

HABITECH PRO

CASE STUDY

'SPACE 100', CHELTENHAM

State-of-the-art audio distribution and VC tech empower Kohler Mira's new marketing and presentation centre.



Opened by Princess Anne in January 2022 at Kohler Mira's Cheltenham HQ, the new 'Space 100' marketing suite celebrates a century of trading for the company, which began in 1920's London as Walker, Crossweller and Co. Ltd, and includes among its innovations the world's first thermostatic shower. Approximately 30m x 20m in size, 'Space 100' is designed for a dual role as a heritage centre and a flexible presentation space, allowing guests to discover the company's history and technologies as a backdrop to the unveiling of new product and marketing plans.

Kohler Mira brought in the team at local architect Robert Limbrick to provide the interior design alongside commercial fit-out company PJE (part of the BBi group), which installed the floor, décor, furnishings and display surfaces specified. In turn PJE asked Candor Electrical Ltd of Stroud to pitch for the AV elements that would help to define the space.

Candor Electrical

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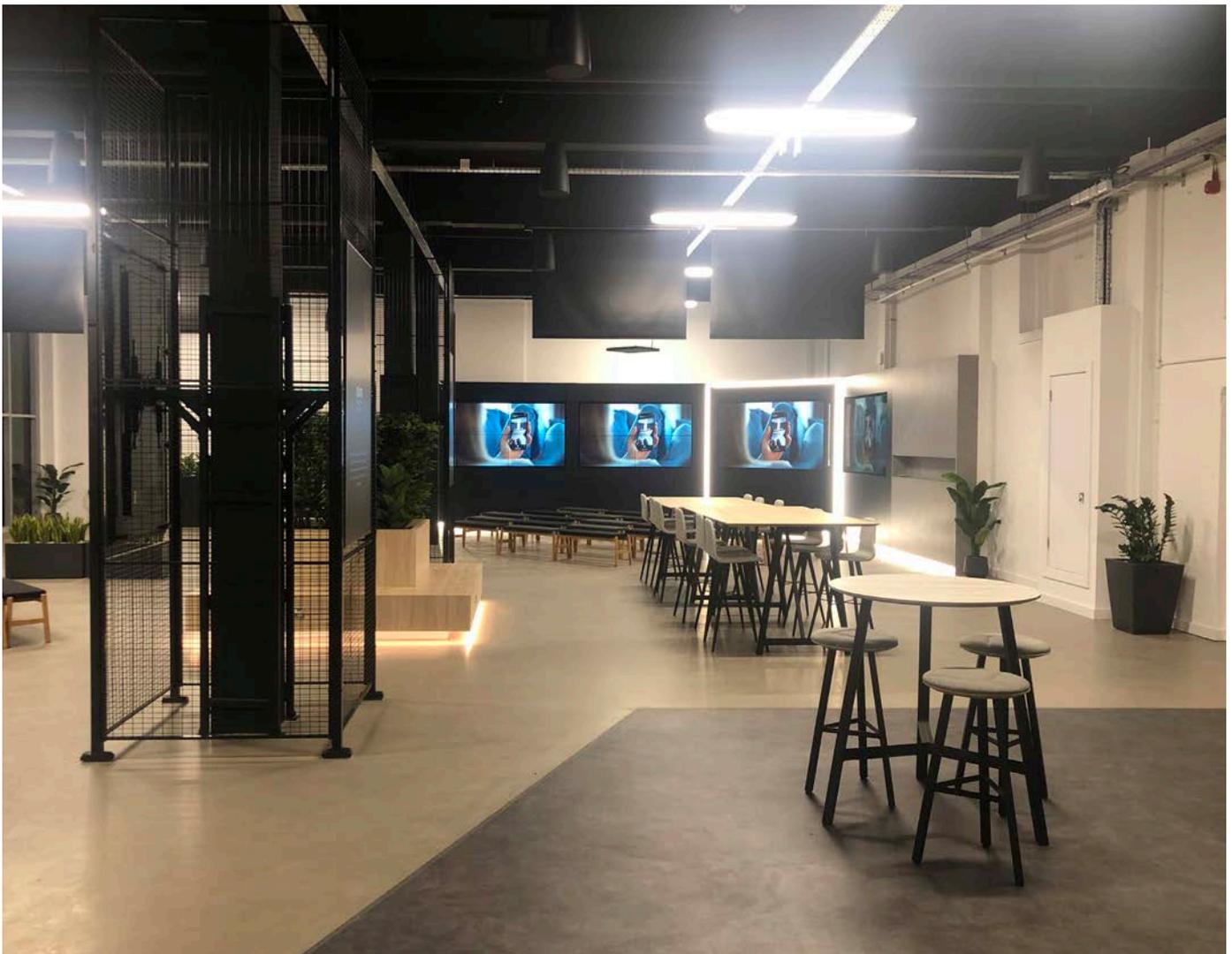
Taking shape

Candor Electrical's Michael Neale takes up the story. "Our 10-year relationship with PJE started with a whole house AV/media room project for the MD, so we were on the shortlist to pitch for the Kohler Mira job. "The design brief was pretty vague but mentioned video walls and the possibility of futureproofing AV capabilities. "However, they had no knowledge of the latest presentation technologies and hadn't thought of video conferencing. "This gave Candor a creative clean sheet to design the ideal system, which would include some of the newest conferencing and presentation innovations. "We'd installed video walls at Cheltenham College, making this aspect of the project straightforward, but we needed a steer on the best audio solutions for what would become our biggest commercial project to date."

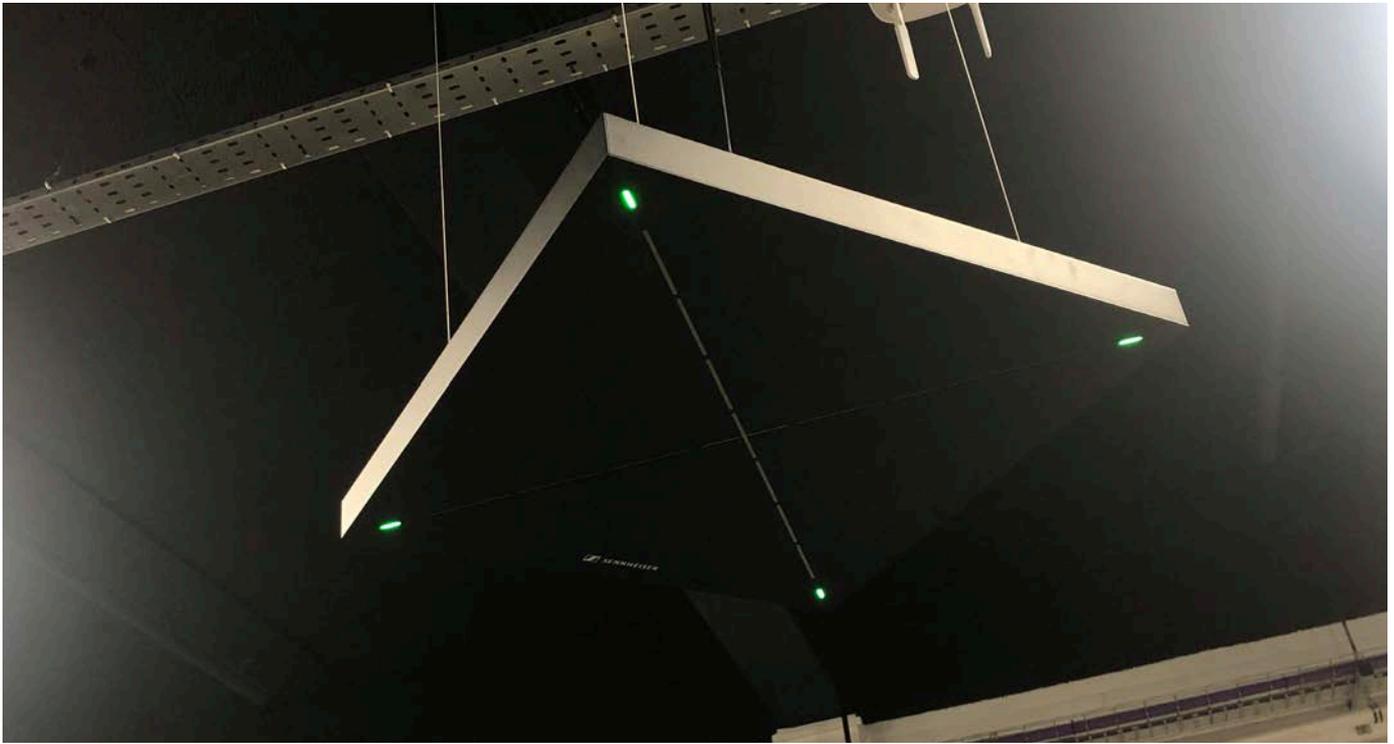
"We'd worked with Habitech before on several home cinema projects and knew they'd support us. "So, I called John Perry, Habitech's technical sales manager on the commercial side, and

he designed a system for background sound and state-of-the-art VC, which was appropriate for the space. "After we were lucky enough to secure the business, John invited me down to Basingstoke to get a hands-on demonstration of the system, a grounding on the tech involved and some in-depth product training. "Then he kept in touch during the install just in case we needed further support."

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'Space 100' includes a discreet background audio system using Sonance pendant speakers and a new presentation area featuring state-of-the-art conference capabilities



A Sennheiser 'Team Connect' Array mic is suspended over the presentation area

The System

"For the background sound, John suggested Sonance Professional Series P63 pendant loudspeakers - 23 in total - powered by a Yamaha XMV8140 8-channel amplifier and managed in six audio zones by Yamaha MTX3 processing and controlled by two DCP-4V4S wall panels."

"The Sonance pendants are beautifully thought out, using a discreet minimalistic 2-way design, housing a coaxial driver/pivoting chambered tweeter. "Each has an easy-access front-mounted 70V/100V/8ohm tap selector and full-fidelity transformer to ensure reliability at high volumes. "An integrated top cover hides the mounting hardware and wiring connector, with Gripple® hangers for a fast and secure installation using the suspension and safety cable supplied with each speaker."

"For the VC, John specified a Sennheiser 'Team Connect' Ceiling Array mic, which is suspended over the meeting area. "This is a clever piece of conferencing tech which uses dynamic beam forming to automatically guide an array of 28 little mics toward the speaker in the room, whether the speaker is sitting, standing or moving. This allows high quality dialogue transmission and complete freedom for the speaker in a conference scenario. "The 'Team Connect' system is supported by a Vaddio RoboSHOT 12E 1080p conferencing camera, Vaddio 2x1 AV Bridge and Yamaha VXL column loudspeakers - the entire VC system hooking

up seamlessly via Dante. "For the presentation system, Habitech supplied tiny Dante-enabled Sennheiser 'Speechline' Wireless lapel mics and transmission components."

"The Sennheiser 'Team Connect' Array mic is a clever piece of conferencing tech which uses dynamic beam forming to automatically guide an array of 28 little mics toward the speaker in the room, whether the speaker is sitting, standing or moving."



Yamaha DCP-4V4S control panels make zonal control of speaker level easy

The Challenges?

“Considering the power of the tech, this was a surprisingly straightforward project. “We’d scheduled 6-8 weeks but completed the major elements and functionality in three. “There was a small challenge configuring the I/O for the Yamaha system, but John dialled in remotely and guided me through the set-up; I couldn’t be happier with the design, the products and the support from Habitech.”

The Results

“Kohler Mira and PJE are really pleased with the outcome. “The folks at Kohler Mira were concerned about how easy the audio distribution would be to use, but the Yamaha wall plates give you two buttons, that’s it, easy-peasy. “And the VC system is designed to be intuitive; everything

integrates via Dante and works beautifully.”
“For the future, we’re negotiating a support contract with Kohler Mira, and what’s more, they’ve invited us to transform a second-floor boardroom at Cheltenham with VC and AV throughout, so I’m guessing they like what the team has achieved – and I’ll be sure to give Habitech another call.”

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Equipment

Multi-zone Audio system:

Sonance Professional Series P63 pendant loudspeaker



Yamaha XMV8140 8-channel amplifier



Yamaha MTX3 matrix processor

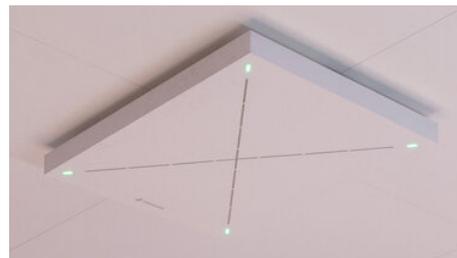


Yamaha DCP-4V4S in-wall control panels



Presentation and Video Conferencing system:

Sennheiser 'Team Connect' Ceiling Array conference mic



Sennheiser 'Speechline' Wireless lapel mics



Vaddio RoboSHOT 12E conferencing camera



Vaddio 2x1 AV Bridge



Yamaha VXL column loudspeakers

