

Wonderla Amusement Park Hyderabad

Case Study



▲ Up to 60 people can be seated in the ride during each session, and lifted to a height of 12 metres for a totally immersive experience

Blast off to spectacular visuals with Christie RGB laser at *Mission Interstellar*

If you are looking for a truly immersive intergalactic expedition that transports you to the farthest reaches of space, look no further. A new dark ride located at Wonderla in Hyderabad, owned and operated by Wonderla Holidays Ltd, promises all the thrills and spills that sensation-seekers are looking for.

Named *Mission Interstellar*, this latest ride was developed using immersive technology in collaboration with US and European theme park design companies, and has been touted as India's first space flying experience ride. The ride is housed within an 8-storey building which features a 23-metre dome-shaped roof and a 6,500 sq ft air-conditioned area with preview hall and queue area.

The space-themed ride also boasts a large 3,500 sq ft parabolic screen and an Italian-made hydraulic lift seating system. The visuals are powered by the Christie® D4KLH60 high frame rate 3DLP 4K RGB laser projector, which offers native 4K resolution and high brightness of 60,000 lumens.

"*Mission Interstellar* is the latest and most advanced ride that we have ever built. At Wonderla, it has always been our continuous endeavour to give our patrons unique experiences, with delightful memories to bring home after each visit," said Arun K Chittilappilly, Managing Director, Wonderla Holidays Ltd.

"During each session, up to 60 people can be seated in the ride and lifted to

Customer:

Wonderla Holidays Ltd



Location:

Hyderabad, India

Industry/Market:

- Entertainment
- Theme parks

Requirements:

- High brightness
- High resolution
- High performance and reliability

Summary:

Wonderla Hyderabad's latest flying theatre, *Mission Interstellar*, features the Christie D4KLH60 RGB laser projector. This system delivers astonishing visuals in ultra-sharp 4K resolution, completely immersing visitors in the experience. This attraction is the first in India to be equipped with Christie's RGB laser projection system.

Product:

- Christie D4KLH60 (1)

Results:

The Christie D4KLH60 projector delivers high brightness, a colour gamut that replicates Rec. 2020, and superior performance. The stunning image quality produced by the projector helps create an immersive visual experience that captivates visitors, making it one of the most popular attractions at Wonderla Hyderabad.



▲ Visitors are thrilled by the bright and lifelike visuals as they are teleported to numerous locations across the galaxy

a height of 12 metres. The motion of the ride is synchronised with amazingly detailed and lifelike content to create a soaring sensation. This enables visitors to experience a heightened sense of realism and immersion.”

No compromise in visual quality

An integral component of the ride is the quality of the visuals and Wonderla has pulled out all the stops to have the finest projection system deployed for this flying theatre, which is expected to become one of the most popular attractions in the theme park. After evaluating various brands during a rigorous selection process, the leading theme park operator ultimately decided to install the Christie D4KLH60.

“We came to the conclusion that Christie’s RGB laser projection system is the most appropriate choice for *Mission Interstellar* due to its high brightness, wide colour gamut, scalability, as well as lower total

cost of ownership in the long run,” said Ajikrishnan, Vice President, Engineering, Wonderla Holidays Ltd. “By selecting the Christie D4KLH60, Wonderla Hyderabad has become the first theme park in India to install Christie’s state-of-the-art RGB laser projection system.”

Equipped with Christie TruLife™ electronics capable of delivering ultra-high resolution, high frame rate video with unprecedented image fidelity, the D4KLH60 features an innovative system architecture with a remote projection head connected to the laser modules via a fibre optic link. Each laser module produces up to 5,000 lumens of white light. Because of the scalability of this platform, up to 12 laser modules can be easily added, removed, activated or disabled depending on the brightness requirements. This provides up to 60,000 lumens per rack. Each laser module is also independently cooled, providing built-in fault protection, improved efficiency and ultimate reliability.

Guests aboard the ride vehicle can experience rich and vibrant visuals projected onto the giant dome screen that completely fill their field of vision. Throughout the ride, they are teleported to numerous locations across the galaxy as if they are on-board a high-speed spacecraft – dodging giant asteroids and traversing mysterious worm holes along the way. The “floating/ flying” movement of the ride vehicle corresponds with the projected onscreen contents. At the same time, environmental effects such as wind are provided to create a highly realistic flying experience.

Building everything from scratch

Ajikrishnan noted that the entire installation process, from planning to commission, took almost 15 months to complete as significant resources had to be put in to construct the 8-storey building which houses the enormous 23-metre dome-shaped roof. “It was a



▲ The Christie D4KLH60 projector (left) and the laser rack fitted with laser modules (right) to deliver a brightness of 60,000 lumens on the parabolic screen

major endeavour for us and we had to work against tight timelines to deliver the project by the end of 2017 in time for the Christmas holidays," he said.

Turning to the challenges faced during the arduous construction and installation process, Ajikrishnan said the positioning of the projector in the room was the primary issue faced by the technical team. "The size of the room had to be modified to install the projector and server. The Christie and Wonderla design teams worked together to ensure that any design constraints did not affect the outcome and I'm glad to note that despite this challenge, the ride was successfully inaugurated on December 6, 2017."

The grand ceremony, attended by South Indian actress Anupama Parameswaran, was one of the major highlights of

Wonderla Hyderabad since the theme park's opening in 2015.

Mission complete

Since its inauguration, *Mission Interstellar* has drawn positive feedback from many visitors, some of whom had travelled from other states to experience the thrill of riding in this high-tech flying theatre. Visitors were impressed by the bright, ultra-sharp and immersive visuals offered by the Christie D4KLH60 projector, and lifelike motion made possible by the hydraulic lift.

Said a 23-year-old theme park enthusiast from Andhra Pradesh: "I have tried many rides at various theme parks in India and overseas. I'm of the view that *Mission Interstellar* is one of the best flying theatre rides that I have experienced so far. The

visuals are fantastic and the environment and motion effects are also top-notch. The ride is very immersive too and I find myself grabbing the supports each time we plunge into a worm hole. The feeling is extraordinary!"

Sharing the same sentiments, Chittilappilly commented that the D4KLH60 has demonstrated excellent performance so far. "The laser projector has fulfilled all the qualities of brightness, clarity and reliability. It provides us with beautiful and seamless coverage on our parabolic screen that visitors have come to love and enjoy. Christie's RGB laser projector is an innovative product that will take us into the future."

Rajesh Patkar, Deputy General Manager, Christie India, added, "We're very pleased to have the Christie D4KLH60 installed at Wonderla Hyderabad, making it the first theme park in India to be furnished with our cutting-edge RGB laser projection system specifically designed for pro-venue applications. It is wonderful to know that visitors are having a blast with this flying theatre, and generating higher attendance for Wonderla Hyderabad since the opening of the ride. I hope the enhanced visuals, flexibility and stability brought about by our RGB laser projection will encourage greater adoption at other location based entertainment venues."

Contact Christie

Contact us today to find out how your organization can benefit from Christie solutions.

Photos courtesy of Wonderla Holidays Ltd

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