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Milwaukee Public Museum to Replace 15/70 Giant Screen Film with 8K Digistar 5 Digital Dome System



In September, the Daniel M. Soref National Geographic Dome Theater & Planetarium (Dome Theater) at the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM) will replace their giant screen 15/70 film system with a new 8K Digistar 5 immersive digital cinema/digital planetarium system from Evans & Sutherland. This ultra-high resolution digital system uses five 4K Christie video projectors that produce 30,000 lumens each, for a total brightness of 180,000 lumens across the entire dome hemisphere. Through E&S' own autoalignment and auto-blending systems, the five projectors precisely align and blend together to form a single, seamless fulldome image. In 2014, the 8K Digistar 5 system went head-to-head with

15/70 film in a special demo for the Giant Screen Cinema Association (GSCA) in which the 8K Digistar system was overwhelmingly lauded to produce a better image than 15/70 film. This was the first time in history that a digital dome system surpassed 15/70 film, which has been the gold standard of giant screen image quality since the 1970s.

Now this groundbreaking digital dome cinema technology is coming to Milwaukee. There is great excitement and anticipation from the staff at MPM.

As Robert Bonadurer, Director of the Dome Theater says, "The new 8K Digistar 5 system will allow us to bring our guests closer to the action than ever before. Whether you're voyaging through the universe in a planetarium show or exploring an adventure on Earth in a giant screen film, the stunning imagery that appears before your eyes will leave you in awe."

In addition to the amazing 8K image quality, the Digistar 5 system offers a 3D real-time astronomy database and capability that allows operators and presenters to take audiences on virtual tours through the universe. Audiences can fly out to the edge of the solar system to explore Pluto and its moons; investigate the mysterious and yet-to-be discovered "planet nine," or travel as far as our data can take us: over 14 billion light years away to the moments after the big bang! Additionally, Digistar can import images and video sequence from virtually any source and display them on the dome. According to E&S Vice President and General Manager, Kirk Johnson, "MPM has used our Digistar 3 system in the Dome Theater for many years with a 4K system. With this new 8K Digistar 5 system, the theater will have exponentially more capabilities to educate and delight audiences of all ages with an unprecedented variety of stunning content!"



The upgrades are part of the \$1.6 million dollar revitalization gifted to MPM by the Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust. The Trust also funded the development and creation of the original Daniel M. Soref Planetarium in 2006 and its 3D update in 2013.

About the Milwaukee Public Museum



The Milwaukee Public Museum is a natural and human history museum located in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The museum was chartered in 1882 and opened to the public in 1884. MPM has three floors of exhibits that encompass life-size dioramas, walk-through villages, world cultures, dinosaurs, a rain forest

and a live butterfly garden, as well as the Daniel M. Soref National Geographic Dome Theater and Planetarium. The museum houses more than 4 million objects and hosts nearly half a million visitors each year. The MPM is operated by Milwaukee Public Museum, Inc., a private, non-profit company, and its facilities and collections are held in trust and supported by Milwaukee County for the benefit of the public.

About Evans & Sutherland



Evans & Sutherland in conjunction with its wholly owned subsidiary, Spitz Inc., creates innovative digital planetarium

systems and cutting-edge, fulldome show content. E&S has developed Digistar 5, the world's leading digital planetarium with fulldome video playback, real-time computer graphics, and a complete 3D digital astronomy package fully integrated into a single theater system. This technology allows audiences to be immersed in full-color, 3D computer-generated interactive worlds. As a full-service system provider, E&S also offers Spitz domes, SciDome, hybrid planetarium systems including Goto optical mechanical projectors integrated with Digistar 5 and a full range of theater systems from audio and lighting to theater automation. E&S markets include planetariums, science centers, themed attraction venues, and premium large-format theaters. E&S products have been installed in over 1,300 theaters worldwide.

Visit the E&S website at http://www.es.com.

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