



A Furukawa Company

Your Optical Fiber Solutions Partner™

News Release

FURUKAWA AND OFS LAUNCH FITEL® S123M8 and S123M12 FUSION SPLICERS TO GLOBAL MARKET

Enables faster splicing time and ruggedness

OSP Expo, Booth 532, San Antonio, October 13, 2010 - Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd. (FEC), and the U.S.-based OFS, Telecommunications Division, are pleased to announce the launch of the latest FITEL brand hand-held fusion splicers, FITEL® S123M8 and S123M12 fusion splicers, as the successors to the S122M8 and S122M12 models respectively.

“The FITEL S123M8 and S123M12 fusion splicers bring additional speed and durability for our installers,” said Linda Dembowski, General Manager, OFS Optical Connectivity Solutions. “Improved operation time and power saving technology will give our customers greater efficiency, consistency and ultimately, cost savings in last mile applications.”

One of the major improvements in the S123M8 and S123M12 splicers is the significantly reduced operation time. Protection sleeve shrink time is 35 seconds for ribbon fiber sleeve, while splicing requires only 15 seconds for 8 or 12 ribbon count fiber. Also, power saving technology used in these machines allows up to 160 splicing cycles (splicing/heating) with new two battery configuration.

Another feature of FITEL S123M8/12 fusion splicers is their ruggedness. Using a similar platform to the other newly launched FITEL S178A/S153A/S123C/S123M4 fusion splicers, these two machines are both designed to endure harsh operating conditions by improving shock resistance with rubber pads embedded on 4 corners of the splicer body. They also have the water resistance equivalent of premium industry standards, IPX2, and dust resistance equivalent of IP5X.*

In the field where installers are required to splice various fibers such as single, 4-ribbon and 8/12 ribbon, these versatile and user friendly hand-held S123M8/12 models are ideal tools

to have. They have the ability to splice any fibers up to 8 and 12 ribbon respectively by simply changing the fiber holders, in any fields such as FTTx, LAN, backbone and long-haul installations where fast and consistent splicing is the absolute necessity.

FEC and OFS offer a full range of rugged hand-held fusion splicers offering speed, durability, and low loss in smaller, lighter hand-held designs including the highly precise, FITELE S178 Hand Held Core Align fusion splicer, the mid-tier FITELE S153 Active Clad Align fusion splicer, both announced earlier in 2010, and complemented by today's introduction of the FITELE S123M8 and S123M12 ribbon fusion splicers.

S123M8 and M12 Fusion Splicer Product Features:

- Fast splicing (about 15 seconds) with low loss and fast heating (about 35 seconds) for a ribbon fiber.
- Long battery life with power saving technology allows up to 160 splicing and heating cycles by fully charged battery packs installed in the main body.
- Shock resistant design with 4 rubber pads in corners of machine boosting the shock resistance significantly compared with previous models.
- Dust and water resistant design.

About Furukawa Electric Company, Ltd.

Furukawa Electric Co. Ltd. (www.furukawa.co.jp/english) is an \$11 billion global leader in the design, manufacture and supply of fiber optic products, network products, electronics components, power cables, nonferrous metals, and other advanced technology products. Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, Furukawa operates production facilities on five continents around the globe, including OFS and the OFS Specialty Photonics Division in the USA.

*IPX2 rating drip proof means that the machine can be exposed to 3mm/min drip for 10 min with 15°tilt and still functions.; IP5X rating dust proof means that the machine can be exposed to dust particles with a diameter of 0.1 to 25µm for 8 hours and still functions.

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