Information for Prospective Users

Introduction

The Planetarium and Visualization Theater (PVT) is located in the Conoco-Phillips Integrated Science Building (ISB) at the University of Alaska Anchorage. The 10-meter domed facility has seating for 62 people and excels at providing immersive visualization experiences. Some uses of the PVT include landscape-scale fly-overs to explore high resolution aerial imagery, virtual world ecosystem exploration, and 3D social network visualizations. The PVT is compatible with a wide variety of software and applications (see reverse).

Specifications

• 2 Sony SXRD 4K ultra-high resolution projectors (SRX-T105) with over 12 million pixels
• 2 independent sets of servers connected to projectors
• 1 master computer and 8 renderers (4 per projector)
• Windows 7 platform and DigitalSky2 software
Compatible Software

- Displays 3D models using OBJ, X, and PDB formats
- Geospatial Data Abstraction Library (GDAL) can be used to generate geographic data for display in Tile Map Service (TMS) and KML SuperOverlay formats
- Pre-generated films can be displayed if rendered with fish-eye lens
- New Uniview 2.0 package supports 3D models in FBX, OBJ, 3DS, STL, DAE and X formats, with data displayed using a web map service (WMS) server
- KML files can be used to overlay additional data layers and features
- Traditional projector is also available for displaying flat-screen versions of material on a section of the dome (not for simultaneous use with full-dome projectors)
- For more details contact Frank Witmer, fwitmer@uaa.alaska.edu