

Yonezawa helps children reach for the stars!

GOTO INC announces that the world's first PANDIA II has been successfully installed in Yonezawa Japan. The PANDIA II (called PANDORA II in Japan) is the latest in a long line of planetarium projectors designed for small and medium sized domes.

The Yonezawa Children's Hall Planetarium serves to cultivate independence and stimulate creativity in the city's children. The planetarium plays a role in reaching this goal by taking children from infancy through the third year of junior high on soaring trips through the Universe. Originally opened in 1983, the old, large projector was retired, and the new GOTO PANDIA II HYBRID system re-opened the totally renovated dome on May 2, 2015.

Besides new seats, new flooring, and a brand new dome, GOTO INC also coordinated the installation of the PANDIA II HYBRID, which includes not only the opto-mechanical PANDIA II, but also GOTO's own VIRTUARIUM X full-dome video system, and a manual control console which operates both the opto-mechanical and full-dome systems simultaneously to facilitate easy and effective live programming.



PANDIA II is contained in a 48cm (19 inch) diameter starball 1/5th the size of the old projector, allowing for a view of the sky with much less obstruction. PANDIA II shows a beautiful sky of 9,500 stars, plus a extremely realistic Milky Way made up of 40,000,000 micro-stars. A digital shutter system enables the operator to limit the stars to a horizontal horizon, or a tilted sky, a raised horizon for panoramas, and even an exciting "bath of stars" which totally floods the theater and seats!

All of this technology will allow Yonezawa to teach more effectively, to educate, entertain, and inspire for decades to come. Those decades will require much less maintenance than the previous ones, since the new PANDIA II utilizes 100% LED illumination. This means that lamps will not burn out, less energy is consumed, and since the machine is running much cooler than when hot light bulbs lit the stars, this projector will not require lubricating, cleaning, and mechanical adjustment nearly as often as the previous machine.

Other technical aspects of the PANDIA II include significantly smaller yet brighter stars than older models, due to the high-efficiency, high-output LEDs. A much more accurate sky is projected with more than 300 emission nebulae, clusters, galaxies, and even dark nebulae. There is even a telescoping lift built into the pedestal base of the PANDIA II to lower it for even more unobstructed views. The citizens of Yonezawa are thrilled with their new planetarium, and look forward to generations of family members enjoying even better trips through the Galaxy in the years ahead.

Please visit GOTO INC at www.goto.jp.co for more information about the new PANDIA II.

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