

Le Meridien Dania Beach Hotel, USA Chelsom



The Chelsom bespoke team is made up of specialists in all areas including design, logistics, operations, production and technical, symbiotically working alongside one another in order to achieve the best results. Chelsom has a 100% 'partnership approach' when working with clients where it can add extensive knowledge, expertise and skill whilst the customer creative design intent always remains at the core of the process.

Over the last year, the Chelsom design team has been exploring a number of different aspects of lighting design, which could serve to reduce the spread of viruses within the hospitality environment. As bespoke features, Chelsom has developed decorative 'touchless-switching' solutions that will reduce the points of contact in a hotel guestroom; it also offers fabrics with antimicrobial qualities, as well as metal finishing options that will significantly reduce the spread of germs and bacteria. The Chelsom team are also exploring the use of UV light within a decorative application in a further attempt to wage war on viruses within the hospitality setting.

One recent example saw Chelsom create a huge chandelier for Le Meridien Dania Beach Hotel in Fort Lauderdale, Florida (pictured top). Chelsom worked with Dash Design in New York to create a lobby chandelier centrepiece designed to look like a constellation of stars and planets, suspended to create the illusion it was floating on air. A series of 'planets' attached to steel arms of varying lengths contain a small LED at the end to represent stars in the sky. Designed to be compatible with the hotel's existing dimming system, real wow factor is achieved as the chandelier light effect adapts and transitions from a day through to night sequence. The project was challenging and took two years to complete but Chelsom was able to interpret the original design through months of intense planning and development.

A huge level of CAD expertise went into evolving the design and miniature model versions of the chandelier were created along the way so that Chelsom could perfect the overall engineering of the product and master the perfect manufacturing technique. One of the biggest challenges was how to make a huge statement chandelier, the size of a London Bus, appear weightless and fit perfectly into the six-metre domed ceiling of the hotel lobby. The light effect was also key, requiring a huge amount of technical knowledge to create the desired twinkle effect so that the chandelier correctly represented the constellation look that the client was after. Each aspect of this project was carried out in the Chelsom UK headquarters, including all project management meetings, the overall design and engineering, sampling and prototyping and then the overall manufacture. The huge structure was broken down into many sections at the Chelsom HQ and then delivered and installed by Chelsom in Florida. The final results speak for themselves and this is one of the most impressive light fittings that Chelsom has ever created. It was a technical and engineering marvel in its creation but also an aesthetic achievement to have remained so sympathetic to the original Dash Design brief.

Will Chelsom, Managing Director comments on this project by saying: "I am immensely proud that our teams have designed, engineered and manufactured such a unique bespoke piece for this project. I am delighted we have been able to carry off such a huge project, all whilst utilising home grown talent as manufactured at our base in the north west of England. Our bespoke capabilities continue to evolve and we look forward to many more challenges like this in the future".

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