

## The HYBRID Revolution in Brno



Photos credit:  
Brno Observatory and Planetarium

The city of Brno can be found in the Czech Republic – the heart of Europe – about halfway between Prague and Vienna. A small observatory, used by world famous Czech astronomers was established here in 1954. For example Lubos Kohoutek, the discoverer of the well-known comet, and Lubos Perek, the co-founder of space law concerning satellite traffic were early members. It is also the place where Vladimir Remek, the only Czechoslovak astronaut, started his career in 1962.

Built in 1991 by the City of Brno, the Brno Observatory and Planetarium underwent substantial reconstruction in 2010 and 2011, and in 2013 installed a new GOTO HYBRID Planetarium® as an international joint project of the Czech company Nowatron Elektronik, French RSA Cosmos and Japanese GOTO INC.

Today the Brno Observatory and Planetarium is the largest and most modern institution of this kind in the Czech Republic. It cooperates with local universities and scientific companies, and is a co-founder of the Czech Association of Science Centers. Every year the planetarium has had more than 100,000 visitors who are looked after by 20 employees and about the same number of volunteers.

It reopened on October 31, 2013, with a GOTO Chronos II opto-mechanical planetarium projector synchronized with full-dome video. The reason for choosing the GOTO HYBRID combination was easy: It presents high quality astronomical shows effectively and at the same time can also be used for other educational and cultural activities. Director Jiří Dušek says, "We do not consider the installation to be just a planetarium but a wonderful audiovisual instrument with almost unlimited possibilities."

The 17-meter dome's 188 seats have been filled with an incredible 12,000 visitors in the first month of operation. We wish The Brno Observatory and Planetarium even more success in the years to come.

To learn more, contact:

### GOTO INC

4-16 Yazakicho, Fuchu-shi,  
Tokyo 183-8530 Japan  
Tel: +81-42-362-5312  
Fax: +81-42-361-9571  
E-Mail: info2@goto.co.jp  
URL: <http://www.goto.co.jp>

### GOTO LIAISON

5715 Susan Drive East,  
Indianapolis, IN 46250  
Tel: +1-317-537-2806  
E-Mail: gotousa@earthlink.net  
Contact: Ken Miller

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**CHRONOS II**