"Current" Events







Home Automation: The Wave of the Future !!!

Imagine as you are walking through your home lights automatically sense your presence and turn on as you approach. As you you leave the area they sense your absence and turn themselves off. Like clockwork, other systems seem to come alive as if by magic. The cooling system begins it's daily routine of cooling the home just as you have programmed it to do so it's just right when you arrive home from a hard days work. The aquarium feeder automatically releases the days perfect ration of food that feeds the school of hungry creatures to satisfaction. In the kitchen, coffee has just finished brewing. On the floor you notice that the cats food dish has just rotated to reveal tonight's portion of kitty vittles.

With cup of coffee in hand, you stroll to the family room where familiar sounds from the stereo begin to fill the air with the vibrations of preprogrammed musical selections from your favorite music CD. Just as you kick off your shoes and settle into your easy chair, the curtains sense the end of day and automatically close keeping those nosy neighbors from watching you relax. Just then the door bell rings. But no need to get up yet. You switch on the television and via a video camera mounted at the front door, view the pizza delivery boy holding that pepperoni pizza you had programmed the fax machine to order for you. Flipping a switch, you communicate over the intercom that you'll be right there.

You then decide to call your mother who claims she hasn't heard from you in ages. You

pick up the phone and say "CALL", a voice then asks you "NAME TO CALL" and you respond "MOM". She is thrilled to hear from you and wishes to visit and see for herself this automated home of the future you've told her so much about.

The promise of the so called "HOME OF TOMORROW" has finally arrived. We no longer have to go to Disneyland or to a Worlds Fair to see what the future holds.

Home automation is everything the JETSON'S had and more, imagine what technology is going to bring us tomorrow. For the present the home of the future is here today.

A truly smart home can save you time and money and bring you great piece of mind. We at Lewis Electric utilize today's latest technology to make your life easier and your home safer and more comfortable.

Lewis Electric can make the ordinary extraordinary, the mundane and time consuming simple and automatic. We specialize in products for the home that are guaranteed to make any home "SMART". Functions for lighting and security control to audio video, HVAC and more can be automated and controlled from wireless remotes, from your personal computer or even by phone. THE HOME OF THE FUTURE is here today.

- * Equipment that allows you to monitor. video cameras on any TV in your home
- * Thermostats that can be controlled over the telephone.
- * Video cameras disguised to look like smoke detectors and clocks. Smart Lighting.

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A little more on Dade County's Lighting Ordinance #96-171. Last month we told you about the new requirements of the ordinance.

We recently completed an Electrical job for a Club Facility, as part of this job, site lighting was to be installed by us. The type of fixture used was a 400 watt, dual bulb, dual ballast hi-pressure sodium vapor fixture. This fixture met the #96-171 requirements for parking lot lighting when facility was being used at night and can be switched to half power for after hours still meeting code requirements but saving the end use customer approximately \$140.00 per month on their power bill, by not burning lights at full capacity at night.

This is just one of the innovative ways we at Lewis Electric design or redesign Electrical Installations. This can help to take some of the sting out of the new regulations.

On the Lighter Side:

The greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the first record was invented.

But Edsion's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the Electric Company Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electric circuit: The Electric Company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937.

How about that !!!

Today's Scientific Question is: Just what in the world is electricity? and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?



