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BRINGING SPACE TO EARTHLINGS, WITH 24/7 RELIABILITY

Planetarium OEM solution provider Evans & Sutherland offers its worldwide customers powerful yet easy-to-use dome theater projection systems with rock-solid performance from energy-efficient Intel processors

E&S **EVANS & SUTHERLAND** | Arts, Entertainment, Education and Media | United States and wordwide

Business needs

To deliver its industry-leading Digistar planetarium projection software, Evans & Sutherland sought a dependable, robust platform to easily incorporate into a turnkey solution that could be supported virtually anywhere in the world.

Solutions at a glance

- [Client Solutions](#)
- [Client Support](#)
- [OEM Solutions](#)

Business results

- Maximizes market size with solution scalability
- Energy eficiency saves power
- Boosts manufacturing efficiency

Delivers
consistent, reliable

24/7

system operation

Offers

24hr

global support
and service

Anyone enjoying a planetarium show in the past 35 years has the rocket scientists — actually solution engineers — at Evans & Sutherland to thank. Its pioneering Digistar system is the leading digital planetarium projection platform at more than 400 theaters worldwide.

With Digistar, planetariums can immerse audiences in interactive, full-color worlds light years beyond Earth. It delivers a complete 3D projection vehicle with video playback and real-time computer graphics.

Moving to COTS technology

Early on, the company developed its own chipsets at great expense because PCs were not powerful enough to provide the real-time graphics processing Digistar required.

But as PCs gained more processing power with ever-greater CPU circuit densities, E&S decided to move away from custom chipsets in favor of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) technology.

As Kevin Scott, Digistar product manager, notes, the company wanted to focus less on designing hardware and more on creating exceptional software. Eventually, Dell Precision rack workstations with Intel® processors were chosen to provide Digistar's processing power. "We count on Dell to match components perfectly, giving us the best system at the right price point," he says. "We get more processing power in less space, going from a 4U to 2U rack configuration, given the Dell Precision workstation's efficient design with Intel processors inside."

Intel Inside®. Powerful Solution Outside.

Scott adds that this efficient design benefits manufacturing, too. "Production must quickly build our Digistar systems, getting them configured, racked, and shipped, and the Dell Precision workstation's design helps do that," he says.

Scalability ensures a broad market

Creative Director/Marketing Director Michael Daut points out that solution scalability is a key to Digistar's success. It helps in building systems for the widest range of installations, from small high schools to the biggest museums.

For example, the planetarium in the Houston Museum of Natural Science offers the world's first True8K™ viewing experience. Its Digistar system consists of 20 Dell Precision rack workstations driving 10 high-resolution projectors. These beam their images to a 50-foot-tall domed ceiling made of specialized reflective materials.

"Small or large, our customers get the same seamless, easy-to-use Digistar experience," Daut says. "With our TrueSync technology, whether it's one Dell Precision workstation or an entire computer cluster, it's easy to synchronize Digistar imagery across multiple projectors ."

Reliability backed by global service via OEM ProSupport is vital to Digistar's value proposition. "Our systems must deliver years of continuous use," Daut says. "But even with installations in 44 nations, we can assure customers their Digistar systems will always work, with the Dell workstation's rugged reliability plus OEM ProSupport's next-day service virtually worldwide."

Learn more about Dell EMC OEM Solutions solutions

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