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News Release

OFS ANNOUNCES ULTRAWAVE™ TERRESTRIAL FIBER PAIRS FOR BUILDING SELF DISPERSION COMPENSATING SPANS

OFC, Booth 4700, Anaheim, CA, March 19, 2002 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced the introduction of UltraWave™ Terrestrial Fiber pairs for increasing distance between regenerators to 3000km or longer for ultra-high performance terrestrial optical networks. Building on its world-leading technology first commercialized for undersea systems, OFS has developed UltraWave Terrestrial Fiber to provide twice the un-regenerated distance for high-speed DWDM networks.

UltraWave Terrestrial Fiber attains its breakthrough performance by providing self-compensation of both dispersion and dispersion slope in combination with fiber effective areas that ideally balance Raman gain and system nonlinearities. At the same time, it cuts system costs by extending system reach prior to regeneration while eliminating the need for separate compensating modules. The solution also eliminates dispersion temperature variations while providing for tight DWDM channel spacing.

Open Migration Path

By providing a network that does not allow the build up of dispersion, UltraWave Terrestrial fibers are ideal for optical routing and leave an open migration path for OFS customers. The UltraWave Terrestrial solution provides broad spectral range with near-zero net dispersion enabling greatest flexibility in building optical add/drop networks at high data rates and tight channel spacing with industry-leading system link polarization mode dispersion (PMD).

"This breakthrough solution can actually provide twice the un-regenerated distance for our customers' networks," said Janice Haber, Vice President Systems Engineering and Market Development, OFS. "This significantly cuts system costs without sacrificing signal quality."

Furthermore, OFS and Mintera Corporation have teamed up to demonstrate the capabilities of its full-spectrum 40Gb/s ETDM transmission system as a cost-effective solution for long-haul networks, using the UltraWave Terrestrial Fibers. The demonstration enabled the transmission of 40 channels out to a distance of 3200 km without regeneration.

"Deployment of this innovative new fiber will significantly lower the cost per transmitted bit for 10G and 40G WDM systems since the need for electrical regenerators in long haul networks is reduced," says Mintera CEO, Menachem Abraham. "At the same time, it drastically simplifies dispersion management and permits the use of simpler and less expensive optical amplifiers."

Benefits Summary

· Minimizes the need for dispersion compensation modules
· Doubles the range available with Raman pumped systems
· Broadest spectral range for both EDFA and Raman amplified systems
· Low system path PMD for longest distance
· Increases regenerator spacings well beyond today's typical 600 km distance to 3000 km or more, for 40 Gb/s transmission; highest performance at the lowest system cost
· Practical complete installation support from splicing to cable selection to dispersion engineering

About Mintera

Mintera is creating a new generation of ultra-high capacity photonic transmission solutions for the regional, long haul and ultra long haul markets. The company's initial focus is cost-effective delivery of services over 40 Gb/s technology, scaling in aggregate to multi-terabit transport capacity on a single fiber. Mintera's patented and highly flexible 40G solutions will enable service providers to substantially lower both capital and operational costs in their optical networks. Mintera's field-deployable and superior 40G design has been verified with numerous impressive transmission results over thousands of kilometer of fiber.
Mintera was founded August 10, 2000 and began operation in October 27, 2000. Mintera is an early-stage private company, which has raised $26 million from its investors Court Square Ventures, Star Ventures, Portview Communications Partners and Sycamore Networks, Inc.

Mintera is located in Lowell, Massachusetts. For more information visit: www.mintera.com

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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