

## CASE STUDIES

## BRIDGER AUTOMATION'S AWARD WINNING SMART HOME INTEGRATION AT PALA, MERMAID BEACH



### CLIENT PROJECT BRIEF

Bridger Automation is proud to have received the 2024 **CEDIA APAC Smart Home Award for Best Integrated Home: Level III - Asia Pacific** and **Technology Meets Design** award for their work on the **PALA project**, an exquisite family residence in Mermaid Beach, Queensland. This home was designed as a forever home for the clients, who also took on the role of primary builders. From the start, Bridger Automation understood the importance of a meticulously planned, detail-oriented approach to perfectly realise the clients' functional and aesthetic vision.

### CLIENT PROFILE AND REQUIREMENTS

Bridger Automation's clients, a couple with two young boys, prioritised security, robust networking, and seamless entertainment options. Although not particularly tech-savvy, they desired a highly intuitive, user-friendly interface to control the home's systems. Aware of their concerns about complex technology, Bridger Automation focused on delivering a reliable, easily operable system.

This project also highlighted Bridger Automation's full-service capabilities, providing a complete automated and electrical solution from initial construction to a fully integrated, intuitive user interface.

### KEY CHALLENGES AND CONSIDERATIONS

This project presented unique challenges due to the home's structural and aesthetic elements. With off-form concrete ceilings, reinforced steel, polished concrete floors, timber paneling, and extensive glass surfaces, Bridger Automation had to navigate limitations related to product performance and network signal distribution. By working closely with architect Joe Snell, Bridger Automation ensured that the final design met both aesthetic and technical requirements, achieving a seamless and visually appealing integration of technology.

### SYSTEMS AND INTEGRATION

**RTI Automation Control:** The RTI system allows comprehensive control over lighting, fans, blinds, windows, doors, HVAC, audio, and video across eleven AV zones—six audio-only and five video zones—each operable independently or grouped as needed. Control interfaces include tablets, phones, and handheld RTI remotes, giving users the flexibility to suit any occasion.

**Security:** Discreet security was a priority for Bridger Automation's clients. Cameras, security keypads, motion sensors, and a video IP intercom were installed for remote access and control, all integrated into a single app to ensure convenience and ease of use.

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### SUBSYSTEMS AND UNIQUE FEATURES

**Distributed Audio:** Bridger Automation utilises a 16x16 Digital Audio Matrix for managing audio distribution, enabling flexible multi-room audio with synchronised, delay-free playback across zones. This setup creates a seamless audio experience for the Living, Kitchen, and Terrace areas.

**Video Distribution:** Video signals from sources such as Foxtel, Apple TV 4K, and CCTV are distributed via a 8x8 HDMI HDBaseT Switcher, routing video outputs to each TV location for effortless control.

**Networking:** To address signal challenges posed by the home's construction materials, Bridger Automation implemented an Araknis architecture with OVRC integration, ensuring reliable, high-performance wireless coverage and remote management capabilities.

**Lighting and Environmental Control:** The RTI system integrates control over lighting, shades, and climate. Automated scenes provide smooth transitions from day to night, including sunrise lighting for mornings and tailored evening lighting. Heating schedules for underfloor heating and towel rails add an extra touch of luxury and comfort.

**Security:** The home features a comprehensive security solution, including door and window sensors, motion detectors, a monitored alarm, and remote access, ensuring peace of mind for the family.

**HVAC Control:** A Cool Master solution is integrated with the Daikin HVAC system, allowing precise control of 15 heating and cooling zones. Using RTI: Dynalite relays enable control of the fireplace and fire pits from any interface, adding both convenience and ambiance.

### AUTOMATION AND USER SETTABLE SCENES

With a focus on simplicity, Bridger Automation designed user-settable automation scenes to streamline daily routines. Key scenes include:

**Morning and Evening Transitions:** The RTI system creates automated lighting scenes activate before sunset and after sunrise, enhancing comfort and aesthetics throughout the home.

**Air Circulation and Pool Control:** Scheduled motorised louvers promote efficient air circulation, while the pool's filtration and lighting controls maintain optimal conditions with minimal user intervention.

### POWER AND THERMAL MANAGEMENT

Bridger Automation managed the thermal output for AV racks through BTU calculations and strategic ventilation, utilising AC Infinity cooling systems for optimal temperature control. The WattBox IP power conditioner offers surge protection and remote power management, ensuring the safety of the equipment and maintaining the overall integrity of the system.



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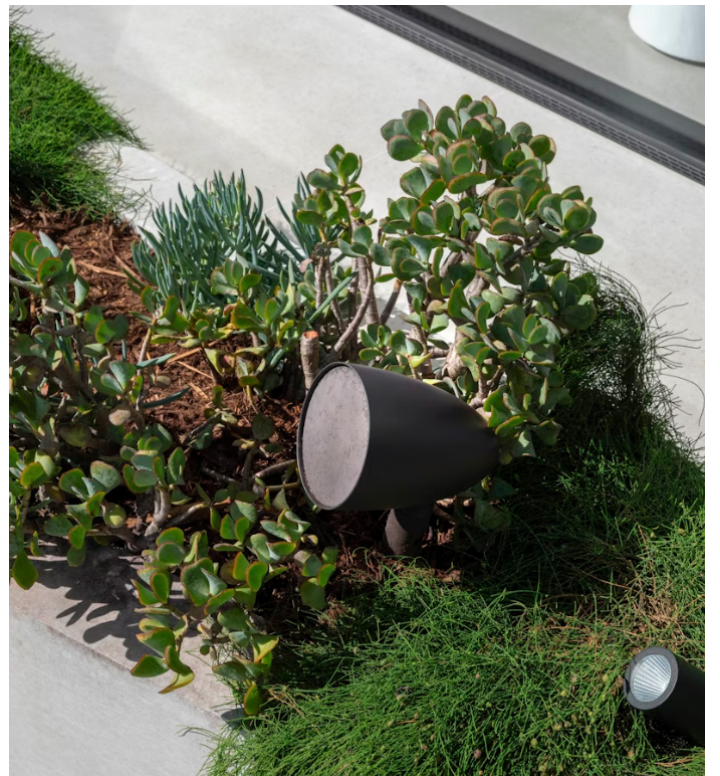
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**BRIDGER AUTOMATION'S AWARD WINNING  
SMART HOME INTEGRATION AT PALA, MERMAID BEACH****DESIGN AND INSTALLATION  
COMPROMISES**

Design and installation compromises were necessary due to material constraints, which required adaptations for cabling, speaker installation, and access in solid surfaces. The architect's aesthetic vision, which emphasised a clean, contemporary finish, influenced every design decision. A collaborative, client-centered approach ensured that the final product met both aesthetic and functional expectations.

**PRODUCT COLLABORATION**

Bridger Automation recognises the contribution of Amber Technology as a key supporting partner for this project, offering expertise and advanced product solutions that elevated the overall design and functionality. Sonance speakers, including the VP Series and Invisible Series, were chosen for their exceptional audio quality and ability to seamlessly integrate with the home's aesthetic.

The iPort iPad docking station provided a reliable and elegant solution for device management and control. AC Infinity cooling systems were specifically selected for their precision in thermal management, ensuring optimal performance of the AV racks. Additionally, the RTI processor delivered a robust and customisable automation platform, enabling smooth operation across all integrated systems. These carefully selected products, paired with in-depth knowledge from Amber Technology, ensured the project met the highest standards of performance and design.

**RESULTS AND CLIENT FEEDBACK**

The clients expressed their appreciation for the seamless integration and ease of use, which fulfilled their desire for a sophisticated yet family-friendly smart home. This project exemplifies Bridger Automation's commitment to excellence, combining cutting-edge automation with luxury living in an award-winning design that achieves both aesthetic and technical excellence.

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Technology Meets Design  
Asia Pacific



CEDIA  
AWARDS  
2024

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Integrated Home Level III  
Asia Pacific

SONANCE



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