



HVAC Retrofit Solution – 2010 G.J. Gardner Home Stanmore Bay, Auckland

Nestled in Auckland's northern suburbs, this double-storey family home, built in 2010, offers stunning views of Stanmore Bay. Home to a family of four with frequent guests, it features large windows and sliding doors that blend indoor and outdoor living, creating an inviting and comfortable environment.

The Challenge

Originally equipped with only an energy recovery and ventilation system, the home could circulate air and recycle heat but struggled to maintain consistent comfort during seasonal temperature extremes. The family sought greater control over their indoor environment and began researching HVAC solutions.

While a ducted HVAC system seemed ideal for heating and cooling, design limitations arose:

- The upstairs could accommodate a ducted system, but the ground floor would require multiple high-wall split units, detracting from the sleek, open-plan aesthetic.
- Standard ducted systems were too bulky to fit within the ground floor's structural constraints.

These challenges prompted the family to seek an innovative, comprehensive solution.

The Solution

The Unico System emerged as the perfect fit, addressing both the space limitations and the need for consistent temperatures across both levels.

Key features of the installation included:

- **Central Air Handling Unit:** Strategically placed in the roof space to maximize efficiency without compromising living areas.
- **Compact Ductwork:** Small main ducts provided even air distribution throughout the home.
- **Discreet Installation:** Upstairs rooms received air through small, round ceiling outlets, while flexible ducting was routed through built-in wardrobes to discreetly service the ground floor.

The Unico System's small diameter supply tubes allowed every room to receive draft-free, quiet, and evenly distributed air—something traditional HVAC systems couldn't achieve.

The Results

The transformation was immediate and remarkable:

- **Consistent Comfort:** Seasonal temperature extremes were eliminated, with the system effectively managing both temperature and humidity.
- **Even Temperature Distribution:** Large open-plan areas and previously problematic spots, like the family rumpus room atop the stairs, enjoyed uniform comfort.
- **Year-Round Usability:** Bedrooms and living spaces became welcoming retreats in both summer and winter.

The family now enjoys a home that not only looks beautiful but feels comfortable in every season—thanks to The Unico System.



Single outdoor unit supplies the entire house.



Positioned in the corners of the bedrooms, the outlets are smaller than the downlights!



Small outlets can be discretely positioned and are less obtrusive than the existing ventilation outlets.



The small Air Handling Units fit into the most awkward roof structures.



The Unico System®

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Unico, Inc. is the leader in Small-Duct High Velocity (SDHV) heating and cooling systems and other high-end HVAC systems. The company manufactures all of its products in St. Louis, Missouri, with over 125,000 square feet of modern manufacturing space. The company is well known for extensive use in older, architecturally unique homes and buildings as well as elite, high-end custom homes. The company is family owned and operated and is available throughout the United States and Canada, and in over 28 countries around the world.



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