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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

High-Tech “Ape Man” Exhibit Opens at Creation Museum:

New kind of laser light show used to debunk evolutionary myth

PETERSBURG, Ky., July 21, 2011 – Laser beams seem to jump from the laser pointer of [Dr. David Menton](#) as he appears on a special video monitor and points to specific exhibit areas in a new “Ape Man” display inside the high-tech [Creation Museum](#). The impressive exhibit was dedicated yesterday at the world-renowned Creation Museum just outside Cincinnati, which has now hosted more than 1.3 million visitors in four years.

“There are and always have been – since the sixth day of creation recorded in Genesis – apes and humans. But there never have been any ‘ape-men’ as part of an evolutionary process,” said museum founder and [Answers in Genesis](#) President [Ken Ham](#). “We are thrilled about being able to employ some unique and exciting technology to help teach biblical truths to our museum guests.”

Rather than use a large number of signs and models that would take up a lot of exhibit space, a video monitor has been installed on which people will be able to see one of the museum’s eminent scientists, Dr. Menton, addressing the topic of apes and humans. As Dr. Menton speaks on the video, he uses a laser to point at various parts of skeletons found in the actual glass cases below.



An anatomist with a Ph.D. from an Ivy League school (Brown University), Dr. Menton shows how apes and humans are quite different (contrary to evolutionary belief). The laser then shines on the particular parts of the skeletons, as if Dr. Menton is live on the monitor and actually using the laser pointer right there.

Creation Museum founder Ken Ham, staff scientist Dr. David Menton and exhibit designer Doug Henderson open a new “Ape Man” exhibit that utilizes laser technology at the museum this week.

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The technology behind the exhibit is credited to museum designer Doug Henderson who was trying to think of a way to have parts of skeletons light up as they were being taught about in accompanying videos. LEDs and fiber optics weren't practical because of wiring issues, so he then hit on the idea of laser pointers. “While the technology isn't new, the unique aspect of this exhibit is how the lasers interact with the video and seem to be coming from Dr. Menton's laser pointer on the monitor,” Henderson said.

Equating the combination to a popular chocolate and peanut butter candy, Henderson said the exhibit brings together two great technologies that work well with one another. He observed that he hasn't seen this combined utilization duplicated anywhere else before. A year in the making, the exhibit required the input of several museum teams working together, including the film production crew which had to design a box frame and lighting to make it appear that Dr. Menton was leaning out of the screen to point his laser at specific parts of the skeletons.

The electronics and audio/visual teams then had to wire and position the lasers so that the angles of the light streams matched what seemed to be coming from the video monitor. “We've really pioneered something here, and I expect to see it duplicated in other museums around the world,” Henderson added.

The Creation Museum has other new and high-tech exhibits in the works, and is about to open a new multi-purpose 900-seat auditorium to host special events and large speaking opportunities for the community. A stand-alone observatory with powerful telescopes is also under construction nearby to complement the newly upgraded high-definition planetarium.

“We praise the Lord for the creative individuals here at AiG and the Creation Museum who are able to envision and then produce such exciting new exhibits for our guests,” Ham said. “We hope to continue growing and expanding our offerings at the museum – in addition to the upcoming full-size Noah's Ark – as we seek to present biblical history to a questioning culture.”

Answers in Genesis is a biblical apologetics ministry which conducts more than 300 teaching meetings each year, publishes the award-winning “Answers” magazine, hosts a highly-trafficked website, and produces the “Answers” radio program heard on more than 600 stations throughout the United States. It founded the high-tech Creation Museum, which opened to international acclaim on Memorial Day, 2007, and has attracted more than 1.3 million visitors since then. For more information, see www.creationmuseumnews.com. The Ark website is www.ArkEncounter.com.

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