OFS DEMONSTRATES EZ-BEND™ OPTICAL TECHNOLOGY AT THE FTTH COUNCIL EUROPE CONFERENCE IN PARIS

New Technology Can Improve Bending Performance by up to 100 times to Help Avoid Service Disruptions and Lower Installation Costs

Paris, France, FTTH Council Europe Conference, Booth #S4, February 27, 2008: OFS announced it will demonstrate its new EZ-Bend™ Optical Cable Technology at the FTTH Council Europe Conference. Supporting multiple dwelling unit (MDU) and in-home wiring applications, the ground-breaking EZ-Bend Technology addresses the critical need to speed and simplify installations by allowing cables to be bent and routed in ways never before feasible using traditional optical drop cables, to facilitate rapid deployment of fiber to and within the residence.

Service providers need drop cables that support tight corner bends and stapling. The EZ-Bend Technology enables in-residence optical cable installation with the same simple practices used for copper or coaxial cables. Cables using EZ-Bend Technology can be stapled in place utilizing existing copper cable installation tools and routed around corners. Its bending loss performance represents up to a 100-fold improvement over conventional single-mode fiber (SMF) type cables.

The demonstration shows a live video stream supported over optical cables using EZ-Bend Technology bent around numerous corners with no degradation in picture quality. In contrast, a conventional cable subjected to far less bending shuts down the video and “freezes” the screen. This is because the EZ-Bend Technology enables negligible video signal loss (0.1 dB maximum at 1550 nm) for one turn at 5 mm radius, while conventional fibers under the same assumption lose nearly all the signal and shut down service to customers.

“OFS’ EZ-Bend Technology integrates a new bend-optimized fiber design in a new cable construction,” said Finn Mogensen, Executive Marketing & Sales Director for FTTH & Cable in EMEA. “This innovative technology is the first to provide such performance using a solid glass fiber construction, while being fully splice and performance compatible with typical installed fibers,” Mr. Mogensen added.

OFS will provide EZ-Bend Technology in the V-Linx™ drop cables used in its V-Linx Spool & Play Solution for MDU deployments. A key component of OFS’ FOX™ Solution for FTTX applications, the V-Linx Solution can simplify MDU installations and lower installed cabling system costs by up to 50%. The V-Linx drop cables are expected to be commercially available in the first half of 2008.

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