



A Furukawa Company

Your Optical Fiber Solutions Partner™

News Release

E2O and OFS TO DEMONSTRATE INDUSTRY'S FIRST 10 Gb/s XFP TRANSMISSION OVER 600 METERS AT 850 NM

OFC, Booth 2141 and E2O Booth 7740, Atlanta, GA March 25, 2003– E2O

Communications Inc., developer and manufacturer of Multi-Gigabit rate fiber optic subsystems and OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, will jointly demonstrate the “industry first” 10 Gb/s transmission over 600 meters at 850 nm, using OFS' LaserWave® 500 multimode fiber and E2O's 850 nm XFP transceivers.

At 600 meters, the transmission demonstrates twice the reach specified in the IEEE 10-Gigabit Ethernet Standard (802.3ae).

“This demonstration showcases our ability to offer the most cost-effective solutions to meet the needs of LAN, SAN, and campus applications. The LaserWave family of fibers offers our customers great flexibility in their network.” said Nick Khoury, President Optical Fiber Division OFS. “Our fiber enables our customers to migrate their network from 10 Mb/s to 10 Gb/s seamlessly using low cost multimode fiber based optics, with no changes to the cabling system up to 500 meters.”

LaserWave laser-optimized multimode fibers are the first to extend the application of multimode fiber to support 10 Gb/s serial transmission with low cost 850 nm VCSEL transceivers. They enable lower cost for legacy through 10 Gb/s applications, helping to reduce these optical systems costs by 35% or more. LaserWave 500 fiber extends the system cost benefits of LaserWave fibers to ultra long building backbones and medium length campus backbones.

“This is the latest step in E2O's quest to satisfy the ever-increasing bandwidth needs of enterprise networks and service providers,” said Bob Pierce, Vice President of Marketing. “Our 10 Gb/s transceiver product family offers performance far exceeding the XFP MSA specifications. The E2O XFP 850 nm transceiver improves short reach support for 10 Gb/s Ethernet and OIF OC192 applications, and is a critical piece of the system solution.

E2O's XFP is an ultra-small 10 Gb/s optical transceiver module being standardized by the XFP MSA Group. The XFP's small footprint and low power dissipation (1.7 watts at 850 nm and 2.3 watts at 1310 nm) enable the highest board density applications in the industry. It also uses the LC connector to provide superior optical insertion loss performance in a small footprint. These factors, in addition to its protocol independence, help provide the lowest overall cost solution for OEMs' optical data communications systems.

About E2O Communications Inc.

E2O Communications, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of high-performance fiber optic transmission components and modules for Local Area Networks (LANs), Storage Area Networks (SANs), Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs), Wide Area Networks (WANs) and Access Networks (ANs). The company sells its products globally to manufacturers of communications gears for public and private enterprises, internet service providers and telecommunications operating companies. In addition, E2O is heading the XFF subsection of the XFP MSA to achieve even lower power and reduced overall system cost.

NOTE: For further information about any aspect of this news release, please contact Bob Pierce V.P Marketing E2O Communications 818-466-2805 or by email www.bpierce@e2oinc.com.

Headquarters and Research and Development are in Southern California.

For more information visit <http://www.e2oinc.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.

CONTACT:

Sherry Salyer

OFS Public Relations

shsalyer@ofsoptics.com

Direct: 770-798-4210

Mobile: 678-296-7034