

HAI, Lutron Win Green Product of the Year Awards

CEA TechHome Division honors thermostat, CFL/LED dimmer.

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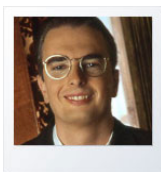
March 23, 2011 | by [Steven Castle](#)

We can write about all the fancy energy management systems you can want, but two of the most effective devices to save energy are programmable thermostats and lighting dimmers. And the best from these categories are from HAI (Home Automation Inc.) and Lutron.

The CEA TechHome Division recently honored both with its Mark of Excellence Awards. The [HAI OmniStat2](#) Thermostat with ZigBee connectivity was awarded the platinum award and the Diva C-L dimmer from lighting company [Lutron](#) won the gold award in the Green Product of the Year category. The winners were announced at a reception at last week's Electronic House Expo (EHX): The CE Pro Event in Orlando, Florida.

HAI's Omnistat2 thermostats learn the heating/cooling patterns of your home to control the equipment for maximum efficiency and comfort. HAI recently added ZigBee mesh network connectivity to the OmniStat thermostat, enabling it to connect to ZigBee-enabled smart meters and other ZigBee devices in retrofit installations.

Lutron's new C-L dimmer family works not only with today's most popular light bulbs, like incandescent and halogen, but also with dimmable CFLs and LEDs, which are expected to become widely adopted. The C-L dimmers use Lutron's HED Technology, which features advanced dimming circuitry designed for compatibility with most high efficacy light bulbs to alleviate the aforementioned problems of dimming CFLs and LEDs. And with HED Technology, the dimmers can also dim a mixed load of light sources (i.e. LED and halogen or CFL and LED bulbs) on the same circuit.



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Steven Castle is Electronic House's managing editor. he has been writing about consumer [electronics](#), homes and energy efficiency topics for two decades. He is also the co-founder of [GreenTech Advocates](#).