

A new high for the planetarium sky!



The Setagaya Educational Center in Tokyo, Japan, has set a new high for the number of stars in a planetarium sky. The new GOTO CHIRON opto-mechanical star projector in their 16 meter dome shows a full 140,000,000 stars, down to magnitude 18! While most traditional star projectors show only a diffuse gray cloud to represent the Milky Way and nebulae, the GOTO CHIRON can be configured to show these features using discrete "micro-stars" which are sharply focused onto the dome.

Users choose the number of stars they would like to use to paint the subtleties of the night sky, and then GOTO uses that number in the manufacture of their projector. In this case, the 140 million stars create a sky that just looks better and better the closer you get to the dome, or when using binoculars to observe the planetarium sky. The use of micro-star technology allows us to show 337 emission nebulae and even 2,140 dark nebulae.

Of course the CHIRON is paired with two ultra-high resolution video projectors which add a fulldome video scene with more than 13 million pixels of colorful, animated imagery. These fulldome video images are synchronized to move precisely with the motions of the CHIRON starball, sun, moon, and planets, for the ultimate planetarium experience.

At the Setagaya Educational Center, the GOTO CHIRON HYBRID Planetarium™ system replaces an older GOTO system first installed in 1988. Once again, a second generation of GOTO equipment has been chosen. Repeat business is our best testament to the excellent performance and reliability of GOTO planetarium projectors. And advancements such as the CHIRON HYBRID are giving satisfied users even more reasons to once again choose GOTO.

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