



Tungsten utilized a nice balance between clean modern lines and traditional materials on this residential home. The exterior finishes included sand faced brick, EIFS, Hardie siding, Hardie board and batten, as well as a mix of shingle roofing with metal accents and a custom front entry door.



The interior of the home seen above features a kitchen island with a gas cook top, entertainment sink and cable lighting system. There is a pocket sliding rear door for concealment, as well as custom built in shelving featuring an 'X' brace design, fireplace and cedar mantle.

up with a great design. His style is very artistic as well. He's not cookie-cutter – a lot of builders do well with that – but David's designs are different, and he will collaborate to put something unique together." David and his team also took the stress out of the build. April said, "He was easy to reach, you could discuss anything, and he made little details work. David never really said no to an idea."

All told, the combination of having a licensed architect, licensed civil engineer, and experienced project managers and supervisors is unbeatable for client convenience and overall quality control. ■

SECURITY & HOME AUTOMATION

Elevators, Accessibility Equipment, Security Systems & Home Automation Installation Has Become A Standard For Many Contractors, Property Management Companies & Homeowners In Today's Market

by Cynthia Mendenhall

Elevators & Accessibility Equipment were once considered luxury items in a home or business. In today's market these products are standard options for many home or business owners. As the process of adding accessibility equipment has been more refined over the years, the need for this service has grown. Likewise, Security & Home Automation are now becoming standard in many builder home packages. *Building Industry Synergy* interviewed two highly respected HGHBA members that were able to share their perspective and knowledge on these very important industries.

Home and business automation these days includes more and more ways to mechanically get into or around your home. The individuals at **Port City Elevator** in Castle Hayne, NC are the best resource to discuss accessibility needs. The company not only sells but also services residential elevators, platform lifts, dumbwaiters, stair lifts and other accessibility equipment for builders and homeowners. They also help small businesses, schools, churches, and private clubs acquire wheelchair lifts and LULA



The Port City Elevator corporate office @ 5704 Nixon Ln. in Castle Hayne, NC services the Horry & Georgetown area.

(limited use limited application) commercial elevators. There are many options when it comes to making life easier and safer.

Seth Newman noted some major trends Port City Elevator has noticed. The biggest change in the past few years is the huge increase in the number of house plans that either include an elevator or make allowances for a future elevator. "We're seeing more and more plans

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Port City Elevator Vice President, Seth Newman

include a future elevator in the new construction phase, if an elevator is not part of the original build,” Seth said. Future elevators can be completed to varying degrees: shafts and pits can be planned in advance, the home’s walls may include extra support, and the door’s location can be decided, all in preparation of an elevator being installed someday. Including a future elevator in new home construction not only saves thousands of dollars in the long run, but greatly impacts the resale value of a home, especially in multi-level residences like raised beach houses.

Port City Elevator has multiple

options when it comes to adding an elevator to existing structures as well. “People who have had a house at the beach for a while get tired of lugging groceries and luggage up all the time,” Seth stated. They’ve seen a significant increase in requests for accessibility



Port City Elevator’s showroom @ the corporate office.

equipment being added to older homes. Often steps can become a challenge and a danger as retirees get older. An elevator or lift can make every part of a home safer and more accessible.

Elevators and lifts do vary considerably, and Port City Elevator likes

to match their customers to the best design possible. Seth explained, “We customize each elevator, maximizing the size of the elevator to the space provided. We never use a cookie cutter approach.” Port City Elevator is proud of their hands-on approach with every project, always planning and designing systems that are not only successful now, but will work well for their customer’s future needs too. Their goals include only the highest

quality products and a team that is professional, highly trained, and caring. One other plus to working with Port City Elevator is they always purchase and install complete unit packages. “Every elevator package we sell has been 3rd party inspected as a unit with all parts working together,” Seth added. That means technical support from the manufacturer is included with every system which keeps the homeowner from



The inside of the Port City Elevator warehouse @ the corporate office.



Port City Elevator’s Regional Manager, Stan Godshall, works with local building contractors, homeowners & business owners in the Horry & Georgetown area. Stan is very involved with the Horry Georgetown HBA & is highly respected throughout this industry. Stan can be reached directly at (843) 360-1200.

having to track down vendors here and there for a pieced together system.

The entire company’s foundation is built on a “Best in Class” philosophy which includes integrity, experience, and compassion. And that is why Port City Elevator is a leader in their industry and in our community. In the Horry/

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(From Left To Right) Seth Newman (VP), Phil Livesay (Sales Rep), Robert Page (President) & Stan Godshall (Regional Manager) inside the Port City Elevator conference room @ the corporate office.

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Georgetown area, Regional Manager Stan Godshall is available to discuss your desires for better accessibility and will help you select the best products for your needs and your budget.

Home automation not only makes your home more secure and convenient but is a big step toward increasing your home's overall value. Michele Weissman, owner and operator of **Security Vision of Myrtle Beach**, has seen so much change and progress in home automation since she began her company in 2004.

The biggest innovation is the immense ability of SmartHome technologies and the way they allow homeowners to operate lights, cameras, TVs, thermostats, garage doors, speakers, shades, keyless entries, and more. Home automation gives owners complete control of their home from a cell phone.

Technology continues to improve. "The companies we've partnered with are always changing and updating," Michele said. "SmartHome options which are app-based, remotely operated, voice-controlled, and tie in with Alexa



technology. That's the biggest trends we've seen in the past couple of years. Almost everything in the home can be automated." Other popular requests are Fast Clean systems, home theater systems, and whole house Sound. Michele is quick to add, "Cameras are hot!" Security Vision will design the best Camera System that will work for each customer and fit their needs.



Michele Weissman and her entire Security Vision team of professionals pride themselves on the solid relationships that they have established with the local building contractors and property management companies.

Security Vision has noticed growth in new home construction. "Building contractors see how we can help with the design and planning process, then we wire up a new home once construction begins," Michele noted. Her team also has a great deal of experience with retros and can update already existing homes with all the newest technologies. Security Vision can also supply and install security,



Security Vision owner, Michele Weissman, in the Myrtle Beach showroom located @ 1784 Hwy. 501.

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allows everything in a home to be connected on a single app. This allows a customer to create their own scenes where all of their devices work together," Michele said.

Security Vision's personal approach makes them unique in a busy market. Michele understands,

access gate control with telephone entry for gated communities, clubhouses, homes, and businesses.

One of the best things Security Vision does is use a platform approach which incorporates all of your systems into one platform. Often people try to DIY, trying to save money, but end up having different apps controlling different devices and those devices don't talk to each other. "We provide a platform that

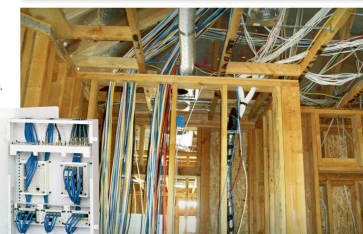


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"Every customer and every home has different needs and budgets. We have such a wide range of products, so it is important for us to have time to explore a customer's price point and design an overall system that works best for them." One example of this personalized, customer-based approach is the ability of Security Vision to wire your living room with a high quality TV and great speakers, something they do often. Or they can also create an elaborate home theater room complete projector, screen, theater seating, speakers and Atmos sound if that is what the customer likes. Some chose to keep it simple with affordable, great-sounding soundbars. "When designed by us, we make sure they can be on the same music app control as the rest of the house. We want to guide each customer into what is the best fit and design for them," Michele added.

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At the heart of all they do is a business culture of truly caring for and taking care of their customers. "Service goes a long way, and we always doing what needs done. We have follow-through," Michele explained. ■

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