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News Release

OFS ANNOUNCES NEW CONTRACTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE

Demand increases for fiber optic technologies used to deliver communications services

Hannover, Germany, Hall 27, Stand 24/1, March 12, 2003 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, announced here today at CeBIT multiple fiber cable contracts with telecommunications providers and consultants in the international marketplace. The company said the agreements represent renewed demand for its products used to build and maintain high-speed fiber optic networks around the world.

As part of the agreements, OFS will provide various fiber cable products to:

- **Attika Telecommunications**, the leading network operator in Athens, Greece
- **PTK Kosovo**, the telecommunications service provider in Kosovo
- **Hvratski Telekom**, Croatia's largest telecom service provider
- **Kuwait Messaging Services Company (KMSC)**, a management consulting and systems integration professional services company helping to develop a telecommunications network for the Kuwait Ministry of Communication

"We're beginning to see much-anticipated growth in the industry, and an increased demand for fiber optic products that enable more cost-effective and flexible networks," said Willie O'Connell, business director of the European, Middle Eastern markets for OFS. "We have long been a leader in the design and development of products that adapt easily to the ever-changing telecommunications landscape, and today's announcement is a testimony to our success."

Based on recent data from industry analysts, wireline service providers worldwide are expected to spend more than \$114 billion over the next two years to develop high-speed, high-capacity, fiber optic networks designed to deliver existing and emerging communications services to their subscribers.

"Several new metro/regional backbone projects will come on the market this year, and we've recently seen some long-distance projects contributing to stronger demand in South Asia

and Eastern Europe,” explained Richard R. Mack, Vice President & General Manager, KMI Research. “These contracts announced by OFS highlight the diverse geographic nature of today’s market as well as the requirements for advanced cable products, such as low-water fiber and small-diameter, high-density cable.”

At the heart of the agreements are OFS’ revolutionary fiber and cable products: ·Attika Telecommunications will deploy OFS’ award-winning AllWave® Fiber, the industry’s first fiber designed specifically for metro and local access networks, and its high fiber density MiDia FX Cables, to build-out a metropolitan area network in downtown Athens. The network will be completed in time to support the 2004 Summer Olympic games. ·PTK Kosovo will deploy the latest generation of AllWave Fiber for their continued build-out of Kosovo’s optical fiber network. The network will bring basic phone service to the residents of Kosovo and enable wireless and Internet services. ·Hvratski Telekom will install OFS’ single-mode fiber and cable products in its network in Croatia. The company is the only provider in the country to offer the full range of telecommunications services including fixed telephony, mobile telephony, data transfer, and Internet and international communications. ·KMSC has selected OFS to supply a series of cables for the execution of a fiber optic cable transmission ring for the Kuwait Ministry of Communication. When complete, the ring will connect all existing exchanges in Kuwait to the international gateway.

“The dynamics have changed for developing new, and today’s informed service providers are looking for outstanding technical innovation as well as affordable, flexible network solutions,” added Willie O’Connell. “We’ve had tremendous success with AllWave fiber in the North American marketplace and believe that our fiber and our innovative cable designs position us well to serve the needs of both small and large providers internationally.”

OFS leads the industry in the design and manufacture of fiber designed specifically for metropolitan and local access networks and has shipped more than 5 million kilometers of AllWave Fiber – enough to encircle the globe ~124 times – since announcing it in 1998. The revolutionary fiber employs a unique manufacturing process that opens up previously unusable portions of the spectrum, thereby increasing capacity in optical networks up to 50 percent compared to traditional single-mode fibers.

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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