the Great Room

Although the Great Room was the focus of the award-winning solution, the home's integrated technology extends throughout the property, with KNX forming part of the wider building automation system. The installation also includes structured network infrastructure, distributed audiovisual capability, security and CCTV, access control and intercom functionality. Together, these services provide the connectivity and control required across a substantial residence.

Audio has also been incorporated into more specialised areas of the home. For example, a Sonance VPXTR6 SST speaker was installed in the sauna.

Two awards, one outstanding project team

The dual recognition at the 2026 CEDIA Smart Home Awards celebrates both the quality of the House of Continuum installation and the broader achievements of Wired by MJD. The Best Single Room Solution award highlights the planning, collaboration and technical execution behind the Great Room, while Excellence in Business – Integrator recognises the company itself. Amber Technology is proud to have supplied selected James by Sonance and Sonance audio products for the project and congratulates the Wired by MJD team on both achievements.

Behind the Build

The finished residence is the result of a carefully planned project, with the construction process laying the foundations for the integrated technology throughout the home.

Take a look behind the scenes as the property takes shape.
Watch the video HERE

ABB

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