



A better approach to quality C-Bus installations.

By Dr Brendan Rogers, Clever Home.

Automation systems like Clipsal's C-Bus are designed for flexible lighting control and energy management applications.

Most electrical contractors have heard about C-Bus systems, seen them operating, been involved in their installation or attended Clipsal C-Bus training courses. C-Bus product information is available from the Clipsal or [Clever Home automation](#) websites.

When a builder, architect, or home owner approaches you regarding a C-Bus installation, what should you do first?

C-Bus installations now range from a single [wireless C-Bus wall switch](#) that any electrician can install, to highly complex automation projects. Home automation systems now routinely include [C-Bus systems](#) integrated with [professional security](#) and [access control](#), [audio/video](#), [heating and cooling](#), [pool filtration and other systems](#).

Common general problems to overcome or avoid can include:

- The project may be incompletely specified, especially at the functional level.
- The owner may not fully understand the systems consequences and limitations.
- The relationship between the owner and yourself may be indirect, leading to delays and misunderstanding in communications about automation details.
- Some aspects of the project may be beyond your own capabilities.

To help ensure that your automation project ends well, it is a good idea to involve an experienced accredited [Clipsal Systems Integrator](#) as early as possible. What you learn for free from your Systems Integrator can also help you further develop your own lighting and automation system capabilities.

Electrical and Electronic Engineers are formally trained in the proper system design, documentation and programming skills required to support the more complex automation projects. A Systems Integrator that is also an Engineer is ideal and may accommodate a larger role for you in the automation project. You should contact the most professional and experienced accredited Systems Integrator available, even if this is another electrical contractor that has more experience in automation than yourself.

A list of Clipsal Systems Integrators in each state of Australia specialising in home automation can be found at the [Systems Integrators page](#) of the [Home Automation Australia Index](#) website.

Published in the CIRCUIT Magazine, for Australian electrical contractors.
September 2006, "Lighting and Energy Management" feature, page 13.

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