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News Release

OFS AND HITACHI DEMONSTRATE INDUSTRY-FIRST ONLINE GAMING APPLICATIONS OVER B-PON ACCESS SYSTEM

Xbox Live™ and Quintuple-Play Services Enabled by Access ADVANTAGE™ Fiber-to-the-Subscriber System

OFC Conference, Los Angeles, Booth 2538, February 24, 2004 - OFS, designer, manufacturer and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, with Hitachi, Ltd & Hitachi Telecom (USA), Inc., leading providers of optical access equipment, today announced the world's first demonstration of a live online gaming application, which simultaneously uses voice, CATV video, Internet Protocol video and data services, over a B-PON Access system. The demonstration is enabled by OFS' Access ADVANTAGE FTTP System and Hitachi's AMN1200 Access series. The power of this system is its ability to deliver all of these services in the access network to multiple customers over a PON system utilizing a single AllWave® fiber over 20km distance, nearly double the rated reach of the Hitachi equipment. Show attendees can play an Xbox Live™ game and simultaneously access the Internet, talk using the Xbox Live Communicator headset, and view broadcast video to experience the power of optical access networks.

“Online gaming, video, and data applications no longer need to be constrained by bandwidth restrictions. This first live demonstration of a truly converged ‘beyond-broadband’ network showcases the unique potential of our Access ADVANTAGE FTTP System and how it enables revenue generating services, scalability and reliability,” said Paul Neuhart, President, Optical Fiber, Cable and Connectivity Division, OFS.

The demonstration consists of OFS' AllWave® fiber cable, low-loss LC connectors, low-loss adapters, and bend insensitive Blue Tiger™ LC jumpers connecting to an AMN1200 low-cost B-PON Optical Line Terminal (OLT) in Hitachi's booth #2226. The OLT transmits multiple services to Hitachi's AMN1200 Single Family Unit (SFU) and AMN1200 Ethernet Terminal Unit (ETU) located in both Hitachi's booth and OFS' booth. RF video is broadcast

to all end customers on its own wavelength using WDM technology. Broadcast IP video is encoded onto the PON data stream to demonstrate the high bandwidth capability of the network. Microsoft Xbox on-line, real-time gaming and direct Internet links are provided at four terminals located in the Hitachi Telecom and OFS booths. Also, native POTS telephony is provided between the booths using Hitachi's SFU Optical Networking Terminals (ONTs). A 1:32 splitter divides the fiber so that all five applications can be shared at once to four locations in the two booths with the flexibility to expand to 32 end users.

Xbox Live can take advantage of very high-speed FTTP optical access networks to deliver enhanced gaming experiences for subscribers. With access speeds over 100 times faster than conventional broadband solutions, FTTP using the Access ADVANTAGE system can enable lightning fast Xbox Live game experiences over an extended reach optical access network

The Access ADVANTAGE system is a complete FTTP cabling and connectivity system that features the AllWave Full Spectrum ADVANTAGE™ fiber offering 50% more bandwidth that can be used for premium residential services such as instant on-demand HDTV.

About Hitachi Telecom (USA)

Hitachi Telecom (USA) Inc., a subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., develops, manufactures and markets telecommunications equipment for the U.S. market. The company offers a full suite of access products such as PON, ultra high-speed optical networking equipment, as well as customer premises products such as PBXs. For more information, visit <http://www.hitachitelecom.com>.

Hitachi America, Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., markets and manufactures a broad range of electronics, computer systems and products, consumer electronics, and provides industrial equipment and services throughout North America. For more information, visit <http://www.hitachi.us>.

Hitachi, Ltd. (NYSE: HIT), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company, with approximately 340,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2002 (ended March 31, 2003) consolidated sales totaled 8,191.7 billion yen (\$68.3 billion). The company offers a wide range of systems, products and services in market sectors, including information

systems, electronic devices, power and industrial systems, consumer products, materials and financial services. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's Web site at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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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