



A Furukawa Company

Your Optical Fiber Solutions Partner™

News Release

OFS AWARDED OPTICAL FIBER CABLE CONTRACT FROM GRUPO HEVI

Metro Access AllWave® Fiber To Be Deployed Throughout Mexico

NFOEC, Booth #4408 September 16, 2002 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced that it has been selected by Grupo Hevi, leading Mexican MSO, provider of CATV services, Internet access and video-on-demand, to deliver an initial quantity of more than 300 kilometers of AllWave® fiber cable.

"AllWave fiber was the obvious choice for expanding our fiber optic network as it gives me the assurance that I'll receive the greatest value for my overall network," said Emanuel Rubio, Technical Manager, Grupo Hevi. "AllWave fiber is keeping us one step ahead of our competition."

Ideal for use in metro local and access networks, including CATV, AllWave fiber can increase network capacity over 50 percent while reducing applications costs by up to 40 percent in typical fiber optic systems. AllWave fiber will reduce costs by allowing Grupo Hevi to use coarse wave division multiplexing (CWDM), a new technique that offers carriers lower cost channels for capacity upgrades than dense wave division multiplexing (DWDM). This low cost alternative pioneered by OFS and now emerging commercially, enables carriers to add new capacity and services cost effectively today while still allowing further upgrade by DWDM.

"CWDM technology is becoming more popular for deploying CATV digital reverse systems, so AllWave fiber could save Grupo Hevi up to 40 percent in overall network costs," explained Janice Haber, Vice President Marketing and Systems Engineering, OFS. "Our fiber is specifically designed to lower overall network cost, while increasing overall efficiency."

AllWave fiber enables the use of extra bandwidth equivalent to 100 dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) channels. This is possible because it offers the same

dispersion as conventional single-mode fiber but with reduced loss and a zero water peak in the 1400 nm band. Being backward compatible ensures that AllWave will seamlessly integrate with Grupo Hevi's existing networks allowing for minimal upgrade and expansion costs.

About Grupo Hevi

GRUPO HEVI is a leading Mexican MSO, with operations in more than 25 cities in Mexico in the regions of Jalisco, Michoacán, Colima, Nayarit, Zacatecas and Tamaulipas.

With the commercial brands: Telecable / Hypercable, Grupo Hevi, offers the best video entertainment to more than 120,000 subscribers. GRUPO HEVI has deployed Cybercable, its high speed internet brand, serving more than 15,000 subscribers.

It is owned by local investors, with headquarters in Guadalajara, Jalisco. Grupo Hevi's CEO, Héctor Vielma, has been president of CANITEC, (National chamber of the CATV industry) among other important position's in the Mexican CATV industry.

For more information about Grupo Hevi:

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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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