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July 2012 issue - No 13

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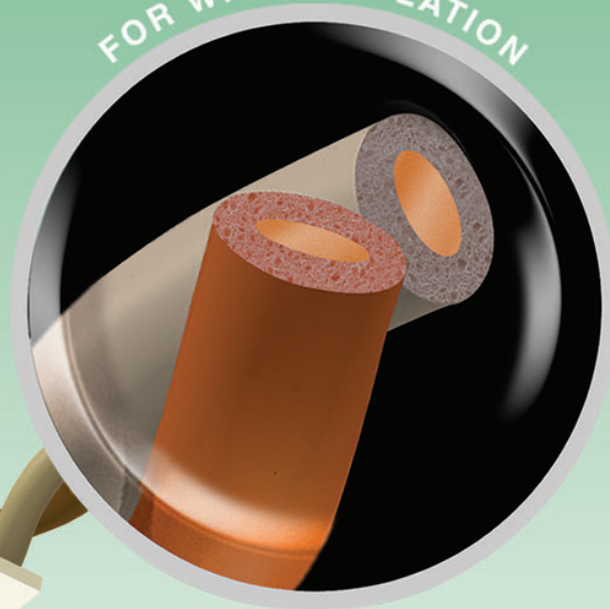
Cable linking Colombia and Miami

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wiredInUSA - July 2012

#13 EDITOR

We start this month with a thank you to you – our readers and advertisers.

wiredInUSA celebrates its first birthday this month, and it's down to you that we continue to bring you up-to-date with all the latest news and innovations from within our industry in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa.

We hope you've enjoyed following us during the first 12 months and look forward to keeping you informed in the many years to come. Again, thank you from all of us at wiredInUSA.

Bloomberg is making the news in this issue, thanks to it using a solar power system at its New Jersey, US campus. The project, completed by SunPower Corp, will provide just under 60 per cent of power for the main building at the site and covers some eight acres. See page 12.

Expansion of a different form is also in the headlines with Elgin Fastener Group buying Northern Wire LLC, one of the leading privately owned wire companies in Merrill, Wisconsin. You can read all about it on page 15.

There is praise indeed for C&M Corporation, which has scooped the 2012 Innovation Prize from the Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership Inc. The company collected the award after its submission 'Answering the US military's COTS (Commercial Off The Shelf) initiatives in the area of interconnect products.' Find this on page 20.

David Bell
Editor

Picture : Mike Gieson

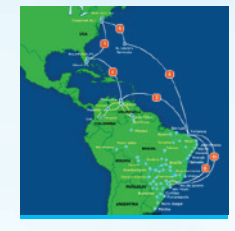
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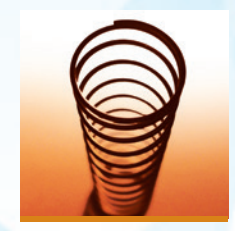
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#13

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DIARY SHOW EVENTS

2012

SEPTEMBER

10-12 Sept: **International Manufacturing Technology Show**
McCormick Place Convention Center,
Chicago, Illinois, USA
Exhibition
www.imts.com

OCTOBER

3-5 Oct: **Spring World 2012**
Chicago, Illinois, USA
Exhibition
www.wireworld.com/events/

NOVEMBER

11-14 Nov: **IWCS**
Providence, Rhode Island, USA
Conference
www.iwcs.org

2013

APRIL

23-25 April: **Interwire 2013**
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Exhibition
www.wirenet.org

MAY

TBA: **wire Russia 2013**
Moscow, Russia
Exhibition
www.wire-russia.com

SEPTEMBER

17-19 Sept: **wire SE Asia 2013**
Bangkok, Thailand
Exhibition
www.wire-southeastasia.com

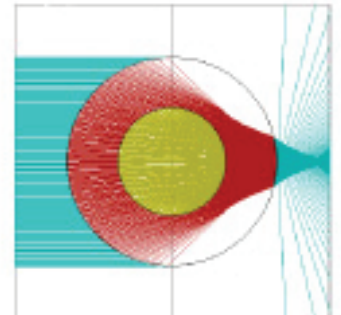
OCTOBER

8-10 Oct: **wire South America**
São Paulo, Brazil
Exhibition
www.tubotech-online.de

OPTICAL FIBRES

Measurement Instruments

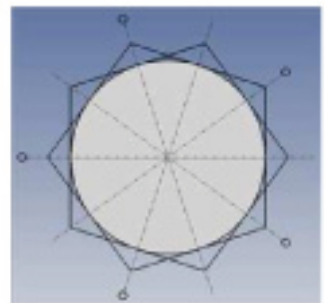
LIS-G: **Laser Interferometric Sensor for Glass fibre**
Diameter repeatability : $\pm 0.005\mu\text{m}$, 50kHz
Diameter uncertainty : $\pm 0.15\mu\text{m}$
Defect detection 75kHz, event recording
Ultra fine air line detection, 0,7 μm 400Hz
Fibre position: $\pm 0.01\text{mm}$, 1 kHz
Spinning frequency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



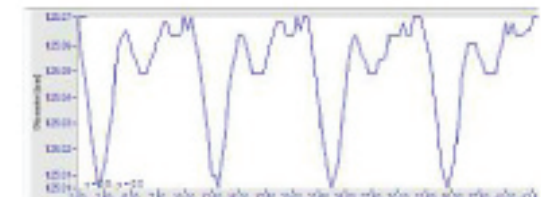
NCTM : **Drawing force**
Birefringence principle
Non Contact Tension Measurement
0-400 grams $\pm 1\text{gram}$, 1 kHz
 $\pm 1\text{ gr}$ within 10-40°C ambient



CM5: **Coating Monitor 5 axes**
Diameter, lump & neck, defects detection, coating asymmetry
Absolute diameter: $\pm 0,15\%$, 50-400 μm , 400Hz
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MAKING THE NEWS

Linking Colombia and Miami

GlobeNet, a provider of submarine capacity and a subsidiary of Brazil's Oi, has announced plans for an express route to Miami from its

signed a long-term agreement with GlobeNet to become the anchor tenant on the new subsea route.



future landing on Colombia's Atlantic coast. UNE EPM Telecomunicaciones, the largest Internet provider in Colombia where it also acts as a full-service telecom operator, has

The new route will be a direct extension from GlobeNet's existing subsea cable system connecting the USA, Venezuela, Brazil, and Bermuda. The dual ring-protected submarine cable system covers a distance of more than 22,000km. GlobeNet believes the new link will create the lowest latency route from Colombia to Brazil.

The extension will use DWDM technology capable of supporting data rates of 10Gbps, 40Gbps, and 100Gbps, and the construction is scheduled for completion in 2013.



Interest in BRICS cable

Investors are sought for the BRICS cable, an undersea broadband cable that will link Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (the BRICS countries) to each other and the US.

"There have been many parties showing interest in the BRICS cable project. To date, a total of ten non-disclosure agreements have been signed by global and South African telecommunication operators," said i3 Africa chairman Andrew Mthembu, a promoter of the project.

"The process is ongoing and more parties are expected to join the project. At this stage, we prefer not to disclose the names of the interested parties." The 34,000km fiber-optic cable, with 12.8 terabits per second capacity, is expected to be operational by 2014. The cable route will stretch from Miami in the US, to Fortaleza in Brazil, Cape Town, Mauritius, Chennai in India, Singapore, Shantou in China and Vladivostok in Russia, and is anticipated to cost between US\$1.2 billion and US\$1.5 billion.

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Solar power makes news for Bloomberg

SunPower Corp has completed a 1.8-megawatt solar power system for Bloomberg in New Jersey. The 8-acre, ground-mounted solar tracking system is generating the equivalent of 58 percent of electricity demand at the main building at Bloomberg's New Jersey campus. It is the first completed renewable energy project at a Bloomberg facility.

"Renewable energy development is a core part of Bloomberg's overall commitment to environmental sustainability. This significant solar installation contributes to Bloomberg's environmental and financial goals, and diversifies New Jersey's energy supply with reliable, clean and affordable power," said Curtis Ravenel, global head of sustainability for Bloomberg.

Bloomberg is buying the power generated from the system at prices below retail rates, providing a long-term hedge against rising power prices with no initial capital investment.

The system is owned by a subsidiary of Integrys Energy Services Inc, which is also selling the solar renewable energy credits and environmental attributes associated with the project.

The system is being partially financed through PSE&G's Solar Loan Program, through which PSE&G offers low-interest loans for solar power development. It uses SunPower solar panels with the SunPower® T0 Tracker system. The Tracker follows the sun's movement during the day, increasing sunlight capture by up to 25% over conventional fixed-tilt systems, while significantly reducing land use requirements.

Eraser's new coordinator



The Eraser Company Inc has appointed Chris Feltrinelli to its sales team. Feltrinelli will be working to increase company revenue by developing new and managing existing key direct customer and indirect distributor relationships.

Feltrinelli was most recently a business owner in Syracuse, NY where he managed finance,

contracts and projects, customers and his team. He has extensive knowledge in telecommunications, and he has a degree in business management.

Chris brings with him over sixteen years of experience in sales and business management.

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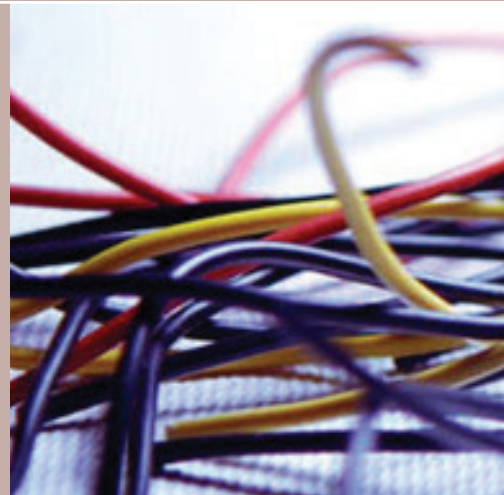
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Cable Assembly in Tijuana

Cable Assembly, a manufacturer of wire harnesses and electro-mechanical assemblies, has opened its West Coast assembly facility in Tijuana, Mexico. "Our business has become increasingly price sensitive and Mexico offers low-cost labor that will help us increase our global competitiveness, increase productivity and accomplish higher profit margins," explained Cable Assembly's CEO, Nick Mocerì.

Cable Assembly views its Mexico manufacturing facility as an essential part of its business strategy with technical high margin harnesses being produced out of its North Carolina facility and mass production harnesses being produced out of Tijuana. "Cable Assembly has the flexibility of providing price options to our customers. We can win business using our Tijuana facility, and the region provides opportunities for us to gain new customers," Mocerì added.



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US wire rod prices drop

In tandem with scrap tags, wire rod prices appear to be trending downward as a weaker domestic market and global economic uncertainty persist. Nucor's rod price decrease was the same as that announced for concrete reinforcing bar, merchant bar and structural products. Fort Wayne, Steel Dynamics Inc's Roanoke bar division, also announced a \$30 per ton drop on all products, with immediate effect.

Market sources have revealed other domestic rod mills either notifying customers individually of price changes, or still in the process of reacting to the recent tumble in scrap tags.

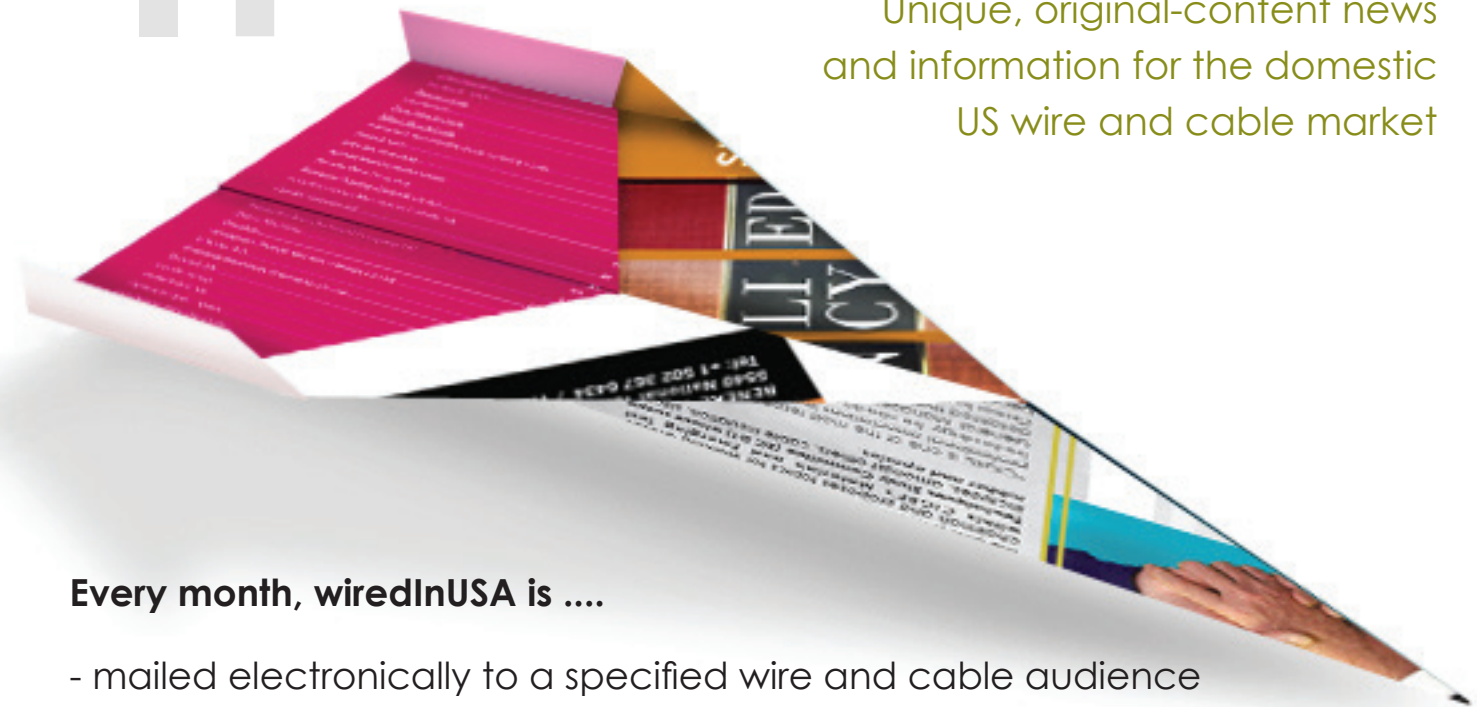
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C&M WINS INNOVATION AWARD



A manufacturer of bulk cable, coil cords and cable assemblies, C&M Corporation, has received a 2012 Innovation Prize from the Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership Inc. C&M's Gold Level award was formally presented at the 25th anniversary Connecticut

Quality Improvement Award conference on Quality and Innovation, held in early June in Portland, CT.

C&M earned the award for its submission entitled, "Answering the US Military's COTS Initiatives in the Area of Interconnect Products". The submission outlined the origin of the military's MOTS (Military Off The Shelf) and COTS (Commercial Off the Shelf) programs and, in response, C&M's development of their MMIP™ (Military Mold Improvement Platform) product family. These molded cable assemblies use available tooling for the military's most popular circular connectors (38999, 5015, and 26482) and shell sizes (8/9/A to 24/25/J). The MMIP product line is a ruggedized product for harsh environments.

The MMIP product's molded construction provides environmental sealing and functional strain reliefs while reducing the weight and profile of the assembly. MMIP cable assemblies are currently used in theater applications such as sniper detection, portable airfield lighting and vehicle based systems.

2012 | 61st

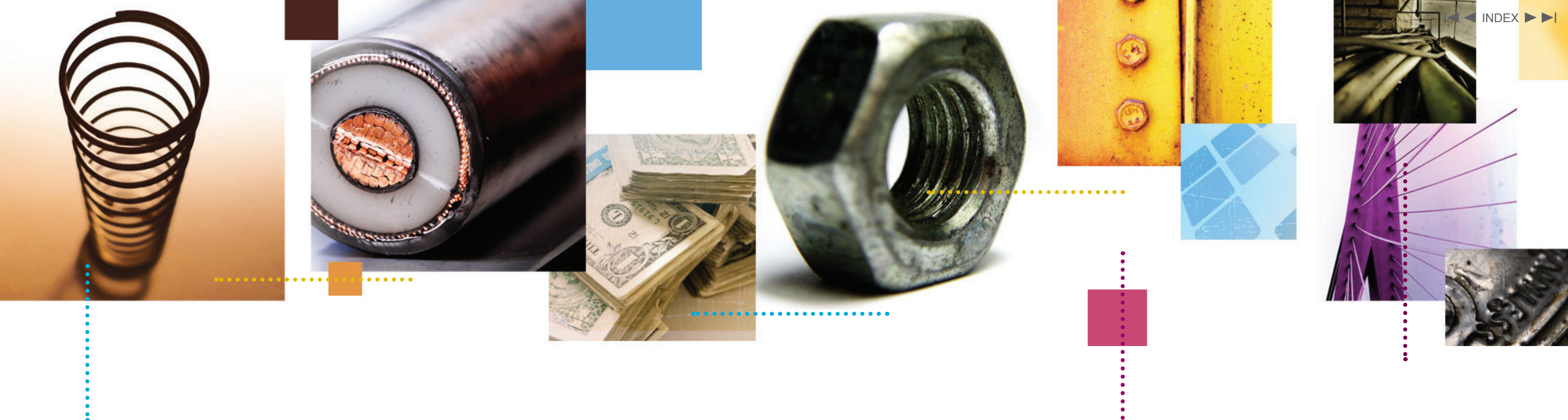
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A fine mesh for LION2

Network specialist Ciena Corporation is collaborating with the LION2 consortium on the recently inaugurated second phase of the LION (Lower Indian Ocean Network) submarine cable project in Africa. As part of the project, Ciena's intelligent optical switching solution – already deployed and operational – helps deliver resilient broadband connectivity on the route between Kenya and the island of Mayotte in the Mozambique Channel, Madagascar, Réunion and Mauritius. LION2 is the 2,700km extension of the LION regional cable system, launched in 2009.

Now deployed in all five landing stations of the cable system (both LION and LION2), CoreDirector FS offers intelligent mesh protection capabilities to provide robust and scalable connectivity in the risk-prone submarine environment.

The new cable provides an alternative route for broadband transmissions to Europe and Asia for other African countries. The self-healing capabilities enabled by Ciena's OneConnect Intelligent Optical Control Plane make submarine networks more resilient by dynamically rerouting services around failures caused by natural disaster or unexpected fiber cuts.

OneConnect will restore around multiple simultaneous failures and is designed to continually identify a viable network path for high-priority services.

Elgin fastens Northern Wire

Elgin Fastener Group has announced the completed acquisition of Northern Wire LLC. Founded in 1970, Northern Wire has grown into a leading privately held wire forming company in Merrill, Wisconsin.

Jeff Liter, EFG CEO, said, "The acquisition of Northern Wire gives the Elgin Fastener Group a solid foothold in the wire form market and opens new doors to product lines that were previously closed to us. We continue to add domestic manufacturing capabilities that expand our total range of specialty fastener options."

Northern Wire is an ISO 9001:2008 certified manufacturer with machining, cold heading, and welding capabilities in addition to wire forming. Northern Wire processes material ranging from 0.080" to 0.750" in diameter, from ½" up to 12 feet in length, and also operates its own plating facility.

Elgin Fastener Group is now comprised of seven fastener manufacturers (Ohio Rod Products, Leland Powell Fasteners, Chandler Products, Silo Fasteners, Landreth Fastener, Quality Bolt & Screw, and Northern Wire) offering a complete range of special, semi-standard, and custom fasteners in a wide variety of styles, sizes, materials, and finishes.

Marlin Steel registered by ISO

Marlin Steel Wire Products, manufacturer of wire basket, wire forms and sheet metal fabrications and custom laser cutting based in Baltimore, has been registered for the excellence of its management and operation procedures by the world's leading quality assessment organization.

After aligning all of its wire baskets, wire form, sheet metal fabrication and custom laser cutting operations according to the International Organization for Standardization guidelines, Marlin Steel was certified as an ISO 9001: 2008 operation, the latest set of standards established.

International Quality Registrars (IQR) Corp of Frederick, Maryland conducted the extensive review of Marlin's facility, administration and operating procedures this spring, resulting in the "Good House-keeping Seal of Approval" for manufacturing companies.

"This certification is a credit to all of the employees at Marlin," said Drew Greenblatt, president of Marlin Steel. "Clients often want to know if a supplier has the ISO registration to ensure the quality of production."

Lead mechanical engineer, and a major force behind Marlin Steel getting ISO registered, Tony Witt added, "What is special about this registration is that we were registered for our design in addition to our metal fabrication and wire and sheet metal products. Engineering in this arena for ISO registration is rare."

Paramount Die eyes Korea

Paramount Die Co is hoping a new trade agreement between the US and South Korea will boost sales of its wire dies.

A trade pact, that became effective in March 2012, lowers South Korean tariffs on US imports, and in anticipation of eased trade, Paramount has spent almost \$2.2 million on a new 40,000ft² building in Abingdon — about three times the size of its former facility in Belcamp. Extra space was needed for new employees and for \$750,000 in new equipment, all geared to producing more dies for export.

Paramount plans to target companies that supply South Korean automakers such as Hyundai, Kia and Ssang Yong.



S&P rates WireCo Group

US based steel wire manufacturer, WireCo WorldGroup Inc, has announced that it intends to enter into a new \$460 million senior secured facility to finance a proposed acquisition, as well as to repay a portion of debt outstanding.



As a result, Standard & Poor's is assigning a BB- issue rating to WireCo's proposed \$460 million credit facility, consisting of a \$135 million revolving credit facility and a \$325 million term loan due 2017. In addition, the agency has affirmed its B+ corporate credit rating on WireCo WorldGroup Inc.

The stable rating outlook is said to reflect the expectation that WireCo's operating performance will improve in the next several quarters; a result of the combination of recently completed acquisitions and an improving economy.

Picture : www.bigstockphoto.com 'Spring' Photographer - ' Rafal Steciuk'



EUROPE NEWS

Principle Power and partners premier Portugal

Portugal's first offshore wind turbine was inaugurated in mid-June, the result of a partnership between Principle Power, Energias de Portugal, Repsol, A Silva Matos (ASM), Vestas Wind Systems A/S and InovCapital.

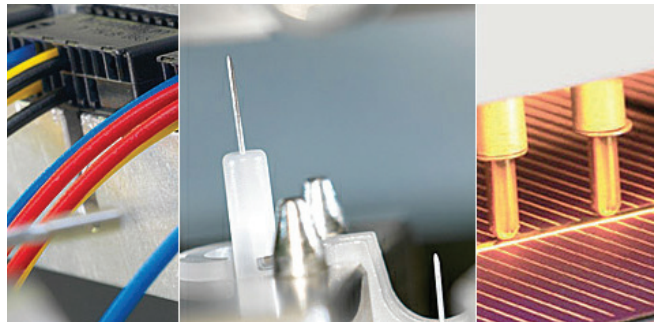
at sea. All final assembly, installation and pre-commissioning of the turbine and substructure took place on land in a controlled environment. The complete system was then wet-towed offshore using simple tug vessels.



The turbine is installed on a floating foundation called the WindFloat. In addition to being the first offshore wind turbine in Portugal, this is the first offshore wind turbine to be installed without the use of any heavy lift vessels or piling equipment

The WindFloat is equipped with a Vestas v80 2.0MW turbine capable of producing enough electricity for 1,300 households. The system is located 5km off the coast of Agucadoura, Portugal, and has already produced in excess of 1.7 GWh. The WindFloat permits utilities to target the highest quality wind resources, independent of water depth. In addition, projects can realize significant cost and risk reductions as a result of the onshore fabrication and commissioning scheme.

The WindFloat has already endured a harsh winter environment in the open Atlantic, having withstood waves of up to 15 meters. The system performed within predictions and power production figures support the joint-venture's vision of the WindFloat's significant role in the global offshore wind market.

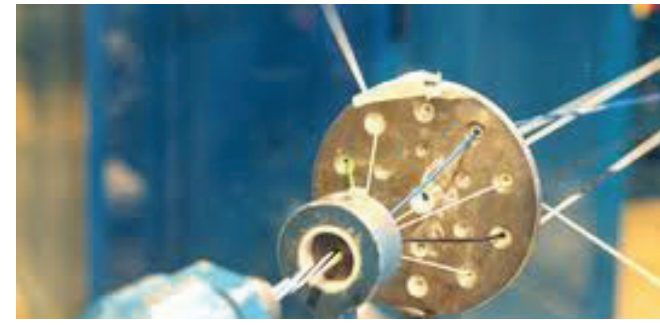


Komax acquires Cosmic

Komax has strengthened its core wire business with the acquisition of the Japanese company MCM Cosmic KK. MCM Cosmic was founded in Tokyo in 1992 and currently employs 15 people, developing and marketing wire stripping machinery.

By acquiring MCM Cosmic, Komax Wire is adding entry-segment machines and coaxial cable processing applications to its product range. The move will also give Komax Wire better access to Japanese customers.

The wire business unit continues to perform well, and Komax expects net sales revenues for the first half of 2012 to largely equal those of 2011.



Habia's military support

Habia Cable supported the UK MOD's 2012 DVD Event at the Millbrook Proving Centre in Bedfordshire during June.

As a major European manufacturer of high performance wire, custom design cables and interconnection systems, with over 40 years, experience in the worldwide defense market, Habia Cable supplies cables to a wide range of applications including armored fighting vehicles, weapon systems, soldier systems, naval, airframe and communication systems.

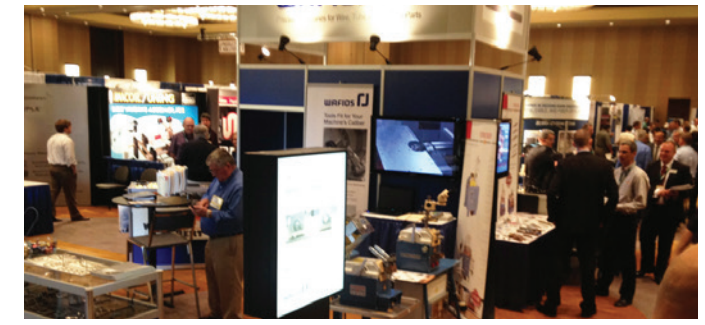
Habia has an extensive portfolio of standard and custom multicore signal, power and data cables including coaxial and databus cables in a range of materials to meet the demanding requirements of in-theater handling and environmental conditions.

At DVD 2012 Habia showcased its UK MOD Defence Standard approved range of Speedfoam 240 HT and 400 HT low-loss high-power RF cables.



Mass Kablo cable contract

Saudi Cable Company revealed to the markets that its wholly owned subsidiary in Turkey, Mass Kablo, has won a \$15.6m order for high-voltage cables for an important European project. "The deliveries will [be scheduled] from the beginning of the fourth quarter of 2012 for a period of 24 months," Saudi Cable added in the statement to the Tadawul stock exchange.



PWM at DWE

Dallas's Wire Expo proved a valuable showcase for PWM's range of manual cold pressure welders, exhibited by PWM's exclusive distributor for the US and Canada, Joe Snee Associates.

Commenting on the show, Joe Snee, president of Joe Snee Associates, said:

"Traffic at the Dallas Wire Expo was up compared with other recent Expo shows, as was customer interest. The show provided an excellent opportunity to meet with existing customers and introduce new prospects to PWM's cold welders. Several visitors came specifically to see the PWM line, including a customer looking to upgrade his existing welders.

"The M101 manual welder on display, which can be used on a workbench or mounted on a trolley, proved popular with customers and prospects who appreciated its ease of operation. A number of customers and prospects also expressed interest in the EP500 rod welder and are intending to send samples for weld trials."



Prysmian plant proliferation

A new submarine cable plant has been inaugurated in Finland. Italian manufacturer Prysmian has invested approximately €40 million at the Pikkala facility to increase production capacity of high voltage cables. The plant has now begun production of transmission cables that use HVDC (high voltage direct current) technology, allowing large amounts of energy to be transmitted over long distances.

The group is also expanding production capacity at its Arco Felice plant in Italy, the group's center of excellence for submarine cables, following acquisition of the Western Link order worth around €800 million to build a new submarine link between Scotland and England.

Meanwhile, the integration between Prysmian and Draka has broadened the range of products and services for renewable energy projects. The group now utilizes three production facilities dedicated to submarine cables: Arco Felice in Italy, Pikkala in Finland and Drammen in Norway, offering a range from medium voltage inter-array cables, to HVAC and HVDC export cables up to 320kV.



Reducing infrastructure cost

Cablenet Communication Systems Ltd, a telecommunications service provider in the Republic of Cyprus, has purchased equipment from Ekinops to maximize the capacity of its optical network. The deployed solution allows bidirectional transport over a single optical fiber, optimizing Cablenet's fiber infrastructure.

Ekinops has provided Cablenet with the Ekinops 360 optical transport platform, which enables WDM (wavelength division multiplexing) to increase the amount of traffic over a single fiber. Most optical transport systems require two fibers for transmission of optical data, whereas the Ekinops 360 transport system gives service providers the choice of single or dual fiber transport. Ekinops is said to provide one of the highest capacity single fiber transport capabilities in the industry.

The Ekinops 360 transport system specializes in transporting large volumes of 10G services over a single fiber. It is also capable of transmitting long distances without in-line amplifiers. The combination of these two capabilities allows Cablenet to dramatically reduce its transport infrastructure costs.



PV power into high-voltage grid

The power plant controller skycontrol® has been installed and commissioned in a photovoltaic installation that feeds directly into France's 63kV high-voltage grid. Drawing from experience in the control of utility-scale PV plants connected to medium-voltage grids, skytron energy GmbH fine tuned the plant controller of the 34MW ac PV power plant in France to the stringent grid connection specifications of RTE, the transmission system operator.

In addition to the standard control functions, the controller is empowered to meet some new challenges. The four plant sections, spaced up to 30 kilometers apart, require active compensation of the reactive power load caused by long cable lines. Another task is the injection of reactive power into the grid for voltage stabilization. This is ensured by adapted control algorithms and phase-shift capability of the inverters.

Following the completion of controlled PV power feed-in, skytron energy GmbH is installing another power plant controller in a 40MWp project in the south-east of France, this time injecting into RTE's 225 kV grid.



Choice of blade for UniStrip 2550

Schleuniger's UniStrip 2550 is a fully programmable stripping machine, offering high precision and flexibility. It strips wires ranging in size from 0.03mm² - 6mm² (32-10 AWG) and jacketed cables up to 5.5mm (0.22") in diameter. The machine uses V-blades, believed the optimum solution for stripping most wires without the need to change blades.

The UniStrip 2550 can also be equipped with radius, die or flat blades, depending on the application. These special blade types are used for stripping wires with difficult to strip insulations such as Teflon, Kapton and Kynar, typically used in the military and aerospace industries.

An integrated library of standard wire sizes and an intuitive menu-guided touch-screen interface are designed to make the UniStrip 2550 as user-friendly as possible. All parameters are fully programmable and can be stored and recalled in seconds. Excellent ergonomics, including focused LED lighting, provide a high level of operator comfort.

New New Mexico solar farm



El Paso Electric Company (EPE) and SunEdison, a subsidiary of MEMC Electronic Materials, have inaugurated a 12MW solar power plant in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Extending over 140 acres, the new Las Cruces Centennial Solar Farm is located near Las Cruces International Airport. The project uses more than 48,000 of MEMC's Silvantis P280 photovoltaic modules, expected to generate over 32 million kilowatt hours of solar energy in the first year and rising to 773 million kilowatt hours over the next 25 years.

Tom Shockley, CEO of El Paso Electric Company, said the company continues to evaluate opportunities to invest in projects to expand its renewable energy portfolio. "Currently, EPE's owned renewable energy projects and purchase power agreements represent almost 3% of the company's net dependable generating capacity, which represents one of the largest percentages of renewable energy for a company of EPE's size in the United States," he added.

SunEdison, which has a 25-year contract with El Paso Electric to buy the

plant's electricity, led the construction and financing of the project and will be the plant operator. El Paso noted the plant's energy will reduce emissions of over 1.1 billion pounds of CO₂ over 25 years, which is equivalent to nearly 4,400 cars per year.

EPE and SunEdison also have a 10MW solar farm nearing completion in Chaparral, New Mexico.

Southwire goes social



Wire and cable producer Southwire Company is using the latest online tools to reach out to distributors, electrical contractors, utilities, OEMs and other end users of Southwire's products and services.

Most recently, Southwire's website has unveiled its new blog, intended to become a useful resource with information on topics ranging from the economy, and its impact on building trends, to workplace safety. The company also has a presence on both Facebook and Twitter. All of this social media activity comes on the heels of the release of several Southwire mobile apps, designed to help customers be more efficient and effective in their jobs, regardless of their

location, in a world that is increasingly reliant on mobile devices and mobile technology.

"Social media will never replace face-to-face interactions, but Southwire is known as an innovator and a customer service leader in its industry. We were the first wire and cable company to invest significantly in the development of mobile apps, and we will strive to be a leader in social media and thereby make it easier for our customers to communicate with us," says Rhonda Gauthreaux, director of marketing communications at Southwire. "One of Southwire's goals is to maximize the marketing potential of social media in a way that meets the needs of our customers."



IWMA

Retirement of Don Tucker from executive committee



Don Tucker recently announced his retirement from the executive board of the International Wire and Machinery Association.

Mr Tucker is well known worldwide in the copper wire and electrical cables field and joined the executive committee in 1972. He subsequently became chairman in 1980 until 1983 and then chairman of the technical committee in 1984, a position he kept until this year.

He was highly influential in this position and presided over the majority of the 49 conferences and seminars that the IWMA has held since its foundation. His technical knowledge and exhaustive list of contacts made a great contribution to the successful running of these events.

Mr Tucker was also chairman of the papers awards committee, which regularly makes awards to contributors of outstanding technical papers. He has also served on the executive advisory council which consists only of ex-chairmen of the IWMA and exists to provide advice to the executive committee.

Mr Tucker's extraordinary service was officially recognized in April 2008 when the executive committee unanimously accorded him lifelong membership.

His infectious sense of fun made him a natural choice as captain of golf, and he presented the prizes at most of the IWMA's golf days, where he was always the highlight of the post-golf dinner.

The executive committee and members of the IWMA wish Mr Tucker a long and healthy retirement from his role.

Wire & Cable India 2012

Maharaja Exhibitor Package

It's not too late for members to book the IWMA exhibition package deal and be involved in this year's **Wire & Cable India 2012** event being held 30th October-1st November at the Bombay Exhibition Centre in Mumbai.

The '**Maharaja Exhibitor Package**' consists of a 130ft² (12m²) fitted and carpeted booth for a cost of just €3,700 and includes:

- Excellent booth locations
- Fully carpeted
- Table and 3 chairs, lockable counter and waste paper basket
- Fascia board with company name
- 1 power socket 220V/15A and 1x 100W spotlight per 3m²
- Interpreter/hostess
- Full support services on IWMA booth: internet, hospitality, additional interpreter service
- Help/local advice based on practical experience
- Organiser's registration fee
- Daily booth cleaning
- Wide range of additional furniture/fittings available at extra cost

Other stand sizes are available upon request (eg. 15m², 18m², 24m²) For non IWMA members the **Maharaja Exhibitor Package** is offered subject to a management fee of €195 which includes one year's free membership of the IWMA.

If you are interested in exhibiting then please call the IWMA office on **+44 (0)1926 834680** or email info@iwma.org, alternately visit our web site for more information at www.iwma.org.

www.iwma.org

Tramec secures LRG Fastener



Gary Sullo, president of Tramec LLC, has announced the acquisition of New Jersey company LRG Fastener Corporation (Continental-Aero). The new legal entity, Tramec Continental-Aero LLC, will be fully integrated into Tramec LLC.

Continental-Aero, a stocking master distributor of all-metal locknuts and finished hex nuts will continue to focus on supplying the North American distributor market. Founded in 1948, Continental-Aero maintains stocking warehouses in Alsip, Illinois; Arlington, Texas; Chino, California; and Harrison, New Jersey; and maintains a sales office in Niles, Illinois. Continental-Aero is best known for its distinguishable press-closed nylon lock nuts and its trademarked Royal Purple Tork Lok™ insert.

Mr Sullo commented, "The addition of Continental-Aero expands Tramec's product portfolio and enhances our presence in the fastener distribution marketplace. Continental-Aero provides an exceptional level of customer service and expertise in supplying both general-line fastener and vendor-managed inventory (VMI) distributors."

"Furthermore," added Sullo, "Continental-Aero is an excellent strategic fit with our Fastener Services business located in Carpentersville, Illinois, which is managed by Chelly Gomez. Bill Giddins and Kelly Wiechen will continue in their existing management roles at Continental-Aero reporting to me."

Cable engineer selected as 2012 IEC young professional

Aisha Bajwa, an Alcan Cable field application engineer, has been chosen as a 2012 International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Young Professional by the US national committee (USNC) of the IEC. Ms Bajwa was selected for her current and potential contribution to the cause of international standardization as it relates to wire and cable products.

"On behalf of Alcan Cable, we congratulate Aisha on receiving this prestigious recognition from the USNC. Her selection as an IEC Young Professional is not only an honor for Aisha but also for Alcan Cable," said Robert G Laviolette, vice president, distribution, Alcan Cable. "Aisha's achievement demonstrates the high level of expertise of our field application engineering staff, which provides sales and installation support for our Stabiloy® aluminum alloy cable in the building construction market."

As a result of her selection, Ms Bajwa will participate in the IEC Young Professionals 2012 Workshop in Oslo, Norway in October. Ms Bajwa was required to complete an extensive application and secure industry recommendations in order to be considered for the award.

Picture: Alessandro Paiva

ASIA & AFRICA NEWS

Lisco melting again

The Libyan steelmaker Lisco has resumed most steel production processes, including melting operations, more than a year after operations were suspended in the wake of the conflict that saw the country's former dictator, Muammar Gaddafi, overthrown and killed.

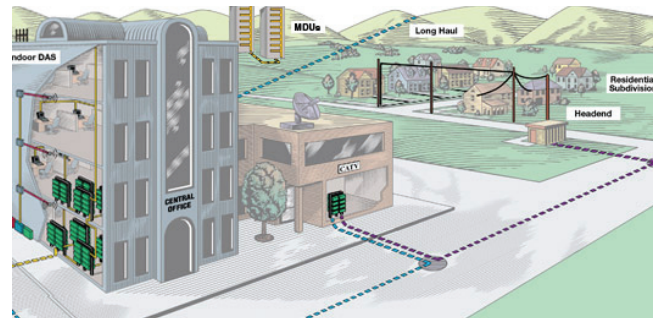
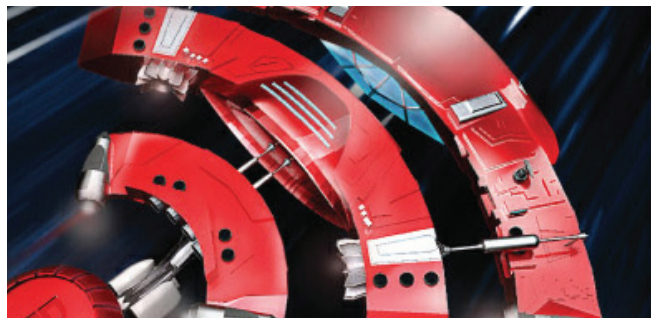
"All Lisco plants are now back to work except the hot strip mill plant," Elfighi said in an emailed statement. "The direct reduction plant is working, the steel melt shops are working, the bar mill is OK, the wire mill is OK, the section mill is OK."



Elfighi said energy supply, which had been poor in the last year due to damage caused by the conflict, had improved, but added there were still some restrictions during peak demand.

The state-owned steelmaker resumed steel melting in May, and is slowly increasing steel production volumes, chairman Mohamed Elfighi reported. The company hopes to reach its full capacity of around 1.8 million tonnes by the end of 2012.

Domestic demand has improved for both long steel products, mainly used for construction and flat products, white goods and car manufacturing, Elfighi said. "The international market is not so good, but expected to improve," he added.



Bridging the Gulf - and beyond

Bahrain communications company Batelco has signed an agreement with Gulf Bridge International (GBI), a privately owned fiber optic cable operator, to connect Bahrain through international capacity on GBI's new cable system. Batelco is the landing partner for the new cable system as part of the agreement signed between the two companies.

The GBI cable system connects the countries of the Arabian Gulf region via a core ring and provides onward connectivity to Europe and Asia. With a design capacity of up to 10 terabits per second, the GBI cable has the capacity to meet rapid growth in demand for traffic originating and terminating in the Arabian Gulf. The launch of the GBI system is intended to secure greater choice, diversity and resilience for telecom operators and other communications companies, both in the region and globally.

Fiber cleaver

Sumitomo Electric Lightwave has introduced the FC-6RM-C fiber cleaver, believed to be the industry's first automatic blade rotation cleaver for high precision cleaves of 1 to 12 fibers for use in fusion splicing, field termination, and other precision applications. For single fiber applications, the company has launched the FC-6RS automatic blade rotation cleaver. Both units are designed to address the market need for a precise fiber cleaver that eliminates the time-consuming and error-prone process of height and blade rotation adjustments.

The FC-6RM-C and FC-6RS are said to significantly reduce the need for maintenance and service by extending the maximum life of the cleaver blade to 144,000 cleaves after making factory height adjustments with initial capacity of 48,000 consecutive cleaves requiring no adjustments. The automated cleavers ultimately allow the user to streamline the cleaving process undisturbed to cleave single or multiple fibers with maximum precision and time efficiency.

Sumitomo's FC-6RM-C mass automatic blade rotation cleaver includes a convenient scrap collector.



River power

Under a new agreement, Iran and Armenia will construct the Meghri hydroelectric power plant on the Aras River, which borders the two countries. According to the agreement, the two nations will begin construction on 22nd August 2012, simultaneously in Meghri, Armenia and Iran's Qarachilar region.

Upon completion, the plant will produce 130MW of electricity, reports Press TV.

Iran Grid Management Company (IGMC) managing director Mir Fattah Ghareh Bagh was quoted by the news agency as saying that the country's electricity exports to Armenia would increase upon the completion of the 400kV power transfer line. The new line will connect Iran's electricity network to the city of Agarak in Armenia.



Energy in waves

SDE Ltd, a leading company in electricity production from sea wave energy, is planning to build sea wave energy power plants along the costal line of the Ecuador mainland and the island of Galapagos.

SDE is ranked as one of the Top 100 Clean Energy Technologies.

SDE has already been invited to Ecuador by the minister of renewable energy and electricity to introduce its technology, believed unique in sea wave energy production. It is written in the invitation that Ecuador has special interest in building sea wave power plants in different sites around Galapagos Island such as Isla Santa Cruz, Isla Isabela, Isla San Cristobal, Isla Baltra and Isla Floreana. MEER has also showed interest in building power plants on the mainland, at sites such as Jaramijo, where it is planned to construct a 15MW power plant with potential to expand to 100MW.

The Ecuador government is willing to finance 60 per cent of the costs involved in building a sea wave power plant, and to sign a PPA for 15 years. SDE is now seeking finance for the remaining 40 per cent.



First for Korea

South Korean wire and cable maker, LS Cable & System Ltd, is believed to be the first Korean company to win a contract from EDF (Électricité de France).

Under the deal, LS Cable will build a 5.5km, 225kV transmission line for a power plant in northwestern France. The contract also calls for supplying materials for associated connectors, laying the cables and supervising the overall project. Financial terms were not revealed.



Kenya transmission line

A senior government official has revealed that Kenya plans to build a 100 kilometer power transmission line to carry electricity from upcoming geothermal and wind power projects.

Kenya is East Africa's largest economy, but the country faces frequent blackouts due to shortfalls in supply and an aging grid. It plans to diversify its sources of power to reduce its reliance on hydrogeneration, which is often affected by drought. "This construction of the line from Suswa in Naivasha to Isinya in Kajiado will help us (carry) ... between now and 2020, at least 1,500 megawatts, rising to 2,000 megawatts," explained Patrick Nyoike, permanent secretary at the ministry of energy.

Nyoike said the project will also include the construction of six new substations.

The country's main power producer, KenGen, is constructing a 280MW geothermal station in Naivasha, expected to be ready to supply power to the national grid by 2014. Another private company is building a 310MW wind power project at Lake Turkana, which is expected to start generating power in 2013.



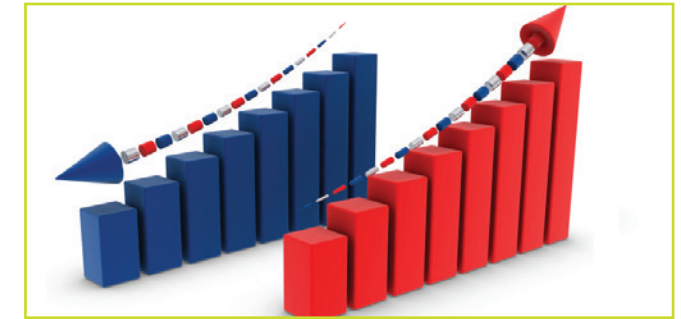
Solar agreement

Talesun Solar USA and CGN Solar USA have signed a cooperation framework agreement to develop 500MW of PV plants in the US by 2015. Under the terms of the agreement, Talesun will source, develop and construct the PV plants. The two companies have set a target of 100MW to be developed in 2012, while the target development in 2013 is 200MW, with a goal of 200MW in 2014.

The companies will discuss cooperation on project initiative funding immediately after the successful implementation of the first project under the build and transfer model.

Talesun Solar USA is a subsidiary of Zhongli Talesun Solar, and a producer of solar modules and cells.

CGN Solar is a wholly-owned subsidiary of China Guangdong Nuclear Power Holding Co, a clean energy corporation under the supervision of the state-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council of China.

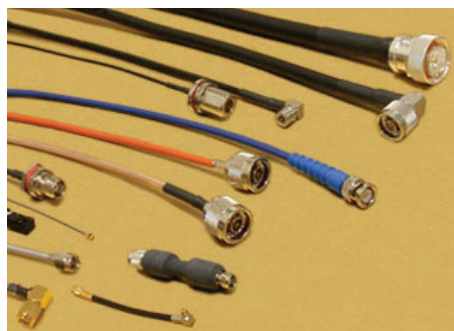


Profit decline in Q1

Asia Pacific Wire & Cable Corp has announced that its first-quarter profit, attributable to shareholders, dropped to \$0.8 million or \$0.06 per share from \$2.7 million or \$0.20 per share in the same period last year. Lower revenues are blamed for the decline in profits. First-quarter revenues totaled \$98.3 million, down 19.3 per cent from \$121.8 million last year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the quarter are said to have increased by 11.4 per cent to \$7.9 million from \$7.1 million last year.

Unlimited cable order



RF Industries' subsidiary, Cables Unlimited (CU) has received orders worth \$1,400,000 for its newly designed OptiFlex™ hybrid custom fiber optic and DC power cabling solution. The cabling units are being shipped to a contract installer and major RRU manufacturer for a tier one United States wireless carrier.

“Working closely with the RRU manufacturer and the tier one carrier, CU’s product development team designed OptiFlex hybrid cables to be an advanced, lower cost, lighter ‘plug and connect’ product for building and upgrading thousands of wireless carrier sites to handle the high-speed, wide bandwidth requirements of 4G networks. We are excited about the prospects for OptiFlex, which has been on the market for only a few months, and believe this product is an excellent example of RFI’s customer-centric perspective, the synergies inherent in our acquisition of CU and our potential for growth,” said Howard Hill, CEO of RF Industries.

OptiFlex hybrid cable solutions are custom designed, highly flexible, pre-terminated cables comprising multiple fiber optic and power cables in a single jacket. The light cable reduces tower loads and is the perfect solution for 4G, WiMAX and 4G LTE tower upgrades and installations up to and exceeding 550 feet, believed twice the length of competing products.

The cabling is made in the United States and can include coaxial or Ethernet cabling for customer specific applications.

Validor buys Fasteners

Validor Capital LLC, a New York-based private equity firm, has acquired EDSCO Fasteners, based in Denton, Texas, a manufacturer of anchor bolts for large steel structures. From its three large facilities, EDSCO ships to many of the leading utility, cellular and structural steel sites around the world. In addition to Denton, Texas, EDSCO has facilities in Charlotte, North Carolina and Spanish Fork, Utah.

Validor Capital primarily targets controlling equity investments in companies with revenues of \$10 to \$100 million in manufacturing and industrial service industries.

xsMobile launched in Singapore

Prysmian Group used June's CommunicAsia 2012 exhibition in Singapore to launch the latest addition to its telecoms cable system portfolio, unveiling its FTTA (Fiber to the Antenna) solution - xsMobile.

The xsMobile solution responds to the need for a full optical fiber antenna network to deliver 4G - LTE and finally LTE-Advanced services. xsMobile is built on the experience of copper-based mobile cable supply for the current 2G and 3G antennae.

Prysmian Group's xsMobile is said to address next generation wireless broadband deployment and, according

to Gert Hoefman, vice-president of Telecom Solutions, xsMobile offers a full fiber optic solution for FTTA, from a flexible, easily upgradeable backhaul network through to 'last mile' fiber to the remote radio head (RRH) in the antenna tower. "xsMobile provides solutions for three antenna tower configurations - standalone, roof top and distributed antenna systems (DAS) to deploy FEMTO cells," he explained.

xsMobile features bend-insensitive BendBright XS optical fiber (ITU-T standard G.652.A2/B2) complemented by a suite of optical cable products (pre-terminated or field-spliced) and a full connectivity portfolio. The new product range utilizes the deployment experience of FTTH and is fully compatible with existing optical fiber networks. xsMobile has been developed to provide fast, simple plug-and-play FTTA installation giving the flexibility for modern mobile network demand.

Hitachi's HDMI cables go further

Hitachi Cable Ltd has released an extended distance active optical HDMI cable, capable of transmitting image signals such as full HD, 3D, and 4K2K through optical fibers for digital signage.

Digital signage, where large format high definition thin displays are used as signboards, has become increasingly common. The cables used in digital signage must be compatible with high speed interfaces such as HDMI in order to display high resolution images. Unlike ordinary consumer household metal HDMI cables that have short transmission lengths of 10 meters or less, commercial signage applications require long transmission distances, and in some cases require UL Plenum rated cable.

In order to respond to such needs, Hitachi Cable has developed its new long and thin active optical HDMI cables.

The active optical HDMI cable has a built-in photoelectric converter within the connector. Hitachi Cable developed this small photoelectric converter using the active optical component technologies that the company has accumulated through the development of various optical devices; and has mounted it within the connector to realize the same handling as ordinary HDMI connectors.

Hitachi Cable used optical fiber as the high-speed signal wire in the cable, realizing up to 100 meters of transmission distance, and achieved a small outer diameter of 5.9mm by using a correction circuit for the low speed signal wire to prevent signal attenuation. The cable is also Plenum rated and compliant with the fire resistance standard UL444.

Microwave coaxial cables

A subsidiary of Molex Incorporated, Temp-Flex, has developed microwave coaxial cables designed for high-bandwidth applications using proprietary processes. Temp-Flex low loss and ultra-low loss cables are said to deliver faster speed and electrical performance in military and aerospace, defense, automatic test equipment and medical applications.

“Our flexible microwave and RF coaxial cables are engineered to meet or exceed the stringent requirements for a range of rugged industrial and military applications,” stated Jeet Sanyal, engineering manager, Temp-Flex. Temp-Flex microwave coaxial cables are available with either a solid core fluoropolymer resin dielectric (low loss) or an air enhanced design with a fluoropolymer resin layer applied over dual monofilaments (ultra-low loss) around the center conductor for increased signal speed. High purity fluoropolymer resin offers a

low dissipation factor and ensures a lower rate of energy loss. Highly consistent manufacturing processes are used to maintain tight mechanical tolerances yielding extremely stable electrical performance.

Additional benefits of Temp-Flex low and ultra-low loss microwave coaxial cable include phase stability, tight impedance tolerance of 50 Ohms ± 1 Ohm, tight time delay tolerance, an FEP alternative to PTFE and ePTFE, bandwidth potential up to 110GHz, and stability under dynamic conditions.

Temp-Flex coaxial cable solutions are insulated with a fluoropolymer dielectric. A helically wrapped silver-plated copper flat wire shield and braid are applied to all cable sizes to achieve superior shielding effectiveness.

Environment-friendly cables

Belden is to include new low-smoke zero-halogen (LSZH) jackets on some of its most popular standard cables. The environmentally-friendly cables are an extension of the company's GreenChoice solutions for customers looking for green alternatives to traditional products.

GreenChoice LSZH-jacketed cables are fully-recyclable, halogen-free and meet all current environmental standards, including

WEEE, REACH, RoHS and Prop 65. Halogen-free GreenChoice cables are non-toxic and can be deposited in landfills. The cables are thought to be particularly beneficial when installed wherever humans or animals are in close proximity to the cables and could be exposed to halogens.

The GreenChoice product line meets the requirements of LEED Pilot Credit 54 for up to 2 LEED points per installation to help builders achieve the next level of LEED certification.

In addition, LEED certification may lead to tax breaks on the building, dependent on state law. The cable has the same robust electrical properties as the Belden Classics cables and is manufactured to the same standards in an ISO 9001 North American facility with the same 25-year warranty. GreenChoice cabling uses the same AWM and UL rating systems as Belden Classic cables.

MCM VFD cables for large horsepower motors

Belden has extended its established line of variable frequency drive (VFD) cables to include 250 MCM, 350 MCM and 500 MCM sizes. MCM VFD cables support installations of up to 250 horsepower motors at 460V for use in demanding industrial environments.

Belden MCM VFD cables are rated for use in exposed-run cable trays, direct burial and in wet or dry conditions.

Belden's MCM VFD cables are designed to provide superior common mode current protection. They help protect a system against damage from reflected wave voltages and capacitively coupled current for maximum safety and reliability. Design features of Belden MCM VFD cables include symmetric bare grounds, dual copper tape shield, enhanced XLP insulation, industrial-grade PVC jackets for longer life and a TC-ER (exposed run) rating that allows cable to run from cable tray to point of utilization, per the National Electrical Code, to reduce the need for additional support or protection.

Belden's MCM VFD cable carries various ratings, including: 2000V UL 1277 Type TC-ER per 2005 NEC Article 336, 1000V CSA TC C22.2 No 230, 90°C wet/dry, Class I & II, Div. 2 hazardous locations, and UL 1685 vertical tray flame test, FT4, IEEE 1202 vertical tray flame test at 70,000 BTU/hour. The cable is rated UL direct burial, oil and sunlight resistant, RoHS compliant and CE approved.

Thunderbolt cables

Thunderbolt™ active optical cables (AOC) are now available, utilizing the Ensphere ESI-XVR10100 optical transceiver.

Hessam Mohajeri, founder and CEO of Ensphere, said, "Optical cable suppliers know the importance of choosing high performance 10 Gbps optical engines with a careful balance of silicon CMOS performance, low power operation, and low profile products in order to meet the overall optical Thunderbolt design requirements. The first such cables to enter the market have chosen the Ensphere ESI-XVR10100 as an acknowledgement of our design and delivery capabilities."

According to Shigeo Saito, EO, deputy general manager electronics business unit and general manager of electronic wire division, Sumitomo Electric Industries, "Our first optical Thunderbolt cables chose an optical engine design based on the Ensphere ESI-XVR10100 due to its excellent match with our overall design requirements."

The ESI-XVR10100 optical transceiver device is ideally suited for optical Thunderbolt cables with its two 10 Gbps lanes, including on-chip thermal sensors and VCSEL compensation logic to ensure the best overall performance. OEM customers can pre-program special operating characteristics into its OTP memory, and can slave up to four devices for applications requiring wider parallel interfaces. The ESI-XVR10100 is currently available in die form in production quantities.

Underground and distribution analysis

Reportlinker.com has a new market research report available in its catalog, "Analysis of the underground transmission and distribution cables market".

This research analyzes the characteristics of the underground transmission and distribution cables market in North America and the variables that will affect this market during the 2012–2016 forecast period. Though most electricity is transmitted through overhead power lines, demand is high for underground cables because they require less maintenance. The three types of cable discussed are power transmission, power distribution, and marine, or subsea.

These cables also are distinguished by their insulation types: solid dielectric, fluid filled, and gas filled. Drivers and restraints are discussed. The base year for this study is 2011, and the geographic scope includes the United States and Canada.

Although more expensive than overhead cable, underground cable use has been driven by aesthetics, and the prospects of reduced maintenance costs associated with severe weather conditions.

Make sure your new machine or product receives all the publicity it can get!

Send us the details and a photograph for our new Machines, Products & Technology section in wiredInUSA.

To make sure your editorial is published in the August edition – send us the details by **20th July** to ensure its publication.

All editorial should be sent to editor David Bell at david@wiredinusa.com

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