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News Release

OFS AND CWDM VENDORS BRING TECHNOLOGY TO GLOBAL FOREFRONT

CWDM Demonstrations Being Conducted from Latin America to APAC

NFOEC, Booth #4408, Dallas, TX, September 16, 2002 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced demonstrations of CWDM equipment with several vendors across the globe using its ground-breaking AllWave® Fiber, a zero water peak fiber. Using AllWave fiber, CWDM has globally begun to increase in popularity when choosing a WDM system.

"We have seen a recent surge in CWDM interest across the globe due to our zero water peak AllWave fiber," Janice Haber, OFS, Vice President of Systems Engineering and Market Development. "OFS has been conducting successful demonstrations using CWDM across the globe that prove to customers increased capacity and decreased costs for their networks."

One of the vendors is Padtec, an innovative optical layer solution provider, which is working with its 16-channel CWDM solution and OFS' AllWave fiber. The agreement will initially be implemented in Latin America where Padtec is a pioneer and a leading provider in optical communication systems.

"CWDM technology using zero water peak AllWave fiber, is the unsurpassed choice for metropolitan telecom services, especially during this telecom downturn when cost efficiency plays such a vital role," said Jorge Salomão, Padtec, CTO. "The technology is particularly beneficial for SAN which has a significant demand in the metro environment."

Padtec's 16-channel CWDM product, Metropad, is a high performance, fully manageable solution addressing the metro application and fully compatible with various bit rates and protocols. Metropad enables clients to migrate from CWDM technology to DWDM in the highly cost sensitive metro market. The solution also enables more than 100-kilometer reach for long wavelength CWDM channels.

Another vendor to take advantage of OFS' zero water peak fiber is Genoa, a next-generation optical semiconductor company. With its linear optical amplifier and AllWave fiber, the company has demonstrated nearly doubling the reach of CWDM systems, a feat traditionally possible with DWDM systems.

"New applications can now be realized at a much lower cost using CWDM," said Jim Witham, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Genoa. "We are pleased to be working with an industry leader like OFS to help open up this opportunity."

OFS' AllWave fiber is the industry's first fiber designed for optimum performance in local/access metro networks. The elimination of the water peak in AllWave fiber provides 50% more spectrum as compared to conventional single-mode fiber. AllWave fiber is an excellent platform for cost effective coarse wavelength division multiplexing, facilitating the use of low-cost uncooled lasers and less stringent filter specifications, all of which significantly reduce system costs. Furthermore, increased usable wavelengths, ideal dispersion characteristics, and wide flexibility for network designs make AllWave fiber a superior choice for metropolitan and access optical networks.

About Padtec

Padtec is a Brazilian company, funded by CPqD Foundation and Banco Pactual. The company started in August 16th 2001 and since then has been showing an increase in its market share. Padtec is leading in metro and SAN WDM solutions in Latin America market having clients such as Telefonica among others.

Padtec products offer a huge combination of high performance and low cost addressed for the metropolitan telecom applications.

Metropad is a multiservice full manageable platform enabling the customer to migrate from CWDM to DWDM with a scalable investment growing the capacity as the market grows

Padtec is located in Campinas, city known as the Brazilian capital for telecom industry.

For more information visit www.padtec.com.br.

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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