

Three generations of GOTO stars

Hiratsuka city, in Japan's Kanagawa Prefecture, while a busy commercial and industrial city, is perhaps most famous for its Tanabata festival, which celebrates legendary star-crossed lovers of long ago. So it is fitting that this busy city has a fine planetarium to tell the story of this couple in the sky.

In 1976, the Hiratsuka City Museum opened its planetarium with a GOTO Model GX-10 star projector. Later, they chose a Model G1014si with its increased technological capabilities. And in May of 2011, having been pleased with their previous GOTO projectors, they chose a third GOTO projection system - the new PANDIA HYBRID Planetarium.



The compact PANDIA brings high-intensity LED technology into the dome. Its features include very bright yet tiny stars, a beautiful Milky Way made up of 40,000,000 micro-stars, and fast and accurate sun, moon, and planet projectors. GOTO's full-dome video system is synchronized with the starball's motions. So now for instance, the Tanabata story can be told with a gorgeous set of moving stars blended with a full-color set of constellation outlines, coordinate lines, and uncompressed, high resolution images on the dome.



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With the GOTO PANDIA HYBRID, Hiratsuka is prepared to tell the Tanabata story to a 3rd generation of its citizens - in a whole new way!