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News Release

OFS SELECTED BY SIERRA TELEPHONE TO DEPLOY MICRODUCT CABLE IN CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ACCESS NETWORK

MiDia® FX plus Cable Offers Cost Effective Upgrade to 100% Fiber Network in California Metro Area

SuperComm, Booth # 23729, Atlanta, GA, June 3, 2003 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced the successful deployment of its MiDia® FX plus cable by Sierra Telephone, a leading telecommunications services provider in Central California. The installation of the MiDia FX plus cable was an addition to Sierra Telephone's 100% fiber optic network, which delivers telephony services to business and residential customers. Sierra Telephone selected the MiDia FX plus cable, a new OFS microcable, to facilitate this installation of new fiber in a congested metro right-of-way.

"OFS' MiDia FX plus cable allowed us to install new fiber in both existing, congested ducts as well as into new ducts," explained John Warner, OSP Engineering Supervisor, Sierra Telephone. "Deployment of this microcable reduced the cost of this build by 65%. In addition, the use of this microcable minimized the consumption of space in sections of the route that contained new ducts, leaving the most amount of right-of-way for future network upgrades."

Designed for air-blown duct installations, the MiDia FX plus Cable is a loose tube cable that is more than 40% smaller than a standard loose tube cable with a comparable fiber count. Used in conjunction with microducts, the cable's small size and keen suitability for air-blown installation technology can dramatically lower installation costs of fiber optic deployments by creating routes through congested ducts. The ability to use space in existing ducts eliminates the need for invasive, costly construction of new duct right-of-ways in urban areas. With its diameter of 7.5 mm, the MiDia FX plus cable is one of two OFS microcables

specifically designed to be installed in 12/10 mm microducts and, therefore, was ideal for Sierra Telephone's network upgrade.

Although designed and optimized for blown installations, the MiDia FX plus cable also has a 300-lb tensile rating and is fully compliant with the mechanical and environmental requirements of the industry's default standard, Telcordia GR-20.

OFS worked with Fiber Optic Supply, the leading distributor to the ILEC market in California, to identify the best cable product to meet Sierra Telephone's need for a cost effective approach to fiber upgrades.

"Installation in Sierra Telephone's existing, congested ducts would not have been possible without a microcable design, and OFS' MiDia FX plus cable performed very well," said Bob Perazzo, Sales Vice President, Fiber Optic Supply. "The loose tube type of microcable was selected to match with Sierra Telephone's embedded base of loose tube cable and existing splice closures."

"OFS has developed a complete portfolio of microcable products, which includes the MiDia FX plus cable and the only viable central core ribbon microcable on the market," said Paul Neuhart, President, Optical Fiber Cable & Connectivity, OFS. "We are committed to offering a complete line of these products as they provide our customers with a cost effective approach to getting fiber into metro areas."

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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