THREE-CARD TRICK IS SMART IDEA

Three leading brands have teamed up to showcase an energy-efficient and user-friendly room management system for the region's aspiring 'smart' hotels

ABB, Bang & Olufsen and Miditec have united at this year's Hotel Show to showcase how their technologies integrate seamlessly to create the ultimate 'smart' hotel room for upcoming hospitality projects in the Middle East.

Visitors will be able to see first-hand how ABB's i-bus EIB/KNX technology can integrate with Miditec's access control solution and Bang & Olufsen's award-winning entertainment system with an attractive hotel room set-up at their stand in Hall 1.

"Imagine the delight of your guests when they check into their room or suite and discover that one remote control easily operates all electric functions, room access, lighting, heating, air-conditioning, alarms and the entire entertainment system in every room. Well, with our collective solutions you won't have to imagine," said the three companies in a joint statement.

ABB i-bus EIB/KNX technology controls all applications inside a modern hotel guest room and is one of the most widely used intelligent building control systems in the world. The technology is currently installed in top hotels across the Middle East, including the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi, La Cigale Hotel in Doha, and the Four Seasons Hotel in Alexandria.

"ABB i-bus EIB/KNX technology has been proven to increase energy efficiency and has saved hotels around the globe millions in energy bills," revealed Tarek Zakaria, intelligent building technology manager for ABB. "Therefore, if you want your hotel to achieve the coveted smart status in the Middle East, ABB's i-bus solution is a must for your hotel."

The ABB i-bus system acts as a hub and can connect with Bang & Olufsen's entertainment system and Miditec's MTZ access control solution. Miditec's system can work with ABB's i-bus control to set the entire system to 'Welcome' mode as soon as the guest arrives.

On the entertainment front, Bang & Olufsen's system consists of a uniquely designed television, audio system and loudspeakers, which collectively deliver perfect picture quality in any light or location and perfect audio even from the most compact cabinets and televisions.

■ 1 D125

It's a three card trick at the ABB stand with left to right: Anders Merup, Katrin Förster and Zishan ul Haque

AIMING TO PUT THE MIDEAST IN THE PICTURE

For five years, veteran international photographer Peter Lavery has been specialising in supplying limited edition artworks and artistic production to hotels and other institutions in the UK and mainland Europe.

Now Handheldimage, which he runs with his wife Kimberly, is using The Hotel Show as a launchpad to tackle the Middle East market.

"We work with architects and designers at an early stage and supply them mostly with bespoke work for the decoration of the hotel," Peter said at the show yesterday.

"We have done some 30 hotels in the UK and in Croatia and France and we are now looking to spread our wings. We are looking to The Hotel Show for exposure and for agents in the region."

With a vast archive of images shot over decades as a photographer, plus access to other libraries, Handheldimage offers a vast library in addition to commissioned material. And no space is too big to be covered by an image: the biggest so far was of the Liver Building in Liverpool, UK – a whopping 30 foot by eight foot six inches.

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You've got to hand to it the guys at handheld images

PAYING 'HOMMAGE' TO MEN

Hommage has taken the traditional European barber shop into the 21st century by providing luxury grooming for men in a private "executive men's club" environment with a combination of spa and salon treatments.

The Hommage Gentleman's Grooming Ateliers will be rolled out in select luxury hotels and private health clubs around the world this year and will offer bespoke treatments using innovative Hommage products.

After a brief introductory consultation, a customised selection of treatments is tailored to each individual customer. Designed for the man who cherishes his time, privacy and well being, they are all delivered in a barber chair and range from 20 minutes to one hour.

Hommage has developed a menu of men's treatments named the ShaveCare, FaceCare and BodyCare collections and when used will provide immediate results and address men's special skincare needs.

"They are conceived to help a man 'recharge' and improve his performance in life," says CEO Tom Wilscam.

■ 7 E282