



A Furukawa Company

Your Optical Fiber Solutions Partner™

News Release

OFS LAUNCHES HAND –HELD CORE-ALIGNMENT FITEL® S178 FUSION SPLICER TO GLOBAL MARKET

New alignment system can save up to 20% on splicing time

NORCROSS, Georgia, January 18, 2010 – OFS today announces the commercial release of its hand-held core-alignment FITEL® S178 Hand-Held Core-Alignment Fusion Splicer to the global market.

“The key advantage of the FITEL S178 Fusion Splicer is its speed and durability,” said Linda Dembowski, General Manager, Optical Connectivity Solutions. “By combining speed, precision, durability and portability in one unit, the FITEL S178 Fusion Splicer ushers in a new range of applications for core alignment splicing.”

The FITEL S178 Fusion Splicer is significantly smaller and lighter in weight than previous models. Its canopy design, durable metal body frame and rubber shock absorbers provide robust protection, enabling use in demanding environments without compromising splicing performance. Along with its rugged durability, the S178 also offers the added user convenience of an innovative, mirror-free alignment system which allows for simplified maintenance. The new battery system provides up to 200 splicing cycles (splicing/heating).

While increasing speed and durability, the FITEL S178 Fusion Splicer continues the FITEL fusion splicer tradition of quality and excellence by delivering precise, accurate splices even under rigorous conditions in the field.

Product Features:

- Rugged and compact handheld design. The S178 design endures harsh environmental conditions.

- Fast splicing and heating. The S178 can splice in 7 seconds at super low loss and heat in 25 seconds
- 200 cycles The S178 can splice and heat 200 cycles with new battery configuration
- Available for all METRO/ LAN / FTTX fibers. The S178 is available for METRO/ LAN/ FTTX fibers including ultra bend-optimized fiber including EZ-Bend® Fibers
- Compatible with the OFS and leading brand splice-on-connectors

[More about the 178 Fusion Splicer >>](#)

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