

# Partnership Profile

## Bernard Ndolo, Chief System Designer Jbit - Smart Home Solutions



Following studies in London that include a BSc in Computer Science and an MBA in International Business, coupled with work experience at JP Morgan as a systems analyst and programmer, Bernard Ndolo relocated to Luxembourg in 2006. His initial employment, developing an IT infrastructure for a Luxembourg charity, led him to meet an interesting client who was looking for a smart home system, something not yet available in Luxembourg at the time. The client wondered whether this was something Bernard might be able to do, Bernard said, "Why not?" and Jbit was born. Bernard's combined background in science and business has prepared him well for his current role as Jbit's Chief System Designer, heading a seven-member team that offers tailor-made smart home solutions. Bernard lives in Luxembourg with his wife Jana and their two young children.

**ISL: What does Jbit do? What are 'smart home solutions'?**

**BN:** We design and install home technology that helps you manage, integrate and control the systems that keep you comfortable, entertained and secure in your home. This includes things like music in every room, seamlessly integrated TV, films and digital photos. You are in control wherever you are and can easily control the lighting, blinds, heating, audio, video and more using stylishly designed switches, or even your smart phone or iPad. Everything is designed to suit your unique specifications; we work with architects and interior designers to integrate these systems into new building projects, renovations or extensions. The technology is only seen when the user wants to see it; blending seamlessly with the design of the house with systems that are created so that they can grow with the user's needs.

**ISL: You are currently working on a project which will be the 'smartest' home in Luxembourg, possibly in Europe. What do you need to undertake such a project?**

**BN:** We feel both honoured and privileged that this family has given us the opportunity to work on their dream home. We think this project will revolutionize the perception people have about Smart Home technology. One of the most amazing things about working for Jbit is our attitude about our projects. We view each project as an opportunity. Every single project that we undertake is uniquely designed to push the boundaries of functionality, design and simplicity. In order to accomplish this we have an amazing team of software, electrical and audio-visual engineers and we engage in detailed planning for every project. Our goal is to design a flexible system that will be easy to upgrade to new technologies that will become available 10

to 15 years from now. We are thrilled that his home will be entered into the Smartest Home in Europe Competition taking place in 2012.

**ISL: Jbit has installed a customized conference system in the Hillside multi-purpose room. What was particular about this project?**

**BN:** In the Hillside, the challenge was the space itself, a large, multi-functional room with a fairly low ceiling. We needed to create an adaptable, functional system that will adapt as needs grow and change. Once students have iPads and laptops as standard equipment, the interaction will become two-way. From there it is only a step to take this model into the classroom. It is all very exciting.

**ISL: How do you view the partnership between Jbit and our school?**

**BN:** 60% of our clients' children study at this school, so from a commercial point of view it is important to increase the visibility of our services to parents who are planning to build, renovate or extend their homes. Furthermore, we think ISL offers a fantastic education that particularly encourages students in the sciences. Everything we do at Jbit involves science and maths so it is only natural that we associate ourselves with a school that offers the best in science curricula, teachers and facilities. Finally, we want to show students that there are exciting career opportunities in the sciences, outside of banking. We face huge challenges in recruiting science majors to develop software: in Luxembourg everybody wants to work for the banks. To that end we are in the process of organising an event to invite some top ISL science students on site to experience the technologies of a smart home system so that they can see some exciting practical applications of what they are learning in the classroom.

### Jbit About Jbit - Smart Home Solutions

Jbit is a technology and design company established in Luxembourg in 2006. Simplicity, design and reliability are the three key ingredients that are contained in every solution that Jbit develops. For more information visit Jbit's website: <http://www.Jbit.lu> or telephone +352 26 00 87 35 to arrange a meeting.

