



# The universe explained at Armagh Observatory and Planetarium with AV and display solutions from Vivitek

## **The universe explained at Armagh Observatory and Planetarium**

The mysteries of the universe have intrigued, baffled and excited humans for millennia. Our desire to discover its secrets and learn from them, have led to the invention of many now familiar items – from telescopes to rocket-powered space craft – as well as the creation of exhibitions and visitor attractions dedicated to furthering our understanding of what exists beyond our home on planet earth.

One such venue that has been enthralling visitors for decades, is the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, located in Armagh, Northern Ireland. Officially opened on 1 May 1968 and classified as part of Ireland’s education authority, over the years the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium has evolved and expanded, updating its exhibits and displays regularly in order to meet the demands of its inquisitive and ever-growing visitors.

### **Putting technology at the heart of knowledge**

Technology has always been at the heart of the

visitor experience at the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium. It was an early adopter of video projectors in order to create special effects, until they were replaced by computer controlled laserdisc players in the 1980s. Not only was this a great success with visitors, but their use resulted in a landmark for the venue; it was the first planetarium in the world to project video on to its dome.

In line with its approach to adopting pioneering technology, today the latest in digital projectors and digital signage solutions from Vivitek – procured through Reasound, a Cookstown-based authorised reseller to Ireland’s education authority – are playing a key role in creating a truly thrilling and immersive visitor experience.

Having considered Armagh Observatory and Planetarium’s specific needs, Reasound decided that of all the competitor solutions available on the market, it was Vivitek’s combination of performance, quality, value and durability that were best suited to this application and the varied needs of the planetarium.



*"It's important that Armagh Observatory and Planetarium conveys the thrill and excitement of space. We're dependant on technology to help us achieve that, and Vivitek's solutions are instrumental in creating an immersive environment that helps captivate our visitors."*

*Ciaran Magee, CT Manager,  
Armagh Observatory and Planetarium*

### **Vivitek create an out of this world experience**

Contributing to a positive visitor experience, are three Vivitek DU8090s. Lamp-free and eco-friendly, the DU8090Z features a WUXGA resolution, 8000 ANSI Lumens brightness and 10,000:1 contrast ratio for a clear and bright projection. The projector is equipped with a laser light source which offers up to 20,000 hours of operation which makes it the perfect solution for large venues that need power, flexibility and a durable solution.

The projector's legendary reliability was a key attraction and made them ideally suited to the environment, as they are left to operate for eight hours a day, seven days a week, projecting content that shows space, the universe, planets as well as educational power points and even live feeds from cameras. Here, advanced cooling

design ensures that the projectors are able to endure their daily operations, effortlessly and consistently.

Also on site, is a Vivitek DU8190Z projector. The DU8190 uses DLP® technology with BrilliantColor™ for vibrant and rich picture quality, while the 10,000 ANSI lumens of brightness, WUXGA resolution, and 10,000:1 contrast ratio ensures clear, crisp and bright projection. Meanwhile, its long lasting laser light source delivers constant brightness levels and colour performance for up to 20,000 hours of operation.

### **Flexible and easy to use; NovoDS meets all information needs**

Completing the set of Vivitek solutions, are a number of NovoDS Cloud solutions. NovoDS Cloud is Vivitek's exceptionally easy to use digital signage solution. The content displayed on the NovoDS Cloud can be changed and updated remotely, making it simple to update content. At Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, the NovoDS solutions are arranged in a matrix format, while one is located in the café, advising visitors of the day's specials, and of any offers. The flexibility means that the five NovoDS digital signage solutions can be easily outputted to any of the 25 plus screens and projectors connected to the AV Matrix, so as to bring stunning



Vivitek DU8090Z



Vivitek DU8190Z



*"We are thrilled with the performance, reliability and value offered by Vivitek's solutions. With their advanced features, the solutions are an investment for the future, and will play a key role entertaining visitors for years," Ciaran Magee added.*

affects to an exhibit or to display information or video. With NovoDS, the digital signage content can incorporate text, photos, audio, video, and web content in fully customisable configurations for a variety of environments, making it ideally suited to Armagh Observatory and Planetarium.



Combined, Vivitek's solutions are helping visitors to the Armagh Observatory and Planetarium to delve into the wonders of the universe, and to immerse themselves in its mysteries, while unlocking some of its long-held secrets.



More info can be found about how our solutions are being used at [www.Armagh.Space](http://www.Armagh.Space)