Norcross, Georgia, November 16, 2011 - OFS, a leading designer, manufacturer and supplier of innovative fiber optic network products, Optimal Cable Services (Optimal) and National Broadband Network of Australia (NBN Co) announce that OFS and Optimal have been selected to jointly supply key multiple dwelling unit (MDU) solutions in support of NBN Co’s FTTX broadband build-out in Australia. The build-out will involve the laying of fiber optic cable to 93 percent of Australian homes, schools, and businesses, initially providing broadband speeds of up to 100Megabits per second at the wholesale level.

“NBN is pleased to add OFS and Optimal Cable to the range of suppliers we are working with to deliver the National Broadband Network to Australian homes and businesses. As we recently announced our 12-month rollout schedule – with construction to start in areas covering over half a million premises – today’s announcement is an important part of the development of our supply chain,” said NBN Co CEO, Mike Quigley.

NBN will use OFS connectivity solutions to connect broadband subscribers in the build-out. Those OFS solutions include AllWave® FLEX+ fiber, OFS’ latest bend-optimized single mode fiber offering, which is compliant to the ITU-T G.657.A2 specification. NBN has also selected several different OFS assemblies which support stapling and offer rugged characteristics in addition to providing little to no bending loss for use in tight spaces while taking advantage of this advanced fiber technology.

“OFS and Optimal are proud to supply NBN’s key multiple dwelling unit customers with assemblies that provide the enhanced flexibility and simplicity of installation enabled through our unique fiber and cable designs,” said Timothy Pillow, Senior Vice President Global Marketing & Sales for OFS. “Optimal’s long historical participation in the Australian market brings local knowledge and superb service to support this important project. By collaborating together, OFS and Optimal will supply NBN and the people of Australia with
fiber technology and solutions for their high-speed broadband network,” said Paul Cross, principal in Optimal.

About NBN
The National Broadband Network is an Australian Government initiative and represents the largest infrastructure project of its type undertaken in this country. It is a new, wholesale-only, open access high-speed broadband network that will deliver high-speed broadband to all Australians. It will involve the laying of fibre optic cabling to 93 per cent of Australian homes, schools and businesses, with remaining premises to be connected via a combination of next-generation high-speed fixed wireless and satellite technologies delivering peak speeds of 12 Mbps at the wholesale level.

The government has established NBN Co Limited to design, build and operate the National Broadband Network.
For more information, please visit www.nbn.gov.au.

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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