

Case Study

Your home under control – with maximum convenience Secure and flexible home automation with ABB-free@home®



When renovating his new home, Dieter Kunert opted for the ABB-free@home® home automation solution. He was convinced by the simple and intuitive manner in which the system can be configured.

During the renovation work and the extension of their newly acquired single-family house, the Kunert family from the Swiss canton of Zurich decided on a comprehensive home automation solution. They wanted the house to meet the Minergie standard, a Swiss building standard aimed at ensuring the efficient use of resources in new buildings and following building renovation projects. The family also attached importance to being able to use and control the building's technology and all electronic devices in a convenient manner – for the Kunerts, this represented an important part of a modern home's fittings. They opted for ABB-free@home® – a system that meets all their needs.

Every socket outlet as part of a network

Burkhalter Elektrotechnik AG in Schaffhausen linked a total of 61 components in the Kunerts' home using ABB-free@home®, ranging from the lights, blinds, heating system, air-conditioning, and security components to the socket outlet of the coffee

“Once the ABB-free@home® components have been physically installed, the system can be configured freely – as the name suggests. In contrast to KNX, for example, you do not need any special software or expert knowledge.” Roger Acklin, Managing Director of Burkhalter Elektrotechnik AG in Schaffhausen

machine. The intelligent networking increases the efficiency of the technology yet further. The ABB-free@home® bus line, which is required for signal transmission, can be laid in almost any conceivable manner – be this in a line, tree, or star topology. It is routed in the same channel as the power cable.



Electrician Roger Acklin (left) and homeowner Dieter Kunert installed functions, such as the light and temperature regulation systems, via a central switch cabinet in the cellar.

One switch for all devices

The system can be set up individually in accordance with the user's requirements. For example, users can create and change light scenes themselves or modify the linking of sensors and actuators – and thus turn several lights on and off using a single switch instead of three. In addition to the energy efficiency the system provides, the Kunert family also values the convenience and security offered by ABB-free@home®: in particular the door communication function with ABB-Welcome and the ability to turn off all electrical devices at once with the everything-off switch.

The flexible automation of their single-family home using ABB-free@home® offers the Kunert family a range of benefits:

- convenient linking of lights, blinds, and room temperature
- time-saving and intuitive configuration using an app on a tablet or laptop
- functions and comfort features that can be changed at any time
- easy configuration without the need for additional software licenses or training courses
- an outstanding price/performance ratio for private households

“Ensuring convenience and security is key for me. Being able to control all of the desired functions individually or together in scenes – via a switch, panel, or app – is also fun. It means you have your home under control.”
Dieter Kunert, ABB-free@home® customer

Convenience and maximum flexibility

ABB-free@home® allows for intelligent living and offers a high degree of convenience, security, and energy efficiency. The ABB components and lines can be installed individually and the settings can be changed at any time. This provides the customer with maximum flexibility: All settings can be amended whenever you wish. Even by technical laymen – the functions are self-explanatory. What's more, handling is just as easy as using familiar apps on your smartphone or tablet.