

A lot of Glamour at the KNX 2006 Award Ceremony

The future belongs to Intelligent Homes with KNX

A bit of “Oscar spirit” was in the air when on the 25th April for the 6th time the international KNX awards for the best projects were celebrated. Numerous notables from different countries gave the event additional glamour. The prizes were awarded by Ms. Iris Jeglitza-Moshage (Head of light + building), Mr. Karl-Heinz Bertram (EIA President) and Mr. Godehardt Schneider (KNX President). The awards were offered in five categories recognizing the various aspects of marketing and technique of the worldwide leading bus technology.

„Intelligent Living with KNX, based on standard EN 50090“ – that was the special focus of the KNX award ceremony 2006. Projects in residential buildings characterized by a variety of different solutions, high functionality, easy usability and last not least a good cost benefit ratio were especially asked for. Compared to the 2004 award, the quality and quantity of the nominated projects had increased significantly. This underlines that KNX – standardized in EN 50090 – is the leading system for home & building control in Europe as well as globally. In all five categories were promoted to honor the enormous variety of solutions and the worldwide distribution of the standard. Furthermore in two categories two first prizes were awarded. The seven KNX awards, so to say the „Oscars of building control“, were celebrated by a big and enthusiastic audience at the light + building fair in Frankfurt on 25th April.

The following seven prizes were awarded in the five categories:

1. KNX Energy Efficiency Award

Domo Energie, Le Mont s/ Lausanne, Switzerland, realized a KNX solution for a new one-family house. The building control system was mainly adopted to enhance energy efficiency, primarily in Heating, Lighting and Shading. Exact evaluations testify a decrease of 48% of heating energy and 40% of lighting energy consumption. Moreover, the extra investment will pay off within 5 years, of course at the same time associated with increased comfort and security based on KNX.

2. KNX National Award:

In this category two projects from German speaking countries were rewarded.

EIBROM GmbH, Dietikon, Switzerland, was awarded for the project „Wohnen am Obersee“ in the Zurich area. Based on KNX, additional functionality was offered to potential customers of 55 flats. Beside relatively inexpensive Basic intelligent installation, the future owners could also choose additional optional packages - with fixed prices for each. All

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packages like light scenarios, electrical blinds - optionally also controlled according sun position, KNX alarm system, visualization, multimedia center and much more are transparently documented in an easy understandable handbook. Thanks to the convincing offer more than 50% of the buyers finally decided for KNX.

Riwitec Rieck + Winter OEG, Innsbruck, Austria, won with a project of a one-family house. All technical systems, the lighting and shading, heating, air conditioning, climate system, alarm system and interfaces to other systems are successfully integrated in the KNX building control, enabling a common operation and monitoring, internal as well as external. Data are exchanged via interfaces, e.g. with solar system, access control and the multiroom audio system. This project is a powerful demonstration that high comfort, security, cost effectiveness and reliability can be ensured with KNX.

3. KNX International Award

EL. EATEMAD CO., Egyptian, won the KNX International Award for participants outside the German speaking countries. The awarded object was a KNX project in a very manorial residence. All systems – the comprehensive lighting system, the shading and the climate system with fan coils are managed and controlled via KNX. Exclusive user interfaces are integrated as well as comfortable visualization solutions, using the huge network. During execution of the project the *EL. EATEMAD CO.* could count on their own experiences from many other and partly very big KNX projects in Egyptian, e.g. hotels, commercial buildings, sports halls and cinemas.

4. KNX Publicity Award

For the first time projects were recognized with the KNX Publicity Award, contributing to the huge publicity of KNX technology and promoting the philosophy of modern Electrical Installation Technology. In this category two projects were awarded as winner:

CA Brachtendorf GmbH & Co KG, Düsseldorf, Germany, won with the comprehensive concept of SMARTCUBE-booth. With different modules like front door, living room, bedroom or bathroom it impressively shows the functional variety of KNX. SMARTCUBE was presented at IFA 2005 for the first time and received strong attention. It ensures cost saving and can easily be re-used at another location. SMARTCUBE presents „Intelligent Living“ based on KNX in very lively and practice oriented way - no matter if it's intelligent lighting, shading, alarm system or different user interfaces.

RhV Elektrotechnik AG, Altstätten, Switzerland, built the new one-family home of the employee Peter Siebert that is used as showcase „TechHome“ at the same time. The project demonstrates high comfort and a systematic and smart implementation of KNX, Ethernet and Internet. All functionalities can be managed via a common user interface available on pocket PC, PC desktop or TV. Sensors guarantee a high degree of automation and self control in all rooms. Even modern technologies like RFID underline the high tech character of the reference project. The *RhV Elektrotechnik AG*, a medium sized company with 100 employees, is actively promoting „TechHome“. They look forward to several orders for other “Intelligent Living” projects.

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5. KNX Special Award

Andromeda Telematics Limited, Surrey, England, was rewarded with a KNX Special price for its KNX installation in the new terminal 5 of the London Heathrow airport. The huge amount and the intelligent system architecture of building control characterize this top class project. About 7'000 KNX devices with 910 lines are installed, distributed in 236 IP-Worlds for lighting, technical monitoring and energy management. The overall management system is integrated as well as interfaces to other applications. The whole lighting system and also the emergency lighting are linked via DALI-KNX-Gateways. The number of 64'000 lights illustrates the huge terminal size, in which more than 30 million passengers are checked in annually! Due to the usage of Ethernet for main lines and backbone it is possible to communicate with KNX over longer distances.

The seven KNX awards inspire by the creativity of the solutions and benefits for the inhabitants of modern residences and for the operators of huge commercial buildings. Outstanding system integrators enable top solutions, both in residential and commercial buildings based on KNX technology and market variety of KNX products – for a modern and future oriented building control!

Picture of award winners: Please, order separately

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