

Club tunes into new state-of-art system

By Nicola Lambert

A STATE-of-the art leisure club has had a new sound and audio system installed as part of a £700,000 refurbishment.

The Village hotel and leisure club on the outskirts of Leeds brought in specialists from company Leisure Sound Solutions to do the work.

At the helm is Alan Cuthbert, former business manager for Atmospheric who previously worked with play equipment makers Playdale and as a leisure assistant for Cotswold District Council.

Alan explained he won the contract to do the sound and audio system in the cardio

suite and gym after he sorted a technical problem for the company.

DeVere had been quoted £20,000 to repair faulty push-side speakers which had not worked for seven years – but Leisure Sound Solutions did the job for less than £4,000.

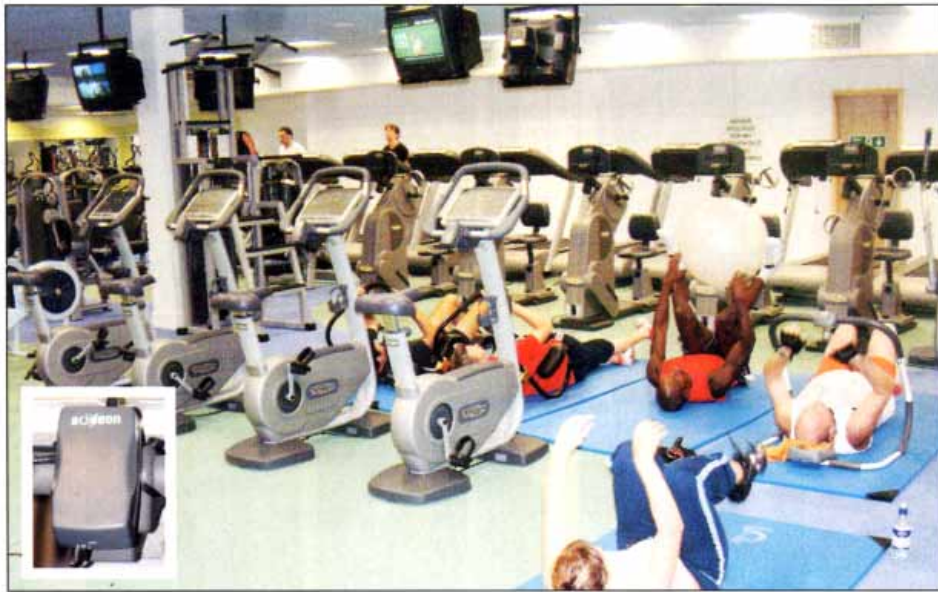
The company has connected the Technogym Excite (with entertainment) cardiovascular equipment to the hotel network, which means customers can watch or listen to the same nine TV channels or four radio stations as guests. The workout area is converted from a former squash court.

In the main gym, the Technogym Excite equipment

does not have the built in TVs and so a wireless Audeon entertainment system has been installed instead. It means members can also view the ten ceiling-mounted TVs.

Matt Crowther, leisure manager of The Village, said: "If you had said, even five years ago, that you could watch your own private TV while working out, it would have been hard to believe. The old cardio entertainment system has been the best available for about eleven years, but the wireless system is much easier to maintain.

"It is a lot tidier and pleasant to the eye. The sound system is very good, and the system is British made."



The Village hotel and leisure club and, inset, the wireless Audeon system

Matt revealed the DeVere group is considering working with Leisure Sound Solutions to introduce sound systems, from background music to music for aerobics, at some of their other sites. The contracts would also include zoning systems for treatment rooms.

Matt added: "We wanted somebody to do the whole job, from the speakers to the wiring, rather than have three or four different contractors. Our clients range in age from 18 to 80, and it's very difficult to please them all, but with these system it allows our members to choose their entertainment."

Leisure Sound Solutions has

also extended the induction loop at the gym so people with hearing aids can listen to music too – in accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act.

Alan added: "The new disability legislation is not just about having access to the building – it is much wider than that."

Leisure Sound Solutions have also installed equipment in The Gym in Winsford, Cheshire; The Falcon health club in Cumbria; Alpha health club for the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall, and, the biggest coup of all, they were chosen in preference to an American sound and audio system to install Audeon for a US Air Force base in Oxfordshire.