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News Release

OFS ANNOUNCES PLENUM-RATED ACCUFLEX™ RIBBON INTERCONNECT CABLE FOR ENHANCED INSTALLATION

OFS' New Round Ribbon Cable Offers Easier Installation and Durability

BiCSi 2004 Winter Conference, Orlando, Booth #109, January 11, 2003 – OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today introduced AccuFlex™ Ribbon Interconnect Cable. This new interconnect cable features a round profile as well as a patent-pending core design that together simplify cable routing and multifiber connector assembly. When featuring LaserWave™ fiber, this round, ribbon-based interconnect cable provides a low-cost, easy-to-upgrade solution for 10-MB/s through 10-Gb/s applications.

Unlike flat ribbon interconnect cables which have a preferential bend direction that can lead to kinking, differential ribbon lengths and increased attenuation levels, the round AccuFlex™ Ribbon Interconnect Cable can be easily dressed into shelves, ducts and raceways without the worry of orientation. In addition, by encasing the AccuRibbon® cable units in a flame-retardant, solid buffer core, the AccuFlex™ cable prevents the ribbons from slipping relative to each other, eliminating the problem of having differential ribbon lengths after connectorization. With a 150 pound pull strength and excellent compression resistance, AccuFlex™ Ribbon Interconnect Cable also offers greater durability than standard interconnect cables or cordages.

“AccuFlex™ Ribbon Interconnect Cable is specifically designed for customers who need a round interconnect cable that is more flexible and easier to install than ‘flat’ ribbon cordage designs,” said Dr. Paul Neveux, Product Manager for Premise Optical Fiber Cables, OFS. “The extremely rugged, yet flexible design makes it ideal for deployment as a parallel optical circuit for connecting optical switches. In addition, the tight core design affords very low attenuation levels even for 50 micron fibers at lengths far greater than flat cable designs.”

AccuFlex™ Ribbon Interconnect Cable is currently available with one or two AccuRibbon® cable units containing either 6, 8, or 12 color-coded fibers in a flat matrix ribbon, encased in a flame-retardant, solid buffer core. In addition to the greater flexibility and durability, AccuFlex Ribbon Interconnect Cable maintains outstanding microbend resistance and operates in temperature ranges of –20°C to 70°C.

AccuFlex Ribbon Interconnect Cable summary of features:

- Round interconnect cable design for ease of installation
- 150-pound pull strength
- Outstanding microbend resistance and low attenuation levels
- Superior mechanical performance
- No ribbon pistoning or differential ribbon lengths
- Operating temperature range of -20°C to 70°C (-4°F to 167°F)
- Plenum fire rated using low-smoke, non-lead stabilized PVCs for enhanced environmental safety
- Fiber counts of 6, 8, 12, 16, and 24
- Available in higher bandwidth LaserWave™ 300 or 500 multimode fiber and in single mode fiber, including AllWave® zero water peak fiber
- Compliant with Telcordia, ICEA, NEC, ANSI-FDDI, IEEE, and TIA standards
- Tested and qualified in accordance with TIA/EIA 455 and/or IEC 60794

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