

A TOUCH OF CLASS

Seamless Control at Florida's State-of-The-Art Jade Beach Development



Jade Beach in Sunny Isles, Florida, is a 51-story, 248-condo tower on the ocean with its own private beach and a list of high-end features that define it as a state-of-the-art development. Designed by a team of celebrated architects led by Carlos Ott, Jade Beach offers as one of its prime attractions a smart home technology installation that provides intelligent and highly integrated control of the home environment, together with an advanced concierge system in one easy-to-use, always-ready touch panel controller.

The key to making the system attractive for Jade Beach's residents was to endow it with the simplicity of an appliance which is always available and ready to use, simple to operate, and very responsive. Updates to the system also had to take place simultaneously and automatically in each of the property's units. And finally, it had to reflect the high-style values of the condo as a whole.

The system was installed by Ikatu, a provider of premium audio visual, home automation, lighting, shading, and technology integration solutions. Ikatu worked with the architects starting at the blueprint stage to create a user experience completely customized to each condo, and one that offered total reliability.

Ikatu mounted a sleek touchscreen panel into the wall of each unit's kitchen/dining area, which offers continuously illuminated instant access to a high-level menu of options for control and interaction with the condo's automation systems, such as lighting, shades, and climate control, and services provided for the building's community, including the concierge, valet parking, amenities, and maintenance services. The panel also includes a messaging system, access to the deliveries queue, and controls for the automation configuration and system settings. It has all been designed to provide users with an intuitive and seamless experience.

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As one of its prime attractions, each unit in the Jade Beach 248-condo tower includes highly integrated control of the home environment, together with an advanced concierge system in one touch panel.

To achieve the look and feel the project needed, Ikatu chose RTI's K4 touchscreen control unit. A stand-alone touch panel with infrared control, video monitoring, and Ethernet connectivity, in standard configuration the K4 offers a TFT LCD, full VGA resolution, a powerful 400-MHz 32-bit MCU, 32 MB of Flash memory, stereo speakers, and an infrared receiver. Ikatu found that the K4 was the only panel that could work as an appliance to their satisfaction, in that it will be always on, will reboot itself if there's a failure, and it doesn't clutter the interaction with a browser interface or any other non-essential element.

The K4's open architecture also allows residents to add a further level of control and integration of their entertainment systems and any other automation system with the assistance of an integrator. Custom control and additional RTI portable touch panels can be added to any specification, and incorporated into tailored global settings such as "Good night," "Welcome," or "Energy saver."

In the end, Ikatu provided a system that is the crown jewel of Jade Beach, providing residents with an unparalleled experience in state-of-the-art living.

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