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News Release

OFS ENHANCES MULTIMODE FIBER PERFORMANCE TO 750 METERS WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF LASERWAVE™ G+ 50mm FIBER

***Cost-effective Multimode Fiber is Fully Compatible with Standard Network Protocols;
Operates with Low Cost VCSELs as Light Source***

NFOEC, Booth #601, September 8, 2003 – OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, announced today that LaserWave™ G+ fiber, a multimode fiber that supports distances up to 750 meters with low cost 1 Gb/s 850 nm Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Lasers (VCSELs), is now OFS' standard 50 mm product offering for 1 Gigabit Ethernet applications.

LaserWave G+ fiber will replace OFS' standard 50 mm multimode fiber and its GigaGuide® and GigaGuide XL 50 mm products for 1 Gb/s premises networks.

LaserWave G+ fiber provides 50-240% greater 1 Gb/s optical system link lengths than leading 62.5 mm fiber based systems at comparable prices. The new fiber also provides 50% greater 1Gb/s optical system link lengths than other leading 50 mm 1 Gb/s fibers.

LaserWave G+ fibers also deliver 10 Gb/s application support up to 150 meters at 850 nm and are compatible with legacy lower speed applications.

With the introduction of LaserWave G+ fiber, OFS' base 50 mm offering ensures repeatable and reliable gigabit operation. OFS' patented MCVD process allows accurate control of the refractive index profile across the core and in the core center, which is critical to attaining the high level of reliability and performance seen in LaserWave products.

“In addition to its other immediate benefits, LaserWave G+ fibers now allow low cost multimode systems to support ultra long building backbones, campus and SANs applications, which can significantly cut costs for our customers,” said Nick Khoury, President, Optical Fiber Division, OFS

Khoury said OFS' LaserWave 300 and LaserWave 500 fibers, the world's first 10 Gb/s 850 nm laser optimized multimode fibers, remain the best choice for standard and extended-reach 10 Gb/s applications. The fiber has been commercially available since December 1999.

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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