

Fully Integrated with Multimedia

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Fully integrated in a life of variety – a wonderful perspective for disabled people and Nümbrecht has brought this to fruition. A new apartment block in the spa town that has been in existence for 1000 years offers 20 disabled persons a bright future in the midst of society and slap bang in the middle of a lively nature park in Oberbergisches Land, Western Germany.

A small, but crucial detail has crowned their integration – the multimedia home network. The solution that R&M has come up with provides easy access to all media services from a single wall socket. Taking advantage of Plug & Play, the residents can now participate in the digital age. Telephone, Internet, data network and entertainment media are all fully accessible via structured, application-neutral wiring.

The decision for structured wiring

“The decision to come out in favor of structured building wiring on the basis of EN 50173-4 was given considerable thought,” explains managing director and overall head of the HBW Haus für Behinderte



The condominiums seen from the west

Wiehl GmbH (Residential Home for the Disabled), Jürgen Grafflage. HBW runs the residential care project in Nümbrecht and developed the infrastructure together with architect Werner Schumacher and electrical planning engineer Olaf Nierstenhöfer to take full account of the needs of the disabled. Jürgen Grafflage: “The overriding priority of our work with disabled members of society is to fulfill the wishes of each and every resident so that they can lead a life of independence according to their needs.”

The state-of-the-art solution not only gave a new meaning to the word convenience whilst providing an aesthetic dimension, it also brought cost-saving benefits. The staff are able to manage all the residents’ network needs via a central communication distributor. Should a resident change

rooms, or if a room is to be used for other purposes, it is only necessary to rewire a couple of patch cables in the distributor and the required telephone line or media connections are immediately available at the allocated multimedia socket. Network management is done in a flash and the members of staff can quickly return to their care duties. The need for technicians on site is almost a thing of the past as day to day changes to the individual configurations can be undertaken by the staff themselves.

R&M multimedia solution combined with state-of-the-art design

The infrastructure is based on the R&M home wiring system combined with a design solution taken from Merten’s circuit program. The multimedia sockets provided by R&M with their standard installation depth of 23 mm incorporate five heavily shielded interfaces: two RJ45 jacks for telephone, data network and similar applications with twisted-pair copper wires and three coaxial sockets for AV and satellite or cable television. “It looks good and we are able to satisfy all present day and future media and communication needs via a single socket,” explains planner Olaf Nierstenhöfer. In his view, it amounts to a space-saving solution that is ultra convenient for the residents because it is transparent and easy to grasp. Fitter Stefan Kapp, owner of Elektro Thiedecke, goes further: “A structured home wiring system makes everything easier for us, too, as it is constructed logically and can be implemented efficiently. The plug-in technology from R&M makes wiring up that much faster.”

The communication distributor in the equipment room of the residential home is also a compact and rational solution. The star connected cabling to all condominiums and management rooms begins



Common room with kitchen area



090.2013



010.2954

Digital lifestyle and the multimedia experience - that means designing the living area at home so that it is attractive and modern. R&M's multimedia socket in various designs, configurations and circuit programs is just the answer.



010.2421



090.2120

The tenant is also the network administrator. All elements of the home wiring system meet up in R&M's communication distributor. Well-informed amateurs can set up or reconfigure their multimedia network in just a few easy steps.

in the 19" cabinet which also houses the telephone, data and antenna equipment. "Not unlike a small computer center," suggests architect Werner Schumacher. "This building is more than just purpose-built," states Klaus Pütz as he admires the infrastructure. The care home enables the residents to focus on life. As chairman of the local Association for Encouraging and Looking After Disabled Children (Verein zur Förderung und Betreuung behinderter Kinder Oberbergischer Kreis e.V.) – builder

and financier of the HBW Wohnheimgesellschaft (Care Home) – he is in no doubt that the issues surrounding the project have been fully addressed.

Conclusion: An organization for the disabled studied the requirements of the multimedia age and came up with an application-neutral, highly integrated and efficient wiring infrastructure. The easy-to-operate, compact system provides the incapacitated residents with added con-

venience and independence whilst going about their everyday life and simplifies the networking and management of the connections. The benefits of the application in terms of the convenience and efficiency of the installation technology are more than offset by the slightly higher cost of installation.

The disabled determine their own life style

Where will our disabled children live once we are old? This question, posed more than 30 years ago, led to the foundation of the Association for Encouraging and Looking After Disabled Children (Verein zur Förderung und Betreuung behinderter Kinder Oberbergischer Kreis e.V.). Since then it has made a name for itself in the area as a responsible, independent and forward-looking supporter of disabled facilities. The HBW Haus für Behinderte Wiehl GmbH founded by the association in 1975 runs a number of residences for the disabled in the region, some of which are of a pilot nature. It enables more than 140 invalids to enjoy a largely independent, self-determined life in the midst of society. The latest project is a residence for 20 persons opened at the beginning of 2007 in the therapeutic premium-class spa of Nümbrecht. Occupying an area of 860 m², it is equipped with the very latest infrastructure and blends effortlessly with the character of the village whose center is more than 1000 years old.

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