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News Release

OFS ADDS NEW ERBIUM DOPED FIBERS TO EXISTING 80 MICRON PRODUCT RANGE

Offers Highest Efficiency and Reliability in the Industry

ECOC, Booth #85/86, Copenhagen, Denmark, September 9, 2002 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced the addition of several new erbium doped fibres to further broaden its portfolio of 80-micron fibres. These fibres are developed by the Specialty Photonics Division of OFS and will be presented at ECOC 2002.

The 80-micron fibres are designed for compact amplifier designs operating in the C- or L-band, offering higher efficiency and reliability, lower noise figure and tight bend radii. The 80 mm cladding diameter allows smaller coil diameters with less fibre stress thereby reducing space requirements to >60%.

"Our new 80-micron fibres will enable smaller amplifiers targeted to the metro markets that place a premium on equipment real estate," says Kenneth Walker, President, Specialty Photonics Division, OFS. "With over 10 years of experience manufacturing 80 mm erbium fibres, we provide our customers with the most highly reliable and efficient products available today."

The 80-micron product range now includes the R37003-80 mm and MP980-80 mm, modifications of the widely used OFS erbium-doped fibre. With GP980-80mm, the fibres offer an ideal solution for small form factor optical amplifiers operating near 1550 nm. R37102-80 mm (a modification of R37103) and LRL-80mm are fibres designed specifically for L-Band fibre amplifiers operating in the 1570-1610 nm region. Both the fibres reduce lengths needed in amplifier designs.

Typical uses of the fibre include:
o Compact CATV and DWDM systems

o 980 nm pump applications
o 1480 nm pump applications.

OFS offers its OASIX® Simulation System with the 80-micron fibres, which allow users to simulate fibre performance in EDFA and light-source applications, thus saving designers valuable measurement time while reducing fibre waste.

About OFS

OFS is a world-leading designer, manufacturer and provider of optical fiber, optical fiber cable, connectivity, FTTx and specialty photonics solutions. Our marketing, sales, manufacturing and research teams provide forward-looking, innovative products and solutions in areas including Telecommunications, Medicine, Industrial Automation, Sensing, Government, Aerospace and Defense applications. We provide reliable, cost effective optical solutions to enable our customers to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's digital and energy consumers and businesses.

OFS' corporate lineage dates back to 1876 and includes technology powerhouses such as AT&T and Lucent Technologies. Today, OFS is owned by Furukawa Electric, a multi-billion dollar global leader in optical communications.

For more information, please visit www.ofsoptics.com.

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