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December 2012 issue - No 18

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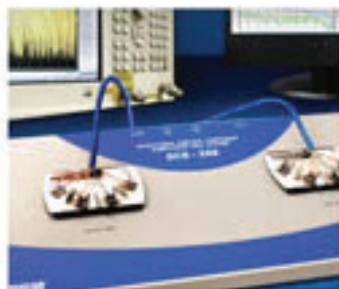
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# #18 EDITOR

All the hard work looks to have paid dividends for organizers at this year's IWCS technical symposium with a ten percent increase in visitor numbers to the show in Providence, Rhode Island.

This is also on the back of a hectic three or four months in the wire and cable calendar, with both wire China and Wire India taking place and many in the industry traveling to all corners of the globe.

But the success of IWCS seems to highlight the thirst for knowledge of people in the industry, especially with the technical symposium being extended by half a day to allow time to complete the program of more than 120 technical presentations. You can catch up on the news from IWCS on page 20.

Also worth reading from the UK-side of the pond is the news that Bridon has opened its new plant, built to construct the world's largest and most complex offshore ropes. You can find this on page 30.

All of us at wiredInUSA and sister publications EuroWire and Wire & Cable ASIA would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

**David Bell**  
**Editor**

# CONTENT CONTENT CONTENT CONTENT



# #18

#### News

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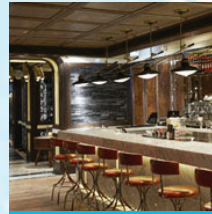
**06**

Show Diary  
From the USA



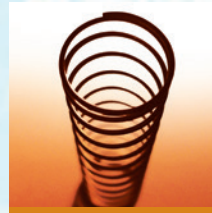
**09**

Making the News  
Industry news from the USA



**26**

Europe News  
The latest news from Europe



**32**

Industry Trade Association  
Spotlight on awards, education and events



**34**

Asia & Africa News  
The latest news from Asia & Africa



**42**

Products, Machines and Technology  
The latest news from machine industries



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# DIARY SHOW EVENTS

## 2013

### MARCH

7 March: **AMI Cables Conference**  
Cologne, Germany  
Conference  
[www.amiplastics.com](http://www.amiplastics.com)

### APRIL

23-25 April: **Interwire 2013**  
Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
Exhibition  
[www.wirenet.org](http://www.wirenet.org)

### JUNE

16-18 June: **Guangzhou Wire and Tube**  
Guangzhou, China  
Exhibition  
[www.julang.com.cn](http://www.julang.com.cn)

25-28 June: **wire Russia 2013**  
Moscow, Russia  
Exhibition  
[www.wire-russia.com](http://www.wire-russia.com)

### SEPTEMBER

17-19 Sept: **wire SE Asia 2013**  
Bangkok, Thailand  
Exhibition  
[www.wire-southeastasia.com](http://www.wire-southeastasia.com)

### OCTOBER

8-10 Oct: **wire South America**  
São Paulo, Brazil  
Exhibition  
[www.tubotech-online.de](http://www.tubotech-online.de)

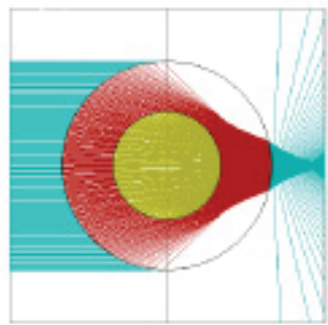
### NOVEMBER

10 - 13 November: **IWCS**  
Charlotte, NC, USA  
Conference  
[www.iwcs.org](http://www.iwcs.org)

# OPTICAL FIBRES

## Measurement Instruments

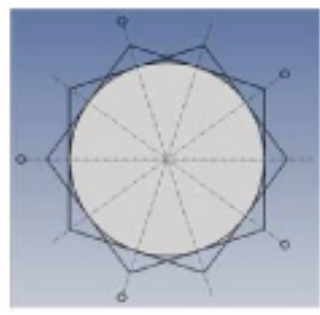
**LIS-G:** **Laser Interferometric Sensor for Glass fibre**  
 Diameter repeatability :  $\pm 0.005\mu\text{m}$ , 50kHz  
 Diameter uncertainty :  $\pm 0.15\mu\text{m}$   
 Defect detection 75kHz, event recording  
**Ultra fine air line detection,  $0,7\mu\text{m}$  400Hz**  
 Fibre position:  $\pm 0.01\text{mm}$ , 1 kHz  
**Spinning frequency profile**  
**Non circularity measurement**



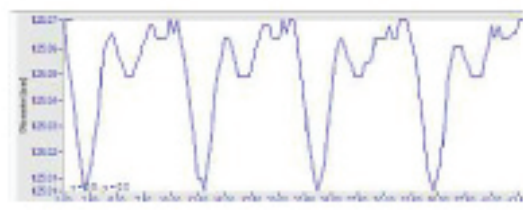
**NCTM :** **Drawing force**  
**Birefringence principle**  
 Non Contact Tension Measurement  
**0-400 grams  $\pm 1\text{gram}$ , 1 kHz**  
 **$\pm 1\text{ gr}$  within 10-40°C ambient**



**CM5:** **Coating Monitor 5 axes**  
**Diameter, lump & neck, defects detection, coating asymmetry**  
 Absolute diameter:  $\pm 0,15\%$ , 50-400 $\mu\text{m}$ , 400Hz  
 Lump & Neck:  $\pm 2\mu\text{m}$ , 500kHz  
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# MAKING THE NEWS

## *Wire mesh adds ambience*

An award-winning steakhouse, Carnevino, was looking to make an immediate impression for diners at its newest location in Hong Kong.



The goal was to create a high-end luxury steakhouse accented with details inspired from vintage racing motifs. To turn this vision into reality, Carnevino's designers utilized wire mesh from Banker Wire, to provide the décor key metal finishes to fit perfectly with the race-inspired machine aesthetic.

Banker Wire's DS-1, SZ-4 and IPZ-25 mesh styles were chosen for this project and used

throughout the restaurant as a background accent material for stone, metal and leather paneling.

"Creating a warm, inviting ambience is a top priority for Carnevino and plays a huge part in providing its guests with the ultimate dining experience," said Cliff Lin, senior designer at New York-based architectural firm AvroKO, which oversaw the project. "We chose Banker Wire mesh due to its quality and reputation as a leading manufacturer of unique wire materials."

"The versatility of wire mesh makes it a perfect accent material," said Harrison Horan, VP of Banker Wire. "By utilizing three different wire meshes at its new Hong Kong location, diners will enjoy a unique visual experience that will set Carnevino apart from other restaurants in the area."



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# C&M Corporation appointment

C&M Corporation has appointed Robert Conway to the position of senior vice president of sales and marketing.

Mr Conway brings over 20 years of experience of managing sales, marketing, and engineering at regional, national and international levels. Most recently he served with Lapp Group as executive vice president of sales, where he managed a team that produced significant sales growth during his tenure.

Prior to this role, from 2000 Mr Conway also held multiple senior sales positions

within Lapp, continuously growing sales via specific market strategies including OEM and platform products, as well as distribution channels.

John Laskowsky, C&M's president and CEO, commented: "Rob has a demonstrated track record of delivering results and will be a terrific asset to capitalize on C&M's strength in the industrial segments. He brings a strong knowledge base to the organization and his broad experience level will serve C&M well as we expand our presence in key industrial segments."

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# AMSC narrows its losses

American Superconductor Corp (AMSC) continues to improve, despite analysts' expectations.

AMSC shares increased 3.5% to \$3.80 and revenue increased 20% to \$8.9 million in the second fiscal quarter, ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, as total revenue rose 0.5% to \$20.9 million.

A statement from American Superconductor said that net loss in the quarter narrowed to \$15.9 million, or 31 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$51.7 million, or \$1.02, a year earlier, adding that sales in the current quarter will exceed \$26 million.

American Superconductor spent about \$300,000 in the quarter on its legal battle with Chinese

turbine manufacturer Sinovel Wind Group Co. The company is seeking over \$1.2 billion in damages in Chinese courts, alleging that Sinovel violated sales contracts and stole its technology.

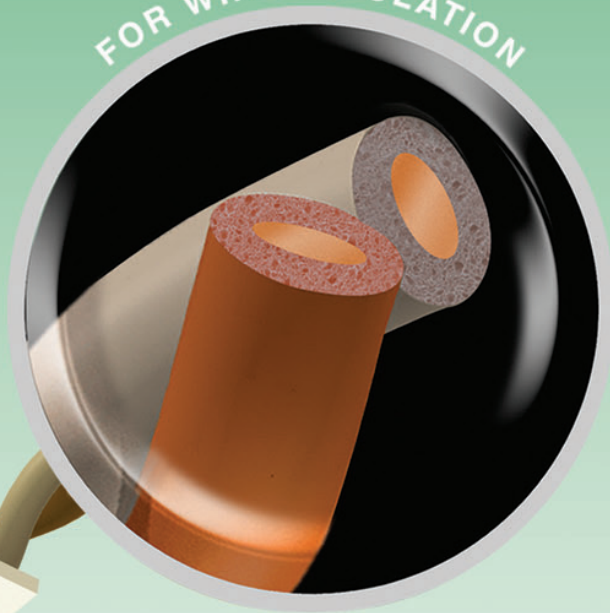
China's highest court agreed in May to hear the case. "The lion's share of those expenses are behind us," CEO Dan McGahn said. "We still believe there will be a positive outcome."

Sinovel contributed about 70% of American Superconductor's revenue in fiscal 2010 and stopped accepting shipments in March 2011.

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## New addition to China team

Beta LaserMike, a Spectris company, has appointed Hans Liu as its Southern China sales manager. Mr Liu will be based at the Spectris Guangzhou office.

“China is one of the fastest growing markets in the Asia-Pacific region and a priority market for us,” said Stuart Manser, director of Asia sales with Beta LaserMike. “As we continue to focus on profitable growth, Hans will play a key role in developing industrial accounts in southern China. This is an extremely active area and home to many key international companies. The addition of Hans expands our presence in China which allows us to better serve our customers.”

Mr Liu joins Beta LaserMike after serving a number of years in the automation and controls technology sector. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical design and manufacturing automation from South China Agricultural University, and holds a master's degree from the same university in electronics and automation.

# Cables

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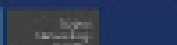
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# Surface treatment facility

*The new Chemetall facility  
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to be one of the biggest surface  
treatment facilities in the world.*

It will produce almost a thousand chemical products for applications in surface treatment, metal fabrication, cleaning and sanitizing and will operate at the highest safety and environmental standards.

Chemetall has invested \$25 million in the 40-acre site.

As a measure of its dedication to environmental sustainability, Chemetall has installed a semi-automated waste treatment system to reduce process wastewater by 90 percent.

Automation advancements, including bulk material handling systems, mixing vessels, and packaging lines, have been incorporated into the facility to increase productivity as well as improve product yield and quality.



# Nanomaterial creates electricity

Researchers at Texas and Louisiana universities have developed a hybrid nanomaterial that can convert both light and thermal energy into electrical current. The synthesized material is a combination of copper sulfide nanoparticles and single-walled carbon nanotubes.

"If we can convert both light and heat to electricity, the potential is huge for energy production," Chen said. "By increasing the number of the micro-devices on a chip, this technology might offer a new and efficient platform to complement or even replace current solar cell technology."

The nanomaterial has been used to build a prototype thermoelectric generator that the research team believe will eventually be capable of producing milliwatts of power. University of Texas at Arlington physics professor Wei Chen explained that, paired with microchips, the technology could be used in devices such as self-powering sensors, low-power electronic devices and implantable biomedical micro-devices.

During testing the new thin-film structure showed increases by as much as 80% in light absorption when compared to single-walled nanotube thin-film devices alone, proving it to be a more efficient generator. Copper sulfide is also less expensive and more environment-friendly than the metals currently used in similar hybrids.

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# Head office move



Helukabel®, manufacturer of cable, wire and cable accessories, is to relocate its North American headquarters to a new location in Elgin, Illinois. The new headquarters will house US and Canadian corporate sales and warehousing/distribution operations. Helukabel® USA has been in the new facility since October 2012.

“Elgin’s location to one of North America’s busiest transportation hubs has been a great asset to us since we started our operations in 2007. Other than finding a larger building in order for us to keep up with increased customer demand, from a product and customer service standpoint, we felt that staying in Elgin was an ideal fit,” said Marc Luksch, president of Helukabel® USA.

The 40,000ft<sup>2</sup> warehouse will carry 3,600 line items in stock. The warehouse will be equipped with a high-speed spooler for standard size cables and a heavy-duty spooler for kcmil (MCM) size cables to increase the speed with which orders can be processed, packaged and shipped out. The warehouse and office space will accommodate the current staff while allowing for future expansion as the company continues to grow its presence in the US and Canada.

# SDP for STI

Superconductor Technologies Inc has completed acceptance testing of its solution deposition planarization (SDP) system. The equipment has been shipped and received at STI's advanced manufacturing center in Austin.

"We expect to have the system completely installed and operational by 2012 year end. Achieving this program milestone positions us to meet the growing demand for our Conductus<sup>®</sup> wire in 2013 and begin preparations for commercial production in 2014," said Adam Shelton, STI's VP of marketing and product line management.

The SDP and an ion beam assisted deposition (IBAD) machine, installed in April, will be used to produce one kilometer lengths of complete wire template. The template will

then be used in a reactive coevaporation cyclic deposition and reaction (RCE-CDR) system that was installed in October. The RCE-CDR system deposits the HTS material onto the template using STI's proprietary process.

For proper growth of superconducting materials, surface conditions must be very smooth. SDP creates a smooth starting surface, while eliminating the need to polish the template, reducing both cost and chemical waste. This process eliminates strong acids associated with electroplating alternatives. STI has produced SDP templates with one nanometer root mean square (RMS) surface roughness starting from unpolished metal tape.



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# Figures up at IWCS

A ten per cent increase in attendance this year confirmed IWCS as one of the main technical conferences and symposiums on the international wire and cable calendar.

The event – in Providence, Rhode Island, USA – drew 1,125 registrants, and with more than 100 exhibitors, and a shortened exhibition schedule, attendees were kept very busy with a program of more than 120 technical presentations, and visits to the exhibitors.

IWCS CEO John Barteld said: “This year’s event was so rich in content that the Technical Symposium had to be scheduled for an additional half day.”

“Even with the extended Symposium, attendance in the sessions was strong right up to the end”, added Barteld.

The plenary session featured a presentation by Michael T Jones, chief technology advocate for Google, Inc. Jones captured the imagination of the audience with his vision of the future of our connected world. “We don’t know what people want or can use until we give them tools”, reported Mr Jones, explaining the huge support for Google’s Kansas City network project where ultra-high speed downloads and uploads are available.

“What do we really ‘know’,” challenged Mr Jones as we explore greater knowledge through means never before available.

The session also recognized recipients of the IWCS scholarships for 2012/2013, Erin Keaney and Katherine Spagnoli, both senior plastics engineering students at University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

Once again, Cable Components Group hosted Monday night football, featuring Troy Brown, former star wide-receiver with the New England Patriots. Brown fascinated the partygoers with stories about his years in professional football, and generally charmed everyone in attendance, whether a fan of his former team or not.

The IWCS Professional Development Courses attracted nearly 100 students in Providence. The PDCs remain among the most broadly respected wire/cable and connectivity educational courses in the industry.

Next year’s conference is scheduled to be held at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, between 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> November.

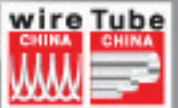


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# Custom cable expansion

Allied Wire & Cable has expanded the custom cable section of its website, which now features custom cable articles, engineering resources, video, FAQs, design tools and case studies. Custom cable is an Allied specialism, now developed into a major component of the Allied Wire & Cable website.

The custom cable center is organized into three main sections: the custom cable information center, custom cable design center, and the custom cable gallery.

“We wanted to expand the resources available to our customers because we want them to have the best information available,” said Allied co-owner, Tim Flynn.

The custom cable gallery is an interactive section of the site, featuring case studies of cables Allied has completed. Staying with the theme of customization, customers can browse the case studies in one of three ways: by industry, type of cable, or as a slideshow, using the navigational arrows on each page. Flynn explains, “We have successfully designed cables for all branches of the US government, Lockheed Martin, Caterpillar, Verizon, and all the way down to Joe's automotive shop.”

In the custom cable information center, customers can view custom cable articles, engineering resources with detailed information on cable components, materials, and construction concepts, FAQs, and a “Custom Cable Design Basics” video.

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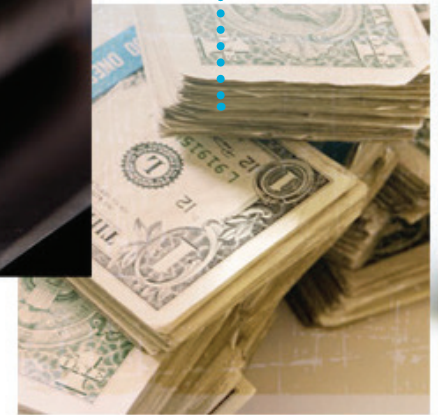


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## Metallurgical appointment

Aluminum wire and rod manufacturer Beneke Wire Company has announced the addition of Mr Shannon King to its metallurgical team. Shannon is a 14-year veteran of the aluminum wire and rod industry. A 1991 graduate of University of Alabama, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in metallurgy, his career has been focused in the aluminum wire and rod industry.

He has previously worked at both Nichols Wire and Kaiser Florence. Shannon's knowledge and expertise in the aluminum field adds to the depth of metallurgists and engineers on the Beneke team providing professional expertise and service to a highly specialized aluminum market.

Beneke Wire Company is a family owned and operated business providing round drawn aluminum cold heading wire and rod as well as round and hex drawn bar to the fastener industry.

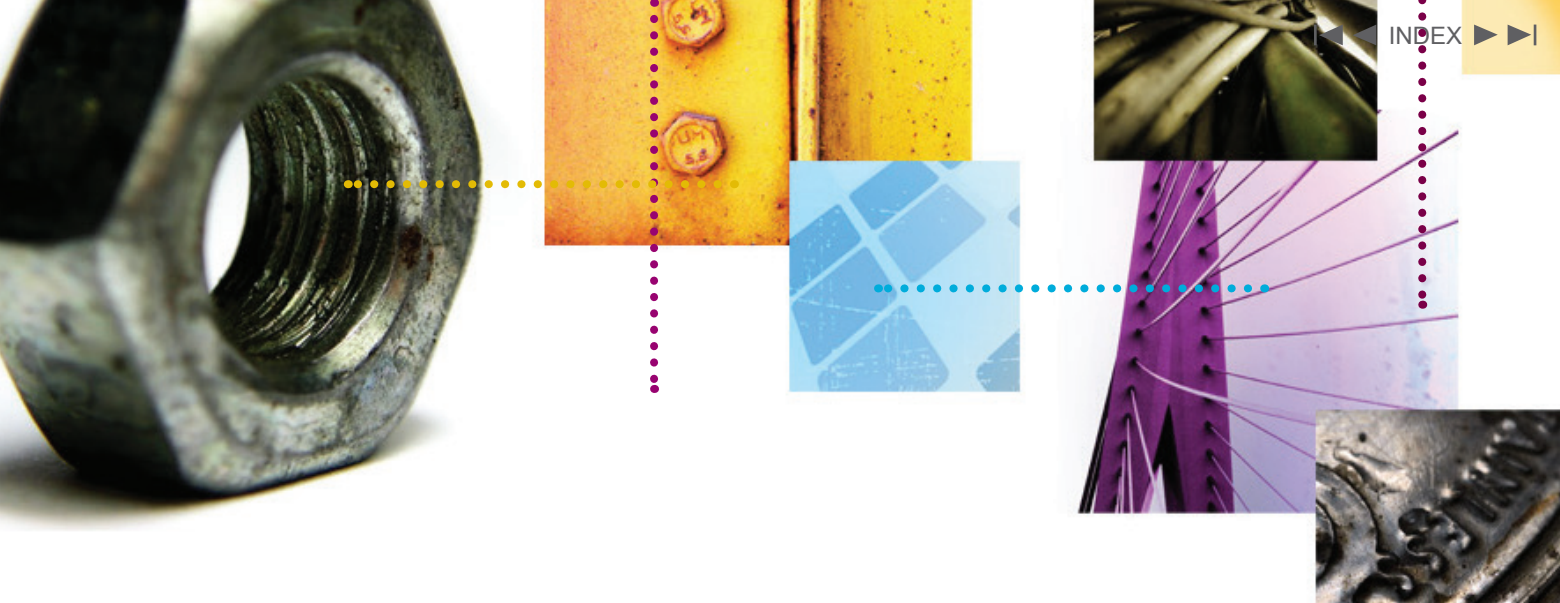
## Ducommun continues defense wiring

Complex wiring harnesses for the US military's TOW weapon system will continue to be produced by Ducommun Inc throughout 2013. The company said continued work on the harnesses for the tube-launched, optically tracked, wireless-guided weapon comes through a follow-on contract from Raytheon and is worth \$3.7 million.

TOW is a long-range, anti-armor assault missile weapon system that can also be used against non-armor targets such as reinforced fortifications. In addition to its use by US forces, the TOW is in service with the militaries of other countries.

Raytheon recently recognized Ducommun as its Supplier of the Year for the TOW program.





## Cutting the cost of fiber optic?

Skorpios Technologies Inc may have discovered a method that can make the expansion of fiber optic infrastructure more affordable. According to a report in the Albuquerque Journal, Skorpios has developed a method to merge silicon with traditional materials used in optical communications, describing it as a “fundamental breakthrough that many industry giants have failed to achieve.”

Skorpios has found that utilizing silicon in optics networking equipment makes it much less expensive and easier to manipulate for high volume manufacturing than other common materials currently used in the industry. Using silicon in fiber optics could lay the groundwork for “faster and less expensive deployment of the infrastructure needed to manage today’s world of streaming video and instant communications” the report said.

## Deacero files rod appeal

Deacero SA de CV has appealed a circumvention determination by the US Department of Commerce (DOC) that small diameter carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod produced and exported by Deacero is included within the scope of the antidumping order on wire rod from Mexico.

The appeal was filed with the US Court of International Trade (CIT) in mid-November. It normally takes about one year to complete an appeal to the CIT, during which time the DOC’s determination will remain in force.



# EUROPE NEWS

Picture : [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) 'Spring' Photographer - 'Rafal Steciuk'



## Disappointing results for Danish cable maker

Cable manufacturer NKT Holding has warned that sales and profits this year will not meet its forecasts as customers in Europe and the United States hold back on orders.

NKT has been hit by the downturn in Europe and slow equipment sales to China, where the government last year put a temporary freeze on high-speed railway construction. The company said it expects revenue to fall two to three percent in 2012, when its previous outlook was for flat sales. "We are experiencing restraint and low demand in a number of our markets," CEO Thomas Hofman-Bang told Reuters.

"It is a disappointing quarter on revenue - they have been hit hard on volumes in almost all divisions, and it is particularly

the US and China where it has gone weak," said Jesper Christensen, an analyst at Alm Brand.

The company's NKT Cables division, one of Europe's biggest power cable suppliers, saw flat organic sales growth in the third quarter as it faced intense competition in almost all product areas and weak demand in China's railway industry. Infrastructure for the railway and automotive sectors account for about 20 percent of group revenues.

NKT said organic railway revenue in the third quarter had halved from the previous year. China has said railway investment will resume, but at reduced levels compared with 2010.



## Wind power market set to triple

A report in the latest edition of Global Wind Energy Outlook projects that the global wind power market could triple by 2020.

According to the report, based on research from Greenpeace International and the Global Wind Energy Council, wind power could supply enough electricity to fulfill 12 percent of demand by 2020 while decreasing nearly 1.5 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions a year. The figure rises to 20 percent by 2013.

Global Wind Energy Council secretary general Steve Sawyer predicts that wind energy will play a major role in our energy future: "But for wind to reach its full potential, governments need to act quickly to address the climate crisis, while there's still time," he said.

Greenpeace senior energy expert Sven Teske added: "The most important ingredient for the long term success of the wind industry is stable, long term policy, sending a clear signal to investors about the government's vision for the scope and potential for the technology."



## Cable recycling in Mexico

Viakon Conductores Monterrey, Mexico has bought a complete cable granulation and separation plant from Eldan Recycling A/S. The system is designed to turn mixed cables and wire into pure copper and plastic at a rate of 1,000kg per production hour.

Viakon Conductores Monterrey is among Mexico's largest producers of electrical cables, acquiring its first Eldan cable recycling system in 1984. After 30 years of production, the equipment is now to be replaced with more current equipment. "We have chosen Eldan equipment again due to the reliability and low maintenance cost," explained Viakon's maintenance manager, Hector Gámez Báez.

"Copper is very expensive, which is why it is important for us as a cable producer to reuse any waste production material," said Francisco Monsiváis Contreras, technical manager.

Viakon inspected the new equipment at Eldan's production facility in Faaborg, for installation during November 2012.



## New website for Prysmian Group

Prysmian Group's new corporate website represents the entire group, following the merger between Prysmian and Draka, and supersedes around 50 websites previously operated by the two multinational companies.

The new site is intended to be a reference point for all stakeholders, presenting the latest and most recently updated information from the group about products, projects, contracts, financial results and investments. Strengthening the group's customer centricity, it will give customers a complete understanding of what the Prysmian Group offers in terms of products and solutions.

The site is focused on user experience, designed to be self-explanatory and to make it quick and easy to find information. Its modular structure enables visitors to have a single point of access for both corporate and business sections through one umbrella site.

## Increase in Turkish wire product export

According to data released on the Turkish government website, Turkish export of wire rod was 72,928 tons in September, the second consecutive month to increase, raising by 18.8 percent the month-on-month figure, but down by 36.2 percent year-on-year. The export value declined by 44.6 percent from a year ago.

Turkish wire products export has witnessed a downward trend since the third quarter of 2011, but saw a rebound in this year's second quarter when wire product export to the Middle East hit 65,282 tons and again in the third quarter with 72,974 tons. The export in the third quarter was a four-fold increase over the same period in 2011.

Turkish wire exports to North America in the third quarter of 2012 was 18,884 tons, a decrease of 36.2 percent from the second quarter.



## Rope factory launched

Industry leaders from companies including Heerema, NOV, and Certex assembled at Bridon Neptune Quay on 15<sup>th</sup> November to see UK business minister Michael Fallon opening the facility, constructed to manufacture the world's largest and most complex offshore ropes.

The event marked the start of manufacturing at Bridon International's Neptune Quay (BNQ), which will have the capacity to produce highly engineered ropes in package weights of 650 tonnes, with enhanced breaking loads, optimized bend fatigue performance, effective lubrication, and minimal rotation under load.

The occasion was marked by the switching-on of the factory's rope-closing machine, the largest of its kind in the world and constructed to a unique specification by German engineering company SKET.

Accompanying Bridon chief executive Jon Templeman at the event were a host of senior industry figures including Certex CEO Peter Keith and Oddvar Hoydal of NOV Cranes Division.

The opening event also offered a range of technical seminars.

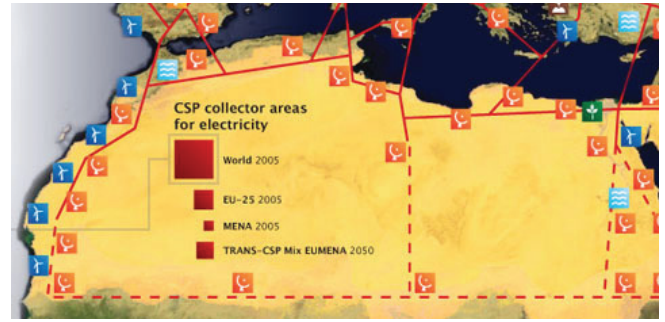


## Cable turntable order

The offshore handling systems manufacturer, Caley Ocean Systems, has confirmed an order from Jan de Nul NV, a dredging and marine engineering company, for a 5,400 tonne capacity cable turntable for the MPV Willem De Vlamingh.

Jan de Nul will be installing a 245kV export cable in mid-2013, planned to connect the Northwind Offshore wind power plant on the Lodewijkbank off the coast of Oostende, to the Belgian power grid. In the first quarter of 2013, the MPV Willem De Vlamingh will be fitted for offshore cable laying. Caley is undertaking all vessel modification design work and construction of the 28m diameter turntable on the deck.

In addition to the turntable, Caley will supply a modular loading tower assembly comprising loading arm, in-board chute, tensioner and control cabin. To ensure smooth loading and deployment of the cable offshore, the Caley turntable includes an integral 5 tonne tensioner and 10 tonne deck tensioner.



## New French solar plant

French renewable electricity production company EDF Energies Nouvelles (EDF EN) has commissioned the 115MW Toul-Rosières photovoltaic plant in the Lorraine. Located near Nancy, in the Meurthe-et-Moselle department of eastern France, the solar plant uses around 1.4 million thin-film photovoltaic panels from First Solar.

The plant is expected to generate enough electricity to cater to the power needs of 55,000 people and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 4,600 tons every year.

EDF EN CEO, Yvon André said: "Located on abandoned land on the site of [a] former NATO air base, the Toul facility represents an ambitious conversion project, which has led to the decontamination of the site and given it a second lease of life in the generation of green electricity."

EDF EN designed and built the power plant in 2009, with the firm's subsidiary EDF EN Services managing operations and maintenance at the plant.

## Desertec desertion?

The Desertec initiative, a plan to provide 15 percent of Europe's power needs from solar plants in North Africa via subsea cables, is facing new challenges since the withdrawal of two of its industrial backers. Since then, the Spanish government has balked at signing an agreement to build solar power plants in Morocco.

Desertec was set up in 2009 with a projected budget of €400 billion to tap the enormous potential of solar and other renewables in North Africa. The ambition was that by 2050 around 125GW of electric power could be generated. This would meet all the local needs while also allowing huge amounts of power to be exported to Europe via high-voltage direct current cables under the Mediterranean.

Three years on, the project has made little progress and Siemens and Bosch have decided they will no longer be involved.

Among the first steps announced by Desertec was to build three solar power plants in Morocco. A declaration of intent was due to be signed recently by a group of countries including Spain and Italy, but the Spanish government has demurred, citing difficulties in finding the subsidies the project would need.



# IWMA

## IWMA at Wire India 2012



The International Wire & Machinery Association scored major successes at this year's Wire and Cable India 2012 exhibition.

The exhibition, at the city's Exhibition and Convention Centre, has become one of the most important events in the exhibition calendar in recent years, drawing major companies from around the world.

The IWMA, which works to promote business and awareness of member companies worldwide, was prominent among exhibitors – not only in its own right – but through 57 members, 20 of which used the IWMA's exhibitor package, designed by the association's experienced team to smooth the experience for exhibitors.

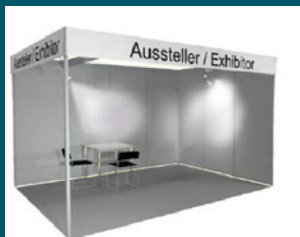
Chairman Steve Rika said: "It was a fantastic exhibition as a whole this year, and great for IWMA members because we were here in force to show the sort of engineering capability we have to draw on.

"Not only that, but members met some very useful people throughout the three days and the association had new sign-ups and inquiries – which we will be following up in the next few weeks."

The three-day event enjoyed record exhibitor and visitor numbers, the majority of the visitors coming from the wire and cable applications industries, particularly from building and construction, transportation, electronics and machinery manufacturing.



## IWMA wire Russia 2013 package



The Russian market is one which has been very strong and continues to provide opportunities within the wire & cable industry.

The wire Russia 2013 exhibition is an excellent opportunity for your company to present its latest products and innovations and the IWMA has now released details of its special exhibitor package.

wire Russia 2013 will take place at the Expocentre Fairgrounds, Krasnaya Presnya, Moscow, 25<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and exhibiting with the IWMA will ensure a prime stand location for your company within the member block of companies.

### Stand size 12m<sup>2</sup> (4 x 3m):

- Shell scheme stand in prime location
- Grey carpet floor covering
- White stand partition walls – 250 cm high
- Fascia with lettering (max. 20 letters)
- 1 x square table with 3 chairs
- 1 x 150W spotlight per 6 m<sup>2</sup> booth area
- 1 x 2 KW power socket
- 1 x waste paper basket

### Plus

- 1 x information desk including lockable cupboard
- Russian/English interpreter
- Daily booth cleaning
- Free hospitality services on IWMA stand
- Free office and internet service on IWMA stand
- Practical advise during build-up from IWMA office

**.....only €5,200.00**

Management fee for non-members = €245.00  
(includes 1 year's membership)

Alternative Booth Sizes: 18m<sup>2</sup> = €7,450.00 / 24m<sup>2</sup> = €9,700.00

### OPTIONAL EXTRAS

- Visa invitation letter - €140.00 per person
- Airport / hotel transfers - €75.00 each way

### RECOMMENDED TRAVEL AGENT

Messe-Reisen Falk GmbH, Germany  
Contact: Andrea Clemens (English spoken)  
Email: a.clemens@messe-reisen.de  
Tel: +49 2102 7451-12

# ASIA & AFRICA NEWS



## Angola Cables picks its team

Angola Cables has selected Alcatel-Lucent as technology provider for its 100Gbps terrestrial fiber optic link with the West African Cable System (WACS) submarine system, supporting high speed internet services for customers of communications providers in Angola and neighboring countries.

Antonio Nunes, CEO of Angola Cables, said: "Angola has already connectivity to the outside world, but via this new connection to the WACS through the establishment of this 100G link, consumers and businesses in Angola and throughout the region will benefit from a dramatic increase in the availability of communications services."

Angola Cables has also announced the selection of APTelecom, a facilities-based telecom consulting and service company specializing in emerging markets, as

international sales manager in the creation of a new submarine cable system joining Africa and South America, under the name SACS (South Atlantic Cable System [Angola–Brazil]).

The cable will contain four fiber pairs, each capable of transmitting 100 wavelengths and initial speeds of 40Gbps, with provision to upgrade to 100Gbps. The SACS cable is scheduled to go live in 2014.

Angola Cables was formed in 2009 and is owned by the major Angolan telecoms companies, Angola Telecom (with 51% of the capital), Unitel (with 31%), MSTelcom (9%), Movitel (6%) and Startel (3%). The consortium company is one of the major investors in the WACS submarine cable and also operates a data center at its POP in Luanda.



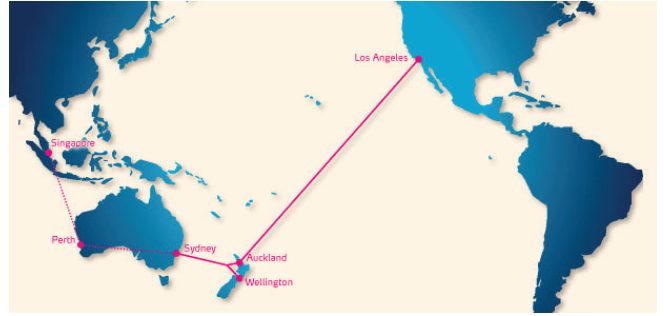
## Kenya seeks support for energy industry

Kenya's Prime Minister Raila Odinga has asked the South Korean government to help Kenya attain self-sufficiency in energy as a path to industrial development. The PM asked for collaboration that will see Kenya exploit its full potential for geothermal and coal power. He also wants Korea to support Kenya's efforts in the development of nuclear power.

Speaking at a bilateral meeting with Korea's Prime Minister Kim Hwang Sik in Seoul, Mr Odinga said Kenya currently lacks the funding to fully exploit its energy resources. He said that the coal power plant to be constructed by Daewoo Corporation in Kilifi would be producing about 300MW while the government's goal is to have 1,000MW from the station.

The premier said in the Rift Valley, where the potential for geothermal power stands at 7,000MW, the country is currently producing only 150MW. "We are looking for a proper and affordable financial arrangement that can help us exploit our full energy potential," the PM said.

Kenya Standard reports that Prime Minister Huang Sik has agreed to Korea's support, including the training of Kenyans on nuclear power.



## Failure hits NZ's Southern Cross cable

A "catastrophic failure" struck the Southern Cross international internet cable, complained Labour's communications and IT spokesperson, Clare Curran. "Labour has learnt that a catastrophic failure at Southern Cross's Alexandria landing station occurred this morning [9<sup>th</sup> November] due to an unauthorized and un-notified software change to their wavelength switching platform, which blew up.

"We understand that partial service has been restored by reinstating old circuits via New Zealand. Full restoration is still being worked on.

"This shows the government's inaction and disregard for our international infrastructure could have equally catastrophic consequences for New Zealand. Without international connectivity, our financial system and a large percentage of business would be severely affected.

Curran continued, "Issues of capacity and affordability of data pale into insignificance when you consider the havoc that could be wrecked by a significant outage. This is a matter of grave importance for New Zealand."



## Taiwan's killed wire rod price rise

The transaction price of blast furnace (BF) killed wire rod is expected to rise in the Taiwanese market, driven by higher transaction prices of electric furnace (EF) killed wire rods.

The price of BF killed wire rod had increased to over \$800 per ton by May this year, boosted by the surged prices of electricity and oil. However, a sluggish Taiwanese wire rod market has caused the transaction prices of BF killed wire rod to drop. The current transaction price of BF killed wire rod is below \$700 per ton in the Taiwanese market.

Industry watchers have commented that as the transaction prices of EF killed wire rods have increased recently, it may assist the BF killed wire rod price to rise in the near future.

## Zambian transmission line approved

Zambia's energy regulation board has approved an electricity transmission line from Maamba thermal power station to the Muzuma sub-station and granted a regulatory consent for Maamba Collieries and Zesco to sign a 265.5MW power purchase agreement.

Maamba Collieries corporate affairs head Lavu Janardhan told The Times of Zambia that the power line's construction would bring coal-powered electricity to the national grid, facilitating 265.5MW of the 300MW produced. He added that China-based SEPCO Electric Power Construction was building the transmission line simultaneously with the 300MW coal fired power plant on an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) basis.

"Construction works are going on well as planned and the first unit is scheduled to be completed by October 2014 and the second unit by January 2015," Janardhan said, adding that on completion of the project, this will be the first coal-fired thermal power plant in Zambia and will meet local energy demands.



## Fushi Copperweld results

Fushi Copperweld Inc has announced its financial results for the third quarter 2012, ended 30<sup>th</sup> September.

Revenues in the third quarter were \$72.6 million, a decrease of 2.3 percent compared to \$74.3 million in the prior year quarter. The decrease was primarily due to lower unit selling prices as a result of the decrease in raw material prices in the third quarter of 2012, compared to prices in 2011.

Gross profit was \$18.9 million, or 26.1 percent of revenues, compared to \$19.9 million, or 26.8 percent of revenues, in the same period last year.

Joe Longever, co-CEO of Fushi Copperweld, said: "Following on previous trends, sales to the telecom market in China remained soft, but we have seen signs that volumes in this market may be nearing a sustainable level, as sales improved over second quarter 2012 levels.

"In Europe, the ramp-up of operations at our new facility in Liege continued, and we continue to make progress and further expand our presence through our sales and innovation center in Milan."



## Aras River power station

The Islamic Republic of Iran, in partnership with the Republic of Armenia, has begun work on the construction of the large Meghri hydroelectric power station. The dam will be built on the Aras River, near the southern Meghri town on the Iran-Armenia border.

The governments of the two countries have signed an agreement stipulating a hydropower complex to utilize the two 130MW Ghare Chiler and Meghri power stations, on the Iranian and Armenian side respectively. Each station is projected to generate an annual 793 million kilowatt hours of electricity. Construction is expected to take five years, at an estimated cost of \$323m.



## Forest of Light project

Japanese business investment company Sumitomo Corporation, with six private companies, is primed to begin work on the Osaka Hikari-no-mori project (the Osaka Forest of Light project) in Osaka, Japan. The 10MW project will be located over the Hokko landfill site in Yumeshima, Osaka city. The waste landfill contains ash from household trash combustion.

The mega-solar power generation project, expected to commence operations in October 2013, will be implemented with public-private partnership. The participating companies in the consortium Solar-power Group Share include Jupiter Telecommunications, Sumitomo Electric Industries, Daihen Corporation, Hitachi Zosen Corporation, Rengo and NTT Facilities.

The city of Osaka sought proposals for effective utilization of the site in 2010, following which Sumitomo and Sumitomo Mitsui Finance & Leasing jointly proposed the project with contributions from the consortium. Summit Energy Corporation has been named as management contractor for the facility. Once operational, Kansai Electric Power will utilize the power generated from the plant under the feed-in tariff system.

## Solomon Islands cable

The Solomon Islands' minister for finance and treasury, Rick Hou, has signed a financing agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) and a project agreement with Solomons Oceanic Cable Company (SOC) for a submarine cable project development. The cable, connecting the Solomon Islands to an existing cable network between Guam and Sydney, is expected to boost economic development of the Solomon Islands.

Reported on the Solomon Star news site, Mr Hou said that the submarine cable will improve internet connections, and that it has full government support.

Initially, the cable will be installed across two provinces, the Malaita and Western Provinces. The SOC representatives said that the implementation process will start as soon as the financing agreement completes, and that the implementation is expected to take between 6 and 12 months.

The project will be funded by the Asian Development Fund loan and grant funds, with commercial financing from ADB and equity brought in by SOC.

# International Wire begins Dutch auction

International Wire Group Holdings Inc has commenced a traditional “Dutch auction” tender offer to repurchase shares of its common stock with an aggregate purchase price of up to \$60 million. The offer began 19<sup>th</sup> November 2012, and is scheduled to end on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

According to the terms and conditions of the offer, the company's stockholders will have the opportunity to tender some or all of their shares at a price within the range of \$15 to \$17.50 per share in increments of \$0.25 per share, net to the seller in cash, without interest.

The company will purchase shares properly tendered and not withdrawn within the specified price range at a per share purchase price selected by each tendering stockholder, with the shares tendered at the lowest per share purchase price purchased first.

If, after purchasing all shares tendered at the lowest per share purchase price, the company has not purchased shares for \$60 million in aggregate, then International Wire Group will purchase shares tendered at the next lowest per share purchase price, and will continue to purchase shares at each succeeding per share purchase price increment, from lowest to highest, until the company has purchased shares for \$60 million.

The aggregate purchase price of \$60 million represents approximately 35 percent to 40.9 percent of the company's issued and outstanding shares as of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012.



# PSI-Polymer names new GM



PSI-Polymer Systems has appointed Don Macnamara as its new general manager. Macnamara, a 27-year industry veteran, will report to PSI's owner, Glenn Woodcock, and will coordinate strategic development and oversee all daily business operations.

Macnamara brings extensive industry experience to PSI, both in the extrusion sector and in

dry material handling. He most recently served the past ten years with Conair, the world leader in 'dry' auxiliary equipment. While there, he developed and implemented strategic business initiatives, including Conair's film and sheet group, where he recently served as general manager and national sales manager. Prior to that he was director of sales for Merritt-Davis, now part of Davis Standard.

For the first 15 years of his career he was global director of sales and marketing for Beringer where he worked with Bart Jones, founder of Extek and one of the founding collaborators of PSI-Polymer Systems. At Beringer, Macnamara guided product line direction, established Beringer Europe and grew the company's Asian base.

Commenting on his appointment, Macnamara said: "This is truly an exciting time for small businesses in our industry."



**PRODUCTS - MACHINES**  
& TECHNOLOGY

## Schleuniger at IPC APEX Expo 2013

Schleuniger will demonstrate examples from its range of wire processing products at IPC APEX Expo 2013. The conference and exhibition will be held at the San Diego Convention Center in February, and will include over 400 exhibitors of advanced and emerging technologies in printed board design, manufacturing and electronics assembly and test. Schleuniger will provide demonstrations of its solutions for stripping, cutting, sealing, crimping and marking of all types of wire and cable.

Schleuniger's demonstrations will include the UniStrip 2300 programmable stripping machine, requiring no mechanical adjustments to process different wire sizes. Other popular machines that will be part of the exhibition include the CoaxStrip 5300 programmable coaxial cable stripping machine and the StripCrimp 200, believed one of the most flexible stripper crimper machines on the market.

Schleuniger will also showcase the RotaryStrip 2400 and UniStrip 2550, the latest additions to its line of bench top stripping equipment. The RotaryStrip 2400 is a single conductor wire stripping machine which easily strips Teflon, Kapton and fiberglass insulated wires with optional twisting of the inner strands. The flexible UniStrip 2550 is designed to process an expanded range of applications. The machine comes standard with V-blades for stripping most wires

without the need to change blades. It will also use radius, die or flat blades, making the UniStrip 2550 suited for difficult to strip insulations such as Teflon, Kapton and Kynar.

## High performance cutting machine

The LK 40 hydraulic shear cutting machine from Talurit is designed for cutting wire rope up to a diameter of 40mm of 1960 grade single-layer round-strand ropes. The key components are made from high quality steel for durability and reliability.

Features of the LK 40 include an easy and accessible design for the quick insertion of wire rope; an automatic switch to stop the motor after each cutting operation; and a foot pedal to start a new cutting operation.

When designing the new LK 40, operator safety was an important factor. Each side is equipped with protective rubber flaps, while maintaining easy insertion for the wire rope. The foot pedal, which controls the hydraulic unit, allows the operator the use of both hands during the entire cutting operation.

The standard model is mounted vertically on a stand, but the LK 40 can also be placed on a wagon, for easy cutting close to the floor, or mounted on a bench.

## New technology to enable future DC grid?

ABB has announced what is described as a “breakthrough” in the ability to interrupt direct current, so solving a 100-year electrical engineering problem and paving the way for a more efficient and reliable electricity supply system.



The company believes it has developed the world's first circuit breaker for high voltage direct current (HVDC). A combination of fast mechanics and power electronics, it will be capable of interrupting, within 5 milliseconds, power flows equivalent to the output of a large power station.

The breakthrough removes a barrier to the development of DC transmission grids, which will enable the efficient integration and exchange of renewable energy. DC grids are anticipated to improve DC grid reliability and enhance the capability of existing AC networks. ABB is in discussions with power utilities to identify pilot projects for the new development.

“ABB has written a new chapter in the history of electrical engineering,” said Joe

Hogan, CEO of ABB. “Overlay DC grids will be able to interconnect countries and continents, balance loads and reinforce the existing AC transmission networks. ”

## Fiber optic connector

Fischer Connectors' new push-pull fiber optic connector is designed for premium optical performance in extreme environments.

The Fischer connector with two (FO2) or four (FO4) optical channels features some major developments. It's a fiber solution that is extremely quick and easy to clean, due to a removable monoblock mate adapter and to the possibility of rinsing the unmated connectors freely under water or in an ultrasound bath.

The Fischer fiber optic connector will perform reliably in harsh and extreme environments. It has a high ingress protection of IP68 (2m/24hours) when mated and IP67 in unmated conditions. In addition, Fischer Connectors' optical performance is insensitive to mechanical strain on the connector.

The spring optical contacts employed allow for filtering out any stress applied to the connector housings while keeping the typical advantage of a push-pull solution: quick, safe and easy locking.

## New solar cable for PV systems

Amphenol is offering a single jacket PV cable for use in interconnection wiring in grounded and ungrounded PV systems. The company states that its PowerLink solar cable is designed for use on utility solar farms and in commercial and residential solar projects.

Designed with a smaller outer diameter than a standard dual jacket, the single jacket PV cable is more malleable, makes crimping connectors easier and, unlike a dual jacket cable, is manufactured in a variety of colors including black, white, red, blue, green, yellow and orange.

PowerLink, offered from 6 AWG to 18 AWG, is sunlight resistant and suitable for direct burial. It has a temperature rating of 90°C wet or dry, and a cold bend of -40°C. Voltage rating ranges from 600V to 2,000V. RoHS compliant and UL4703-rated, the new cable has a flammability rating of VW-1.

## Wire cut and strip

The CS800 cut and strip machine from The Eraser Company is a fully programmable bench top wire cutter and stripper for processing wire from 10AWG to 30AWG. It will cut and partial strip 6,150 pieces per hour at 2.5-inch lengths, and 5,700 pieces per hour at 4-inch lengths.

The CS800 offers 67 programmable batches and ten variable feed rates, with a maximum feed rate of 60 inches per second.

## Google starts connecting

Google has begun connecting customers in the Kansas City (KS) “fiberhoods” that met its demand criteria, starting with Hanover Heights and Dubs Dread. These areas appear to be the only fiberhoods to see installations in 2012. Five more areas are scheduled for connection in the first quarter of 2013.

Google expects to have deployments underway by next fall in all 69 of the Kansas City (KS) fiberhoods currently scheduled to receive service, with deployments in Kansas City (MO) expected to begin in the spring. Crown Heights will be the first.

The company is emphasizing its customer service. A post on the Google Fiber Blog notes that the installers will even tidy up after the installation (it promises, “each installer carries a vacuum cleaner”) and a video explains what the installation will entail.

Google has plans to launch services in five other area towns: Kansas City North and Kansas City South in Missouri, as well as Westwood, Westwood Hills, and Mission Woods in Kansas.

## Curing oven

The 984 is an electrically-heated, 500°F (260°C) custom designed top loading oven from Grieve, currently used for curing connector assemblies onto long cables at the customer's facility. Workspace dimensions measure 72in (width) x 8in (depth) x 14in (height). 12kW in Nichrome wire elements heat the unit, while a 600 CFM, 1/2 HP recirculating blower motor provides rear-to-front airflow across the workload.



The oven features 4 inch thick insulated walls, aluminized steel exterior, type 430 stainless steel interior, four independently hinged doors to expose the front and back of each loading station, a steel plate oven floor and a workspace floor reinforced for 100lb loading on 1/4 inch plate.

Controls on the 984 include four automatic door switches to shut off both blower and heat when any door is opened, a digital programming temperature controller,

manual reset excess temperature controller with separate contactors and recirculating blower airflow safety switch.

## Specialized dies

The micro-structured surfaces on Hoowaki modified extrusion dies are designed to lower friction on wire and cable polymer jackets. The micro-features (smaller than 200 microns) transfer to the product during the normal extrusion process. There are no adjustments to the material and few, if any, adjustments to the extrusion process. No new materials are introduced onto the extruded polymer.

Hoowaki custom designs the features based on each manufacturer's material and application. The company's design process takes material shrinkage and drawdown into account, to provide features that offer the optimal geometry on the final product. Hoowaki has demonstrated a significant reduction in the surface friction of standard polymers, said to be over 45 percent reduction in dry sliding friction and up to 80 percent reduction in lubricated sliding friction.

Hoowaki surfaces can also be used to increase extruder productivity and reduce the drag between the die surface and the polymer, without changing the process parameters. Low-friction surfaces have already been applied to polypropylene,

polyethylene, nylon and silicones using this process.

### Dark fiber network feature

Lightwave reports that Integra Telecom Inc has added dark fiber to its roster of networking, communications, and technology offerings. Integra expects the dark fiber product will prove popular for network expansion, mobile backhaul, and on-net connectivity among wholesale customers as well as with large enterprises.

Integra claims the dark fiber product can support up to 400Gbps of capacity per fiber pair across Integra's fiber optic network. The network, over 150,000 fiber miles, has metro services available in Boise, Portland, Salt Lake City, Seattle, and Spokane. Dark fiber will also be available within the company's 5,000-mile long haul fiber network.

“As business requirements for high bandwidth applications continue to increase, both carrier and enterprise customers are evaluating alternatives for cost effective, highly scalable network data transport,” said Joe Harding, senior vice president of marketing at Integra. “Integra’s dark fiber leverages the value of our network assets, meeting this demand with easy to manage, high bandwidth sold through flexible bundles, lease options, or IRU depending on customer needs.”

### Stainless steel woven wire cloth

Outwater has introduced stainless steel woven wire cloth, an easy-to-use flexible medium that allows furniture and cabinet makers, woodworkers, builders and remodelers to readily produce the circular and undulating curves needed to create unconventional and unusually shaped wall cladding, panels, and signage.

The woven wire cloth is intended to complement Outwater's existing lines of woven wire grilles, expanded metal grilles and decorative screening panels. The cloth is manufactured from 304 grade stainless steel for use indoors and out, and is available in 3-foot and 4-foot sheets. Woven wire cloth is lightweight, can be easily trimmed, and is flexible enough for radius applications.

### Resin concentrates

After multiple upgrades to its plant, including the installation of new downstream feeders, S&E Specialty Polymers LLC has expanded its custom compounding approach to include concentrates. S&E can now produce active masterbatches with up to 85 percent active ingredients.

Currently S&E produces approximately 15 different flame retardant (FR), ultraviolet (UV), blown agent and other concentrates. By expanding its product line from cus-

tom compounds to include concentrates, S&E can provide injection molding and extrusion customers with the ability to significantly improve their purchasing costs, reduce numbers of SKUs, and improve their production flexibility.



“Molders and extruders now have the option to buy straight resins in volume from their resin suppliers and meter in custom concentrates purchased from us to meet their desired requirement,” said Jay Munsey, S&E’s national sales director. The company has calculated that by using the active masterbatch approach, customers can find a significant overall savings in their production costs. “For example, wire and cable manufacturers will potentially see dramatic savings in their cost per foot,” said Munsey.

An additional benefit for customers is that by purchasing these concentrates they can better plan what levels of virgin materials they need (typically PE and PP), thus reducing their raw material inventory.

## Antimicrobial cable

TPC Wire & Cable Corp has launched its first antimicrobial 600 volt rated cable product, Defender®, developed for the industrial food and beverage market.

Food and beverage processing inherently creates the perfect conditions for bacteria, mold and fungus growth. Defender cable was developed to make it easier for these facilities to meet the high cleanliness standards that are required in these environments. Defender is UL recognized, CSA certified and RoHS compliant. It passes the VW1 – UL and FT-1 CSA flame tests and can tolerate extreme temperatures (–60°C to 150°C).

The cable contains a silver ion-based antimicrobial additive commonly used in consumer-packaged goods. Adding this to the cable jacket during the manufacturing process provides long-term broad-spectrum protection from bacteria, mold and fungus that is built in to the cable jacket. The protection is continuous and doesn’t transfer to skin or other surfaces.

In addition to its antimicrobial properties, Defender also has a proprietary jacket compound to provide excellent resistance to harsh chemicals including oils, acids and solvents, and sustains superior resistance to cutting and abrasion while maintaining



flexibility. The cable has a smaller than average diameter that easily fits through conduit or around tight spaces.

Defender antimicrobial cable jacket is said to eliminate over 99 percent of bacteria (including E. coli and salmonella) and fungus (such as aspergillus) within 24 hours of exposure.

### Coders for wire and cable

“Wire, cable, pipe and tubing manufacturers need to make sure their coding and marking solutions provide high reliability as production lines are difficult to halt once the extrusion process has started. Coder uptime is vital,” said Drew Weightman, vertical marketing manager for Videojet. “In addition... wire, cable, pipe and tubing products are typically sold and installed without any additional packaging, inline coding technology can offer the best method to place high quality brand marks and logos on the products.”

Videojet’s 1710 small character continuous ink jet printer uses high-contrast pigmented inks to create bright, clean codes on dark surfaces for which dye-based inks are not effective. The printer employs pigmented inks in a variety of colors, including yellow, blue and white, to code on materials such as rubber tubing, cabling and jacketed wire. The formulation of these

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pigmented inks delivers superior adhesion and transfer-resistance on commonly extruded substrates.

Designed to run on the 1710, Videojet’s new V491-C yellow is specially formulated for superior adhesion and transfer resistance when printing on extruded and spooled cable and wire.

The Videojet 3320 laser marking system offers permanent, high quality marks, with minimal maintenance and easy line changes. The Videojet 3320 marks a wide spectrum of extruded materials including wire, cable and profiles.

ABB .....	p44
Allied Wire & Cable .....	p22
American Superconductor Corp (AMSC) .....	p12
Amphenol .....	p45
Angola Cables .....	p35
Banker Wire .....	p9
Beneke Wire Company .....	p24
Beta LaserMike .....	p14
C&M Corporation .....	p11
Caley Ocean Systems .....	p30
Chemetall .....	p16
Deacero SA .....	p25
Desertec foundation .....	p31
Ducommun .....	p24
EDF Energy .....	p31
Eraser .....	p45
Fischer Connectors .....	p44
Fushi Copperweld .....	p38
Google .....	p45
Grieve Corp .....	p46
Helukabel .....	p18
Hoowaki .....	p46
Integra Telecom .....	p47
International Wire Group Holdings .....	p40
IWCS .....	p20
IWMA .....	p32
NKT cables .....	p27
Prysmian .....	p29
PSI-Polymer System .....	p41
S&E Specialty Polymers LLC .....	p47
Schleuniger .....	p43
Skorpis Technologies .....	p25
Sumitomo Corporation .....	p39
Superconductor Technologies .....	p19
Talurit .....	p43
TPC Wire & Cable .....	p48
Viakon Monterrey .....	p28
Videojet .....	p49

# EDITORIAL

AMI Cable Conference ..... p15

Beta LaserMike ..... p2

Blachford ..... p8

Cable Components group..... p13

Cersa Mci ..... p7

Huestis..... p17

Inhol BV..... p10

Messe Düsseldorf ..... p21

Paramount Die ..... p11

Wyrepak ..... p19

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**INTRAS**

ISSN 2046 - 9497

Publishers of Eurowire and Wire & Cable ASIA magazines

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