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News Release

OFS DEMONSTRATES EXTENDED REACH, 10 GB/S 850 NM TRANSMISSION OVER LASERWAVE™ 500 FIBER

First Extended Reach Demonstration Achieved Over Multimode Fiber with XPAK Module

NFOEC, Booth #601, September 8, 2003 - OFS, designer, manufacturer and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced that it is demonstrating the first live 10 Gb/s transmission over its LaserWave™ 500 multimode fiber reaching a record distance of 1.1 km over an Intel® TXN17201 XPAK Optical Transceiver. This is the first public demonstration of extended reach, 10 Gb/s 850 nm transmissions using an XPAK module, and shows the compatibility of the compact XPAK form factor module with high speed, 850 nm systems.

This demonstration shows greater than 10E - 12 Bit Error Ratio performance and reaches over triple the 300 meter distance that is specified in the IEEE, Fibre Channel, and OIF specifications for 10 Gb/s multimode fiber based systems. Production versions of LaserWave 500 fiber, the Intel TXN17201 XPAK Optical Transceiver, and two OFS LC optical connectors are employed in the demonstration to emulate a practical link configuration.

The Intel TXN17201 XPAK Optical Transceiver uses 10 Gb/s 850 nm Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Lasers (VCSEL) technology to optimize costs for short reach applications. By using 850 nm VCSELs operating over multimode fiber, this technology has proven to be cost effective for 1 Gb/s applications and now for 10 Gb/s applications.

"Intel's TXN17201 XPAK Optical Transceiver has demonstrated reach up to 1.1 km for high bandwidth 850 nm optical links when paired with OFS' LaserWave 500 fiber," said Bob Zona, director of Enterprise technology, Intel Optical Platform Division. "This link distance is approximately 800 meters longer than called for in the IEEE 802.3ae specification 850 nm

multimode links. Use of lower cost multimode optics at these distances, that traditionally would need single mode solutions, will help customers to reduce their equipment costs and operating expenses."

In the demo, a test pattern specified in the IEEE 802.3 10 Gigabit Ethernet specification, is used to create a worst-case transmission stream that is sent over the fiber and the bit error rate is measured. A special evaluation board supplied by Intel transmits and receives the pattern and tracks the errors.

"This demonstration highlights the capability of the 10 Gb/s 850 nm transmission over LaserWave 500 fiber for extended reach applications such as server to switch and switch to switch links in large data centers, backbones, and central offices using Fibre Channel, Ethernet, or OIF physical layers," said Nick Khoury, President, Optical Fiber Division, OFS. "LaserWave fibers control Differential Mode Delay (DMD) across the entire core to specifications up to 60% tighter than required by the standards to help enable this superior performance. In addition, LaserWave fibers meet industry-best core centering tolerances that reduce connection loss to enable longer links and higher reliability margins," added Khoury.

LaserWave 500 fiber is part of the LaserWave family of 10 Gb/s and 1 Gb/s 850 nm optimized multimode fibers, made available from OFS first in 1999. The LaserWave fiber family also includes LaserWave 300 fiber, optimized for 10 Gb/s 300 meter applications, and the recently introduced LaserWave G+ fiber, the first DMD controlled and specified 1 Gb/s 850 nm optimized fiber. OFS has led the industry in the development, standardization and sales of 10 Gb/s multimode fibers to enable end users to lower optical system costs by 20-50%.

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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