Upgrading Existing Systems to HomeWorks QS – FAQ

Revision H (12/23/2019)

Thinking about upgrading an existing lighting control system (RadioRA Classic, Original HomeWorks, HomeWorks Interactive, HomeWorks Illumination, Savant/LiteTouch) to HomeWorks QS? Read through the following frequently asked questions first to ensure you and your customers' expectations are met.

Please work with your local sales representation to assist with the upgrade process and ordering of material (especially the Legacy Links and software license) through Lutron Customer Service.

For more detailed information on upgrading to HomeWorks QS, please refer to the following documents referenced below.

> *HWQS Hardware and Feature Availability List*
>
> *Application Note #537 – Solutions for Upgrading from HomeWorks Illumination to HomeWorks QS*
>
> *Application Note 586 – Design and Programming for HomeWorks Illumination to HomeWorks QS Upgrades*
>
> *UL Listed Savant/LiteTouch Retrofit Solution Using HomeWorks QS*
>
> For a detailed listing of the hardware and features that are currently available in HomeWorks QS, including the documents referenced above, please use myLutron (www.lutron.com).

FRONT ROOM EQUIPMENT FAQS

The existing Lutron system uses low voltage wired communication wall-mounted keypads. Can I use these in HomeWorks QS?

> HomeWorks QS currently offers wired seeTouch, International seeTouch keypads, Architrave and Signature Series style keypads which all use newer QS hardware so although they look similar to the existing keypads, the hardware is different, and the older wired keypads would need to be replaced. In some of these cases (ganged KP series keypads or LB series keypads), you may need to replace the back box with a standard-sized opening and wall repair, or a custom faceplate, may be required. Ensure there is adequate space to mount the new back boxes, if required.

> An alternative option is to utilize the HWI Keypad Link to support the existing wired keypads. Using this option requires continued use of 15V DC power supplies to power older equipment as well as an interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) and the purchase of a per link Software Key (HQ-HWI-KP-SW). This requires programming software of revision 8.0 and newer.

> Price of the interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) is $40 USD LIST Price, price on the Software Key (HQ-HWI-KP-SW) is $1,500 USD LIST Price. Please note pricing can change, work with your Lutron Customer Service rep for pricing and ordering purposes.

Can I re-use the button kits from the existing seeTouch wall keypads and seeTouch tabletop keypads?

> The button kits from the International seeTouch wall keypads and the seeTouch tabletop keypads can be re-used on HomeWorks QS keypads. The button kits from the seeTouch wall keypads cannot be re-used because the status LED's on the HomeWorks QS domestic seeTouch wall keypads are in the button, whereas the existing keypad LED's are next to the button.

The existing Lutron system contains wired communication Maestro-style dimmers, switches, and fan speed controls. Can I use these in HomeWorks QS?

> HomeWorks QS (version 4.0 and greater) supports the legacy H48 wired link from previous generation HomeWorks systems. The wired dimmers, switches, fan controls and H48 interface that were used in previous generations of HomeWorks can remain installed and added into the HomeWorks QS system. The use of wired dimmers, switches, and fan controls on a HomeWorks QS system will require an additional link type (H48 link) as the H48 interfaces required to communicate with the wired devices cannot be connected to a QS link.

The existing Lutron system has Maestro-style RF Fan Controls. What can I use to replace these?

Maestro-style RF fan controls are available for HomeWorks QS. The controls use Lutron's Clear Connect RF technology and are compatible with HomeWorks QS only, so the existing fan controls will need to be replaced with HomeWorks QS fan controls.

The existing system uses Vareo architectural-style slide dimmers and switches. Is there an equivalent in HomeWorks QS?

HomeWorks QS does not currently offer a Vareo architectural-style dimmer or switch and does not support the D48 link type. For local controls, you can use the Maestro-style devices, wired (H48) or RF Clear Connect. All Maestro-style devices are available in all Architectural colors, with the exception of the wired 500W ELV H48 dimmer (use the HomeWorks QS RF LED+ dimmer as a replacement, HQRx-PRO). Note that using H48 allows you to utilize the existing wired communication infrastructure but may require the purchase of an H48 interface and a low voltage panel enclosure.

The existing system contains 3LD table lamp dimmers. What are my options in HomeWorks QS?

HomeWorks QS also offers 3LD table lamp dimmers that will look identical to the previous generations. Some additional options to consider are the HQR-3PD (dimmer) and HQR-15APS (appliance switch) which can be more easily hidden while still allowing control over lamps and other plug-in loads.

The existing Lutron system contains a 2- or 3-gang Grafik Eye unit. Does HomeWorks QS have an equivalent device?

HomeWorks QS offers 3-, 4-, and 6-zone Grafik Eye QS units, however, they all require a 4-gang wall box. To replace these smaller Grafik Eye units, you can either expand the wall box to fit the GRAFIK Eye QS, or you can replace the device with ganged dimmers and keypads. One application would be to use a Hybrid Keypad and a Maestro-style dimmer in a 2-gang configuration to control 2 zones of light and still have a column of keypad buttons.

An alternative option is to utilize the GRX/WPM Link to support the existing GRAFIK Eyes and Wallbox Power Modules. Using this option requires use of an interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) and the purchase of a per link Software Key (HQ-HWI-GRX-SW). This requires programming software of revision 13.0 and newer.

Price of the interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) is $40 USD LIST Price, price on the Software Key (HQ-HWI-GRX-SW) is $1,500 USD LIST Price. Please note pricing can change, work with your Lutron Customer Service rep for pricing and ordering purposes.

The existing Lutron system contains window shades. What must be done to use shades in HomeWorks QS?

HomeWorks QS is typically paired with QS shades and drives. If you have QED roller shades, you can replace the shade drive with a QS drive and re-use the fabric and mounting hardware. The existing wire can be re-used with QS shades.

An alternative option is to utilize the H48/Q96 Link Type in QS to support the existing QED Shades. Using this option requires continued use of the existing power infrastructure to power older equipment as well as an interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) [if processor to interface wire run exceeds 50ft] and the purchase of a per link Software Key (HQ-HWI-Q96-SW). This requires programming software of revision 9.0 and newer.

Price of the interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) is $40 USD LIST Price, Price on the Software Key (HQ-HWI-Q96-SW) is $1,500 USD LIST Price. Please note pricing can change, work with your Lutron Customer Service for pricing and ordering purposes. Refer to the application note *Sivoia QS Shade Upgrade Guide* for more information: http://resi.lutron.com/Portals/3/Support/App%20Notes%20-%20FAQs/HWQS/Sivoia%20QS%20Shade%20Upgrade%20App%20Note%20-%20Rev%20A.pdf

BACK ROOM EQUIPMENT FAQS

For HomeWorks QS, should I just add the same number of processors as I had in the existing system?

No. You should determine the number of processors required based on the system configuration and the layout of the job. Link types, device types, and capacities are different in HomeWorks QS than previous generations, so careful consideration must be taken when determining the number of processors required. In general, to replace an 8-series processor, you will most likely need 2 HWQS processors, to replace a 4-series processor, you will most likely need 1 HWQS processor, and to replace an RF-series processor or a RadioRA Chronos, you will most likely need 1 HWQS processor and at least 1 hybrid repeater. Refer to the HWQS System Architecture for an overview of the system layout.

The existing system contains RF devices and has an RF repeater network. Can I just replace the existing repeaters with the new HomeWorks QS repeaters?

The number of repeaters required for the HomeWorks QS system is going to depend on a number of factors and is most likely not a direct 1-to-1 replacement from other versions of HomeWorks. HomeWorks QS contains many more RF devices than previous generations, and therefore may require additional RF coverage for areas of the home that previously contained no RF. Additionally, the device limits and link capacities have changed in HomeWorks QS, which may necessitate greater or fewer RF links. These should all be considered when determining the

number of RF repeaters required. All HWI RF devices will need to be replaced with HWQS equivalent product. Refer to application note 586 titled *Design and Programming for HomeWorks Illumination to HomeWorks QS Upgrades*.

The existing Lutron system has Wallbox Power Modules (HWI-WPM-6D-120).   Can I use these in HomeWorks QS?

Yes, the older Wallbox Power Modules can be used in a HomeWorks QS system but that requires the purchase of a HQ-HWI-GRX-SW software license and an HQ-HWI-LX link translator (one each per link). In order to use the link license, 13.0 or newer software must be used. The existing Wallbox Power Modules (WPM) can also be replaced with HomeWorks QS WPM's (LQRJ-WPM-6P) that have the same ratings as the existing WPM's. The HomeWorks QS WPM resides on the QS link or the RF link.

The existing system has Panels, RPMs, and Module Interfaces. Do I need to replace these to work with HomeWorks QS?

You do not need to replace the Panels, RPMs, or Module Interfaces if they were manufactured after December 31, 2002. These devices will work with HomeWorks QS. If you used a processor with an internal Module Interface, you will need to replace this with a separate, external Module Interface. The HomeWorks QS processor does not include a Module Interface. All Panel Link hardware produced prior to 2003 should be replaced to ensure 100% compatibility with HomeWorks QS.

The existing system has H48, Q96 or D48 interfaces and associated enclosures. Are these needed in HomeWorks QS?

The H48 interface will be needed in HomeWorks QS if wired dimmers, switches, or fan speed controls are being used. D48 interfaces are not supported or required in HomeWorks QS. You will still need Module Interfaces on the Panel link, hybrid repeaters on the RF link, and H48 interfaces on the H48 link. QED shades and the Q96 interface are supported using the H48/Q96 Link Type. Using this option requires continued use of the existing power infrastructure to power older equipment as well as an interface box (HQ-HWI-LX) [if processor to interface wire run exceeds 50ft] and the purchase of a per link Software Key (HQ-HWI-Q96-SW). This requires programming software of revision 9.0 and newer.

Can I use the existing LV-17, LV-24, or LV-32 to mount a HomeWorks QS processor?

You cannot use the LV-17 or LV-24 panels to mount HomeWorks QS processors. The LV-32 can be used to mount HomeWorks QS processors. There are three enclosures available in HomeWorks QS in which you can mount a processor(s). You can use an L-LV14-120 14" enclosure, an HQ-LV21-120 21" enclosure, or the bottom of an HWI-PNL-8 feed-through panel to mount the HomeWorks QS processor(s) (this option requires a separate kit).

Refer to Lutron Application Note 537 for more information on the special mounting considerations for the LV-32.

The existing system required additional power supplies for the keypads (PPS1, PPS2, etc). Are these needed in HomeWorks QS?

The power supplies and power requirements of devices are different in HomeWorks QS, and the PPS1 and PPS2 devices are not compatible. These power supply panels would only be required when utilizing the HWI Keypad Link feature in HomeWorks QS which enables the use of Legacy Illumination Keypads. Refer to the Wiring and Power Guidelines application note to determine the power requirements of the HomeWorks QS system components.

The existing system utilized a Link Extender to achieve a wire run length of 2000 ft. How can I accomplish this in HomeWorks QS?

HomeWorks QS uses a different voltage (24V) and communication protocol than previous generations and is capable of achieving a 2000 ft. total wire length without the need for a link extender.

The existing system uses CCI-8, CCO-8, and CCI-ENC for contact closures. Is there a direct replacement for these devices?

HomeWorks QS uses a different device (QSE-IO) which contains 5 contact closure inputs and 5 contact closure outputs. A wallbox closure interface (QSE-CI-WCI) is also available, which allows for up to 8 contact closure inputs per unit (no outputs). Depending on your contact closure needs, you may need more or less QSE-IO or QSE-CI-WCI units. The QSE-IO and QSE-CI-WCI do not mount in a CCI-ENC.

An alternative option is to utilize the HWI Keypad link to support the existing CCI-8, CCO-8, and CCI-ENC. Using this option will require continued use of 15V DC power supplies to power older CCI and CCO products as well as an interface box.

The existing system makes use of the HW-CCI-6 RF contact closure interface. Is there an equivalent device in HomeWorks QS?

The HQR-VCRX visor control receiver in HomeWorks QS is an RF device that contains 3 contact closure inputs and 4 contact closure outputs that can be controlled from anywhere in the system. Additionally, every wired seeTouch keypad (domestic and international) contains 2 contact closure inputs, and the QSE-IO can be added for 5 inputs and 5 outputs.

The existing Lutron system uses a Lutron DMX interface (LUT-DMX) for controlling DMX-512 lighting. How can I control this lighting with HomeWorks QS?

The existing LUT-DMX interface will need to be replaced. HomeWorks QS supports the QSE-CI-DMX interface for controlling DMX lighting. This interface resides on the QS link.

INTEGRATION FAQS

The existing Lutron system controls 3ʳᵈ-party devices using RS-232 custom output strings. How can I control these devices with HomeWorks QS?

> HomeWorks QS supports custom output strings for controlling 3ʳᵈ-party devices. These strings are sent via Ethernet. For legacy RS-232 devices, you can use an RS-232 to Ethernet converter device. Refer to the application note for more information on RS-232 and TCP/IP 3ʳᵈ Party Integration: http://www.lutron.com/TechnicalDocumentLibrary/HWQS%20RS-232%20Ethernet%20Integration.pdf

The existing Lutron system is integrated with a 3ʳᵈ-party control system. What will need to be done to make this work with HomeWorks QS?

> The 3ʳᵈ-party control system will have to be re-programmed to work with HomeWorks QS. Check with the manufacturer of the control system to ensure they have drivers available for HomeWorks QS. Refer to the Lutron Integration Protocol document which can be found in the HomeWorks QS software (Tools > Configure Integration).

The existing system is RadioRA (or HomeWorks with Scene Saver enabled), and the homeowner likes that he/she can make changes to the system. Are there similar capabilities in HomeWorks QS?

> The homeowner can make changes to the HomeWorks QS system by using the level editor, keypad builder, and timeclock builder features in the Lutron Connect mobile app for iPad/iPhone and Android devices. This requires the purchase of a Lutron Connect Bridge (CONNECT-BDG2-1) but there are no subscription fees for remote access and the app is a free download.

NON-LUTRON SYSTEM UPGRADE FAQS

I would like to upgrade an older existing Savant/LiteTouch system to HomeWorks QS. Will it be possible to utilize any components from the older system or will everything need to be replaced?

> While the keypad, dimming/switching, and processor hardware will all have to be replaced with a Lutron equivalent component, some key portions of the installation can remain. There is a subplate solution which can be inserted into the existing 20" 4 module Savant/LiteTouch enclosures, removing the need to replace the panel and subsequently re-wire the centralized lighting panel and places HomeWorks QS Remote Power Modules into the Savant/LiteTouch Panel. The wired keypad infrastructure can also be re-used for Clear Connect Wireless seeTouch Keypads removing the need to run new wire for keypads. For more information, refer to the application note *UL Listed Savant/LiteTouch Retrofit Solution Using HomeWorks QS.*