

Fact sheet for the "Universe of particles" exhibition

Permanent exhibition covering 450 square metres on the ground floor of CERN's Globe of Science and Innovation.

Content:

The content is designed to be accessible to everyone and is broken down into four main themes:

Mysterious worlds – Study of the Universe and its evolution – the major research questions in this field.

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) - the world's largest accelerator.

Detecting particles – The experiments at the LHC accelerator

Science without borders – international scientific collaboration and the spin-offs of particle physics research in our everyday life

Scenography:

Emphasis is placed on visual and interactive effects using a scenography based on the sphere. While the Globe housing the exhibition is a metaphor for the Earth, the spheres in the exhibition are metaphors both for elementary particles and stars, the smallest and biggest objects in the Universe. The visitor is plunged into an obscure environment where only the spheres are illuminated, creating a strange and fascinating world.

The themes are presented in four zones positioned around a giant disk-shaped screen displaying images of LHC collisions - the very same ones used by physicists in their quest for knowledge.

These zones contain:

- **6 spherical interactive kiosks** presenting CERN's research aims, the tools used to achieve them and technology transfer.
- **10 spherical display cases** presenting actual parts of CERN's research accelerators and detectors.
- **An interactive panel** illustrating and explaining CERN's accelerators and experiments as well as the path taken by the particles in the accelerator chain, from source to collision.
- **An interactive sphere** recounting CERN's tale of human endeavour and international collaboration.
- **5 audio kiosks** streaming information on the great questions of contemporary physics.

At regular intervals, the walls of the Globe turn into a screen on which a 6-minute video show recounting the history of the Big Bang and the Universe is projected.

Credits:

The scenography, design and graphics were done by the ATELIER BRÜCKNER (based in Stuttgart), acting as General Contractor and supervising the installation work by the following subcontractors:

Nüssli – construction and general installation

iard – informatics developments

Tamschick Media+Space GmbH - images and video show

BLUWI, Blunck, Will & Denker GBR - music for the video show
Atelier Derrer GmbH - lighting
Ellermann Konzept GmbH – wall screens
Hasenkopf – central component

The exhibition content was proposed by CERN.

Languages:

The "Universe of Particles" is presented in English and in French.

Access:

The exhibition is situated on the ground floor of CERN's Globe of Science and Innovation building, 385 route de Meyrin.

Car-parking available adjacent to the CERN Reception Building.

No prior knowledge of physics required, exhibition on a single level.

Open Mondays to Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Entrance free.

Open to the public from 1 July 2010.