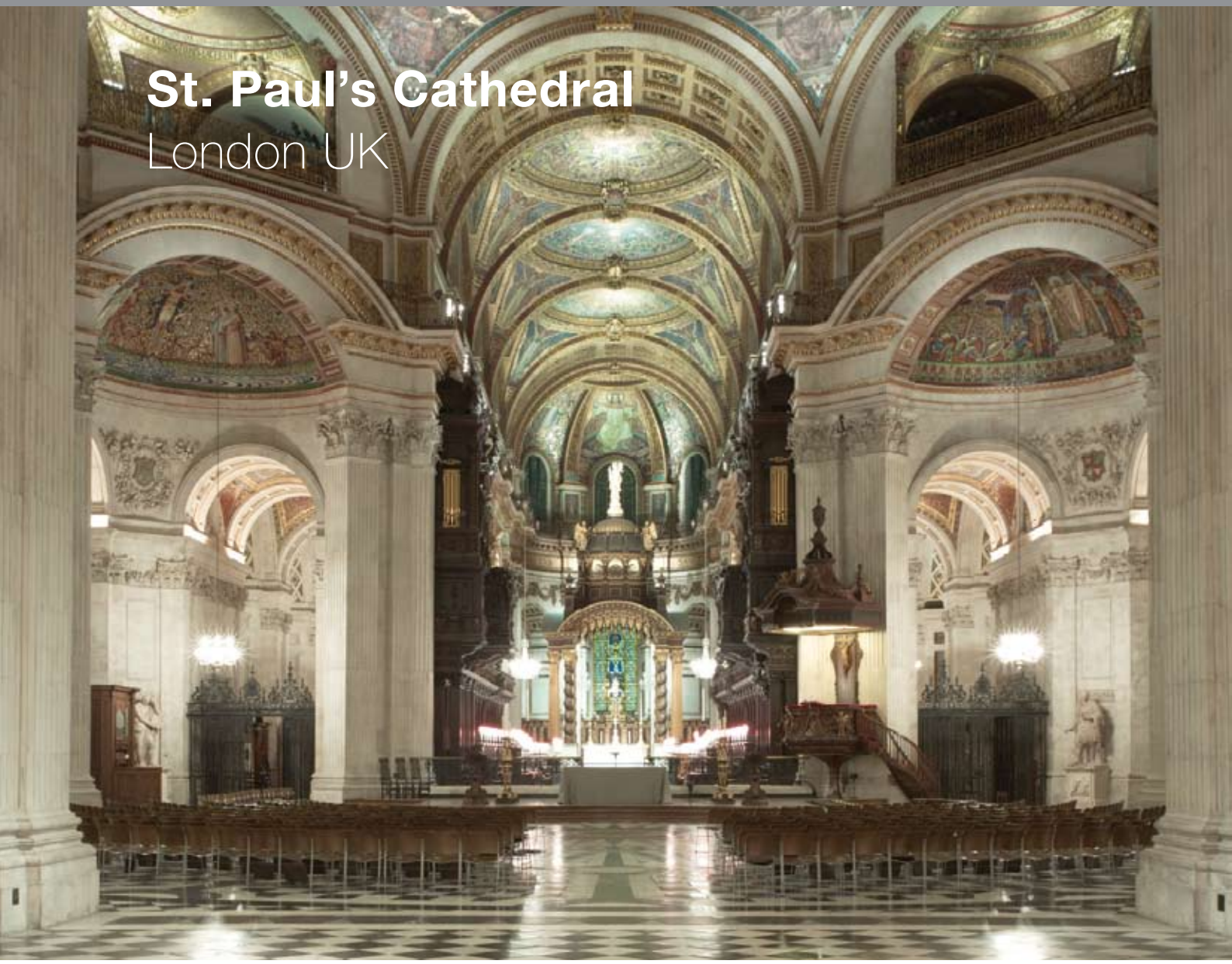

St. Paul's Cathedral
London UK

"The re-lighting of St. Paul's Cathedral was one of the most technically complex and challenging projects with which we have been involved."

Mark Major, Speirs and Major Associates

Background:

Every lighting scheme comes with its challenges, but when leading lighting designers Speirs and Major Associates received the brief to light one of London's national treasures, they can be forgiven for having a few moments of trepidation about what lay ahead.

The challenge:

Aside from ensuring that the aesthetic interpretation of one of the nation's most prized interiors was properly considered, the brief demanded considerable flexibility from the lighting systems. This not only included providing lighting for worship, tourism, special events and state occasions, but also security, cleaning and maintenance.

Lutron's GRAFIK 7000 Series

Capacity to offer control of multiple zones, separated into distinct areas

Offering users a simple graphical user interface

Ability to use RF systems for wireless control

The solution:

The Speirs and Major lighting design for St. Paul's is made up of five distinct schemes and each of these lighting layers can either stand alone, or work in conjunction with any of the other schemes to provide the ultimate in flexibility.

Bruce Kirk, Light Perceptions, was contracted to specify the control system and manage the implementation of the Speirs and Major scheme. To overcome the four feet thick stones walls, meet the requirement for minimal visible cabling and the challenge of minimising radio frequency interference for visiting broadcasters, Bruce used Lutron's GRAFIK Master, the RF control used in its renowned GRAFIK Eye and Integrale systems, and linked this to a GRAFIK 7000 control processor.

The results:

The new system controls 250 lighting circuits, whilst providing the simplest user interface possible. The main interface is located at Triforium level next to the stage board and the Viseo LCD offers users an easy to use, highly secure, whole cathedral control system.

By linking the Lutron Grafik 7000 central processor to the Grafik Master RF technology, Lutron's RF Master tabletop controls have also been used to control light levels in areas that cannot be reached with individual room controls due to cabling issues.

Bruce Kirk comments: "The results speak for themselves, the installation offers the ultimate in lighting flexibility not only for the cathedral's daily requirements, but its major events as well".

Client:	Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral
Architect:	Purcell Miller Tritton
Lighting Architect:	Speirs and Major Associates
Systems Integrator:	Bruce Kirk of Light Perceptions
Equipment provider:	Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.
Photography:	All photography is courtesy of Timothy Soar Photography in association with Speirs and Major Associates
Lutron Products:	GRAFIK Master and GRAFIK 7000 control processor

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