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News Release

OFS SELECTED BY GEORGIA SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE WEB AND NETWORK CONNECTIVITY

OFS ACCESS ADVANTAGE™ System Lowers Costs for Douglas County

Atlanta, GA, June 30, 2003 - OFS, designer, manufacturer, and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, today announced that the Douglas County School District has selected the company to provide its Access ADVANTAGE™ Fiber-to-the-Subscriber (FTTx) System for fiber connectivity to the district's 30 school sites. The new network will deliver Gigabit Links between the main office and each school, enabling web and network based learning tools to the community's children, including distance learning, IP phones, and CCTV security.

OFS worked with the Douglas County School System's Information Technology department to support the deployment of the network as the school district is planning, purchasing, installing and maintaining the network independently. The Access ADVANTAGE System of fibers and cables includes AllWave® Fiber, PowerGuide® cables, PowerGuide ADSS, PowerGuide ShortSpan and PowerGuide TTH. All of these are optimized for delivering fiber to the end user and will be utilized for the deployment.

"AllWave fiber did everything OFS said it would; it is an outstanding product. Deploying AllWave fiber has saved on network costs because it outperformed the guidelines specified by even the transmission and routing supplier. Because of the outstanding performance of AllWave fiber and reduced dB loss from fusion splicing, we have been able to save over \$500,000 in deployment costs," explained Lee Christianson, Network Planning Analyst for Douglas County School System. "OFS' technical support likewise made choosing them a no-brainer; one of their technical support engineers even went out in the middle of the night and helped us pull in a large slack so that we could relocate a mid-span splice. The handling of more than 800 feet of 216-fiber ADSS cable on the ground, crossing a five-lane highway

with multiple bucket trucks, was a handful. The engineer was a great help, and it made everyone involved feel more at ease.”

“Working with the School District, OFS has provided Douglas County with a solution that will enable them to educate their students using one of the state’s most advanced metropolitan fiber optic networks. The flexibility of the network enables the County to create new revenue streams with the possibility to expand the offering from servicing County offices to delivering FTTx capability to residences and leasing bandwidth to local businesses,” said Ric Johnsen, Vice President, Cable and Connectivity Marketing and Sales, OFS.

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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