



A Furukawa Company

Your Optical Fiber Solutions Partner™

News Release

OFS LABORATORIES CONTINUES NEW RESEARCH IN ADVANCED CONCEPTS FOR MANIPULATION OF LIGHT USING OPTICAL FIBERS

OFC 2008 Accepts 18 Papers from OFS R&D Bound to Innovation and Proving It Year after Year

OFC/ NFOEC 2008, Booth 1835, San Diego, California, February 25-26, 2008 — OFS, designer, manufacturer and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced research developments from OFS R&D that further advance fiber optic technology. The 18 papers being presented at OFC 2008, February 26-29, highlight advanced concepts in optical fiber design and applications.

“The recent developments can enable users to further reduce cost in optical networks while allowing more efficient transmission of data through fiber,” said David DiGiovanni, President, OFS Laboratories. “We are at the vanguard of turning science into practical, real world solutions, many that are ubiquitous in the industry today. It’s no different with these published advances here at OFC/NFOEC.”

Generation of Radially Polarised Beams for Optical Fibers (OthV2)

Researchers have worked for many years to create radially-polarized light since it has superior focusing and propagation characteristics compared to more conventional linear or random polarization. Of great interest currently is the fact that radially-polarized light has much stronger optical-material interaction and can improve the quality of laser applications, such as cutting, welding or drilling. OFS researchers have found an elegant and simple way of converting the output of a conventional fiber device to radial polarization. “This is expected to open a vast array of applications and new device opportunities,” says DiGiovanni. “While OFS Labs is at the forefront of this research, I expect we’ll see other groups duplicating and extending this work.”

Bend Insensitive Fiber Design Strategies (NTuC3)

A hot topic at this year's OFC/NFOEC, this paper on Bend Insensitive Fiber Design Strategies discusses cost-effective design techniques for reducing fiber loss and allowing fiber penetration deeper to the end user. OFS authors emphasize the fundamental understanding of the physics of bend loss, predictions of long-term reliability in highly-bent fiber, compatible splicing and connector technology, and the impact of bending on mode coupling and signal distortion. Furukawa Electric Co. (FEC), parent company to OFS, is also showcasing several papers on bend-insensitive multimode fibers and fibers for optical interconnects.

Innovation in Amplifier Technologies (OWU3, JThA47 and OThN4)

Amplifier technologies remains a robust field for innovation as OFS researchers seek to improve amplifier performance and cost-effectiveness. This includes the application of air-cladding technology in erbium-doped fiber to improve both bandwidth and efficiency for higher-power applications such as CATV, as well as improved Raman amplification to allow practical, increased reach of telecommunications networks.

About OFS Laboratories

OFS Laboratories is a world class Center of Excellence for optical innovations, complemented by FEC's own first-rate R&D capabilities. OFS Laboratories generates commercially viable technology breakthroughs that the four OFS divisions take to market quickly.

Scientists who are now with OFS Laboratories have been responsible for innovative fiber-optic technology inventions, now ubiquitous in the industry, such as non-zero dispersion fiber, submarine optical fiber and polarization maintaining fiber. Based in Murray Hill, NJ, OFS Laboratories will continue to push the boundaries of optical science.

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