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**USA**

November 2012 issue - No 17

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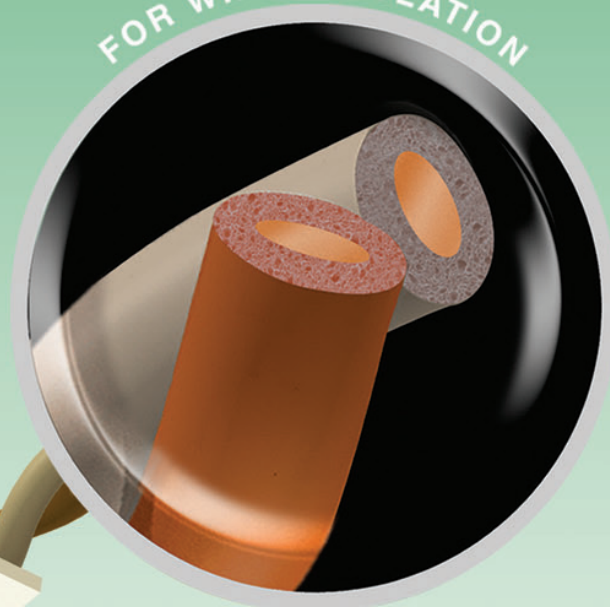


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# #17 EDITOR

Now I know that Christmas is just around the corner...it's time for **IWCS!** This symposium and exhibition takes place from **11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November** in Providence, Rhode Island, USA and will, as always, be well attended by the industry.

IWCS was the first-ever show I attended after taking up the role of editor and gave me a fascinating insight into the workings of the industry. Feel free to come and say hello and collect your **FREE CD** of the November issue of wiredInUSA from **Booth 330**, and take a look at some of the companies exhibiting there in our feature on page 44 and 51.

One thing striking me in this issue is the number of appointments within the industry and this is added to by our story 'Steel plant rescued' on page 10, with Ohio Valley company Esmark buying the Wheeling-Pittsburgh steel plant with plans to restart production in January next year.

The move will see the company employ around 160 workers after completing the \$6.3m transaction. Certainly seems like it will be a happy new year for some.

It would be remiss of me to sign off from this issue without wishing you all happy Thanksgiving for later in the month.

**David Bell**  
Editor

# CONTENT CONTENT CONTENT CONTENT

Picture : www.sxc.hu Photographer: Mike Gieson



**06**

Show Diary  
From the USA



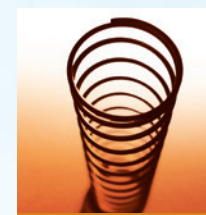
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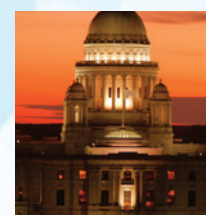
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IWCS Conference  
From the 11th to 14th November



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Products, Machines and Technology  
The latest news from machine industries



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#17

**News**

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# DIARY SHOW EVENTS

## 2012

### NOVEMBER

11-14 Nov: **IWCS**  
Providence, Rhode Island, USA  
Conference  
[www.iwcs.org](http://www.iwcs.org)

## 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)

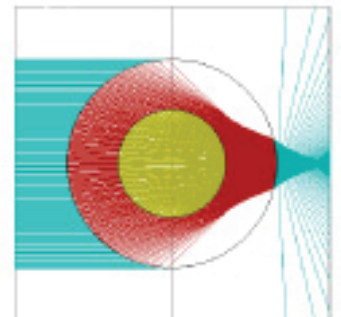
### NOVEMBER

TBA November: **IWCS, Providence**  
Rhode Island, USA  
Conference  
[www.iwcs.org](http://www.iwcs.org)

## OPTICAL FIBRES

### Measurement Instruments

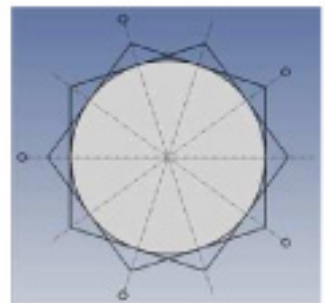
**LIS-G:** **Laser Interferometric Sensor for Glass fibre**  
Diameter repeatability :  $\pm 0.005\mu\text{m}$ , 50kHz  
Diameter uncertainty :  $\pm 0.15\mu\text{m}$   
Defect detection 75kHz, event recording  
**Ultra fine air line detection,  $0,7\mu\text{m}$  400Hz**  
Fibre position:  $\pm 0.01\text{mm}$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



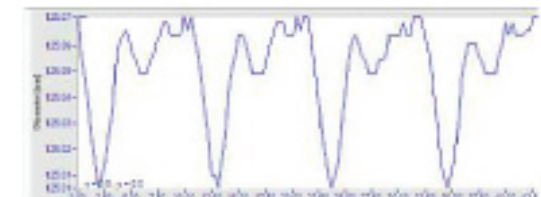
**NCTM :** **Drawing force**  
**Birefringence principle**  
Non Contact Tension Measurement  
**0-400 grams  $\pm 1\text{gram}$ , 1 kHz**  
 **$\pm 1\text{ gr}$  within 10-40°C ambient**



**CM5:** **Coating Monitor 5 axes**  
**Diameter, lump & neck, defects detection, coating asymmetry**  
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Lump & Neck:  $\pm 2\mu\text{m}$ , 500kHz  
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# Are You Spending Too Much Time Testing LAN/Data Cable?

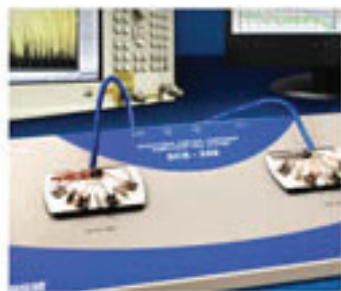
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# MAKING THE NEWS

## Outages ground flights

An outage that cut telephone and data services to Sprint customers in parts of California, Oregon and Washington also grounded Alaska Airlines passengers when it took the carrier's reservations system offline.

caused by two cuts in the company's fiber optic cable network, and service was resumed within the day.

She explained that one cable was accidentally cut in the early morning, while maintenance work was being conducted on a railroad track between Chicago and Milwaukee, but the company is still investigating the cause of the second cut which occurred between Tacoma, Washington and Portland, Oregon a few hours later.

Davis said that fiber cuts are typically accidental, but could not immediately confirm that this was the case for the second incident.

Alaska Airlines said in a statement that it and its sister carrier Horizon Air had canceled 70 flights and that some departing flights had been up to four hours late.



Crystal Davis, a spokeswoman for Sprint Nextel Corp (SN), said the outages were

## Steel plant rescued

Ohio Valley company Esmark has bought the Wheeling-Pittsburgh steel plant in Yorkville, Ohio, and plans to restart production in January 2013.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported in October that Esmark had completed the \$6.3 million transaction. It includes a 50 percent interest in Ohio Coatings Co. CEO James Bouchard expects to employ 160 workers who will be covered by a four-year United Steelworkers contract.

The plant was previously owned by RG Steel, now bankrupt. RG was formed last year when Wheeling-Pitt's former operations were combined with Bethlehem Steel's former Sparrows Point mill in Baltimore, and the former WCI Steel plant in Warren, Ohio.

Esmark has previously held control of Wheeling-Pitt assets, but sold them to Russia's OAO Severstal. Severstal then sold the mills to RG.

## NY free fiber competition

Mayor Bloomberg has announced the launch of ConnectNYC, an initiative that will upgrade 240 companies across the five boroughs by providing free fiber cable wiring. Businesses interested in receiving free upgrades can enter a contest organized by the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

The contest is part of the Mayor's plan to expand the city's broadband connectivity and increase high-speed Internet access for businesses. Upgrades worth up to \$12 million will be given away, the average package being worth around \$50,000 per business.

Winners will be chosen using a set of criteria, including how the additional connectivity will help them grow, the potential to improve broadband infrastructure in underserved areas, and the business's proximity to other applicants.

Liz Gilmore



## Allied family

Allied Wire & Cable has welcomed Liz Gilmore to its Tennessee sales team, where she will work alongside her father and industry veteran, Allied account representative, Tom Gilmore.

Liz is new to wire and cable, but eager to learn as much as she can about the industry. Of coming to work with her father, Liz says, "I am thrilled to be joining Allied to work alongside

my dad. He has over 35 years of experience, and is going to be taking me under his wing, so with his knowledge and my drive, there is no way I can be anything but a success!"

Allied Wire & Cable is happy to count Liz as its newest team member, and looks forward to seeing her follow in her father's footsteps as an Allied representative.

## New CEO at Scovill

Scovill Fasteners, a provider of fasteners to the clothing, military, marine and medical sectors, has named Craig Stoudt as its new CEO. He joins Scovill from National Envelope Corp, where he was senior vice president of shared services, and was formerly vice president of supply chain at Unisource Worldwide.

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# Nanoflowers for energy storage



Researchers from North Carolina State University have created flower-like structures made from germanium sulfide (GeS) – a semiconductor material. Extremely thin petals (only 20-30 nanometers thick) with an enormous surface area, could be a solution for future energy storage devices and solar cells.

since the thinner structure with larger surface area can hold more lithium ions. By the same token, this GeS flower structure could lead to increased capacity for supercapacitors, which are also used for energy storage."

"Creating these GeS nanoflowers is exciting because it gives us a huge surface area in a small amount of space," said Dr Linyou Cao, an assistant professor of materials science and engineering at NC State and co-author of a paper on the research. "This could significantly increase the capacity of lithium-ion batteries, for instance,

GeS is similar to materials such as graphite, which settle into neat layers or sheets. However, the atomic structure of GeS makes it very efficient at absorbing solar energy and converting it into useable power. This makes it attractive for use in solar cells, particularly since GeS is relatively inexpensive and non-toxic. Many of the materials currently used in solar cells are both expensive and extremely toxic.

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## More power to California grid

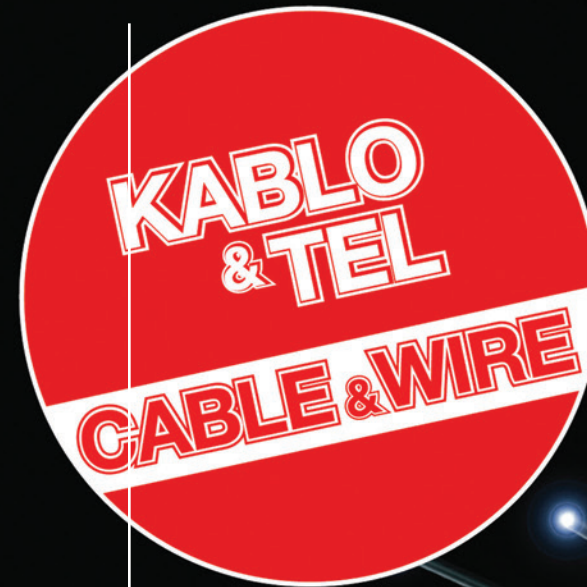
A new private transmission line has been proposed to deliver wind and solar energy through eastern Kern County and the Antelope Valley. According to examiner.com the formal environmental review of the transmission line project, designed to deliver 2,000MW of power into Los Angeles and beyond, is underway.

The power line project would be built for the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) and expected to be online by late 2016.

After completion of the permitting process and the environmental review, construction of the transmission line could begin in January 2014.

AV Clearview project consultant Thomas O'Connor was quoted on the website as saying that Kern County has permitted over 7,000MW of renewable energy projects, with about 3,900MW already online.

"Despite receiving all necessary county approvals, many new generation projects will face challenges connecting to the existing transmission facilities, including Southern California Edison's new Tehachapi renewable transmission line, which stretches from Tehachapi into Los Angeles County," O'Connor said.



# 15-18 NOVEMBER 2012

## 5<sup>th</sup> Cable & Wire Fair

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# Sales force expansion

DeWAL Industries has added two new sales specialists to the team. Neil Yingling is appointed sales manager for the west coast of the United States to include Arizona. He comes to DeWAL with a formidable background in business and sales of manufacturing goods and supplies.

The addition of Neil's time and talents will help DeWAL's existing and future customers by playing an active role to improve communication and response time to clients on the west coast. Of his appointment, Neil said, "I am looking forward to meeting current customers, and exploring new opportunities where DeWAL's expertise can offer creative solutions."

Joanne Hooper is European sales engineer, with a comprehensive background in sales and the development of key markets. Her extensive knowledge of the aviation repair segment will prove a great asset.

The addition of Joanne's energy and enthusiasm will play an active role in improving communication and response time to European clients. Joanne enthused, "I am looking forward to strengthening the relationship with existing customers, and exploring new ventures where DeWAL's engineered line of products can fit the bill."

DeWAL is a manufacturer of pressure sensitive tapes from PTFE, UHMW-PE, Polyimide, and PTFE coated glass fabric. The company also manufactures skived PTFE and UHMW-PE film, friction-reducing Dynaglide® PTFE-based compounds, and Poro-Tex® and UniPore® products.

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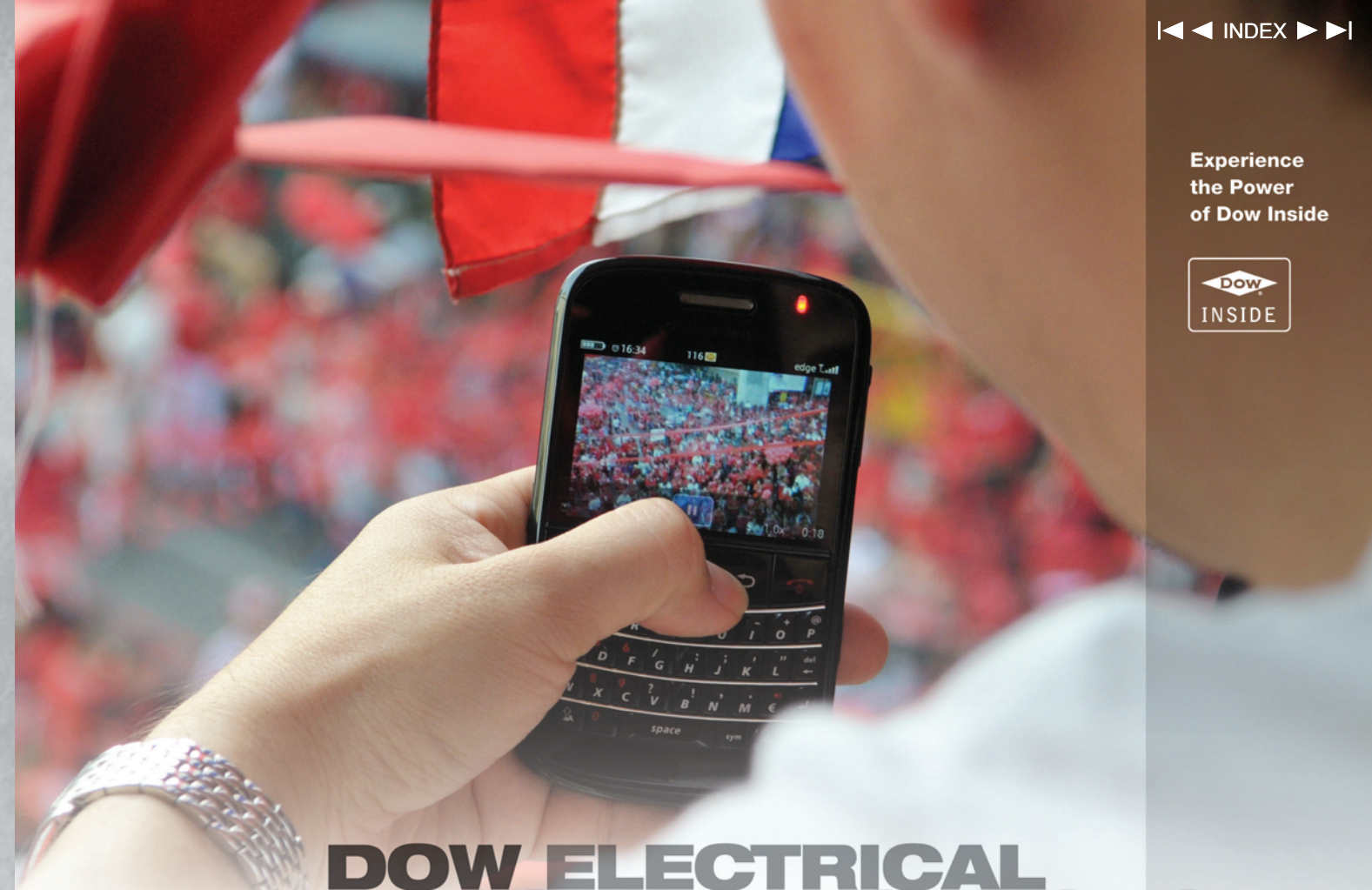


# Ethernet white paper

C&M Corporation has released a new white paper, "Adapting Gigabit ethernet for the industrial environment – a discussion of cable constructions and applications."

The paper discusses the constructional differences between standard Gigabit ethernet and the specifications required for similar cables utilized in an industrial manufacturing environment. Further applications for such ruggedized designs are also reviewed.

The paper can be downloaded from the C&M website by choosing the "Resources" tab on the home page and visiting the white paper section of the literature library.



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# New manufacturing facility in NC

Superior Essex Inc has opened its first North American energy cable manufacturing facility, in Tarboro, NC.

The result of a two-year collaboration between LS Cable & System, Superior Essex and the city of Tarboro, the new plant will allow for a significant increase in energy cable production to meet the demands of commercial, industrial and utility customers.

The 250,000ft<sup>2</sup> facility includes a 125 feet high tower, for medium voltage cable production, and additional equipment to cover a range of energy applications. The building design and cable technology were supplied by LS Cable & System, the parent company of Superior Essex.

The initial launch, earlier this year, of the Superior Essex energy cable portfolio included low voltage 300V and 600V instrumentation cables and low voltage 600V control cables.

"[The opening] marks our expansion into medium voltage energy cables as well as other larger low voltage cables for multiple markets and applications." said Lindsay Allen, vice president of marketing for Superior Essex.

The Grand Opening event was hosted by Christopher Koo, chairman of LS Cable & System; John Son, president and CEO of LS Cable & System; Stephen Carter, president and CEO of Superior Essex; and Lindsay Allen.

# 2012 | 61<sup>st</sup>

PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD'S LEADING CONFERENCE FOR PEER REVIEWED TECHNICAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS ON TECHNOLOGIES AND TRENDS IN WIRE, CABLE, CONNECTIVITY AND ASSEMBLIES FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS, DATA, ELECTRONICS, POWER, INDUSTRIAL, AUTOMOTIVE AND AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES



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## LEADERSHIP AND VISION FOR OVER 60 YEARS



# New technical director

Dave Henninger has been promoted to the position of technical director for Bridon American Corporation, a member of the Bridon Group of companies. Henninger will lead Bridon American's efforts in product and process engineering, technical customer service and new product development. In addition, he will guide Bridon American's participation in industry standards development and representation on technical associations.

David Sleightholm, BAC's long time technical director, has retired, but will continue to contribute to BAC technical support in a part time role. David's contributions to Bridon and the wire rope industry are numerous, and he was recognized for lifetime achievement at a recent standards meeting of the Wire Rope Technical Board.

Chris Dugan, managing director of Bridon American Corporation (BAC) said, "David was recognized by WRTB at their recent meeting in Golden Colorado. David has been an integral part of WRTB's long history of promoting wire rope knowledge and assisting in the process of establishing technical and safety standards for military, governmental and industrial use. It was especially fitting that he was recognized at his last meeting by a group of his engineering peers, whose respect and appreciation for his work and knowledge was evident."



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# STEEL MILL EXPANSION



Charter Steel is to expand its electric arc furnace in Cuyahoga Heights.

The Charter expansion, which will increase capacity by about 25 percent, is the latest in a long string of major steel investments made in the region since the beginning of last year. In all, around half a billion

dollars has been spent -- \$100 million to expand US Steel operations in Lorain, \$85 million at Republic Steel's Lorain plant, \$225 million for a massive expansion at Timken's Faircrest Steel plant near Canton and \$57 million for a Youngstown steel processing plant.

Although Charter Steel won't add any new jobs in Cleveland as part of the expansion, some other steel producers, including ArcelorMittal and US Steel have increased their workforce.

# Memorial scholarship fund



T&T Marketing has established the Bob Rowland Scholarship Fund in honor of its longtime employee, Bob Rowland, who passed away earlier this year.

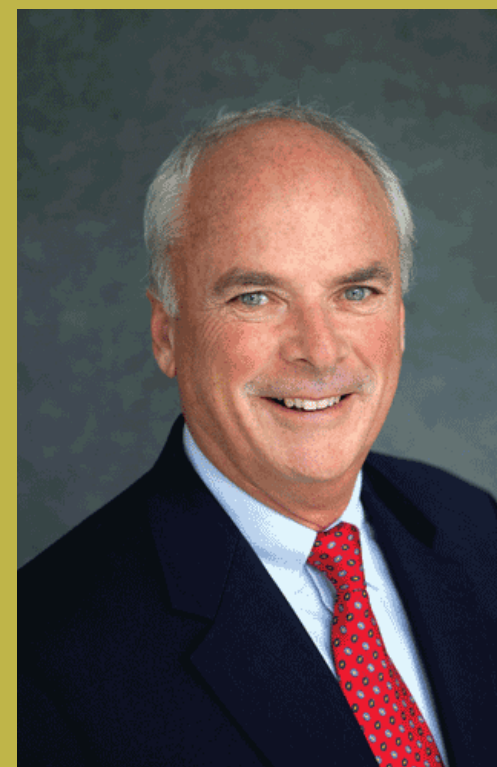
Bob was a well-known wire and cable industry veteran, and a beloved employee of T&T Marketing Inc as an account manager and polymer scientist. He held a degree in electrical engineering and, prior to joining T&T, spent 29 years in technical service and development in the area of electrical wiring and plastic polymer engineering. Bob held several patents in his field.

T&T Marketing has established the Bob Rowland Scholarship Fund to assist college students pursuing a degree in engineering or the sciences. Those who qualify, and are selected, will receive \$1,000 toward their continued education.

To be eligible, students must be between the ages of 18 and 25 and be enrolled on a four-year college or university course, pursuing a degree in engineering or a science. They must also have a parent currently employed by a wire and cable manufacturer or supplier.

More details are available from T&T Marketing.

# New addition to CCG team



Paul will be responsible for direct sales interactions with existing customers as well as establishing new customers and support for important new product introductions including Fluoro-Foam®, FluoroSpun® non-wovens and staple fibers, and tin plated copper wire from Assaf Conductors.

McLaughlin has 30 years of sales and business experience prior to joining Cable Components, most recently as national accounts manager for NEPTCO in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Before joining NEPTCO's sales team, he spent over 20 years in direct sales and product development with International Paper and Georgia Pacific concentrating on flexible packaging, coated and laminated films, and custom laminated products.

Cable Components Group LLC has named Paul McLaughlin as sales and marketing manager of Cable Components Group, reporting to David Braun, vice president and managing director.



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

# EUROPE NEWS



Euros Evans, chief technology officer, Airwave

## Smart grid for the Shetlands

Airwave, a leading provider of critical voice and data communications to public service organizations in Great Britain, has been confirmed as the chosen partner by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution (SSEPD) for a smart grid project, Northern Isles New Energy Solutions (NINES) running in the Shetland Islands.

According to Euros Evans, chief technology officer, Airwave: "This is a huge privilege for Airwave to be selected as a partner to SSEPD to deliver a truly innovative smart grid project. Airwave will be leveraging its existing capabilities in its vast national network and bringing to market new technology that supports demand-side management."

Working with SSEPD, Airwave will deploy a communications and control service to enable SSEPD to better support

consumer energy demands through improved management of demand and supply of electricity to almost 750 homes on the Shetland Islands.

"SSEPD, along with the NINES project partners, have developed a solution which delivers economic benefits for the area, reduces the islands' carbon footprint and, crucially, could cut costs for customers. A reliable communications system is central to making all that happen," says Stewart Reid, future networks and policy manager, SSEPD.

"Sustainability is also a key component and we endeavor to reuse existing assets, such as mast sites, to ensure that we operate responsibly as a business. We have now opened the way for taking part in the evolution of our utilities customers and the low carbon future," added Evans.



## Big reel goes offshore

Clipper Projects has transported a 340-ton reel, for steel wire rope, to Miclyn Express Offshore's subsidiary, Express Offshore Solutions Pte Ltd of Singapore. The galvanized steel reel was loaded onto the 8,000 (deadweight) ton Clipper Century at the port of Tanjung Langsat in Malaysia, and sailed for Far East Levingston in Singapore. The Copenhagen-based logistics group revealed that transport was complicated by draft limitations, narrow approaches and tidal interference.

The combined weight of the reel and its spreader approached the vessel's lifting capacity of 400 tonnes. Between-deck pontoons were required to stabilize the empty ship during loading.

The reel will become part of an offshore installation contractor's inventory to handle bigger and heavier structures as oil and gas fields move into deeper waters.



## Estlink-2 construction begins

Construction of the 650MW Estlink-2 cable, which will almost triple transmission capacity between the Nordic and Baltic regions by early 2014, has begun. Installation of the €320m high-voltage direct current (HVDC) power line began on the Estonian coast, according to Bloomberg.

Work on the transmission line will shortly begin in Finland and is expected to be ready for final testing and commissioning in 2013.

Estonia's Elering and Fingrid Oyj of Finland said in a joint statement that: "The Estlink-2 HVDC connection is built so as to improve power system security and electricity market integration in the Baltic Sea region." Fingrid said the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania are currently connected with the Nordic region through a 350MW line.

By 2015, the countries' links with power networks and markets in neighboring nations will be strengthened by a 700MW NordBalt cable from Sweden to Lithuania and a 500MW LitPol interconnector from Lithuania to Poland.

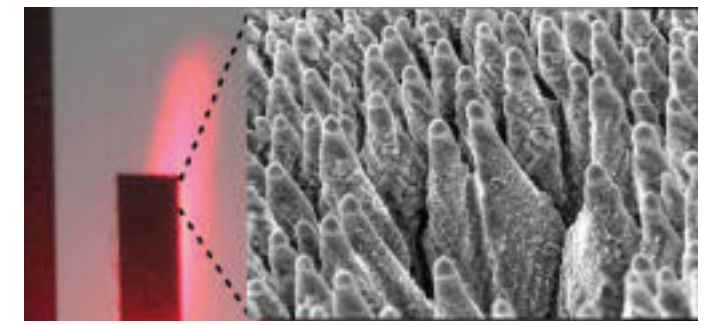


## Fiber optic technology in Peru

Connectivity infrastructure and telecommunication solution provider in South America, Internexa, will deploy 100G optical coherent technology from Alcatel-Lucent to dramatically boost the speed and capacity of its data network to support the distribution of digital content from around the world into the region.

Internexa has the largest terrestrial telecommunications network in South America, providing connectivity to operators in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil and soon, Central America. The company is migrating digital content currently located outside the continent to data centers in Colombia and Brazil through agreements with the main content delivery network (CDN).

Alcatel-Lucent is supplying Internexa with its 100G optical coherent technology employed in the 1830 photonic service switch (PSS). In addition the company will deliver the 1660 SM STM-16/64 optical multi-service node for metro applications, the 1850 transport service switch (TSS) 320 and the 1350 management suite.



## Solar cells made from black silicon

Solar cells convert three-quarters of the energy contained in the Sun's spectrum into electricity – yet the infrared spectrum is entirely lost in standard solar cells. In contrast, black silicon solar cells are specifically designed to absorb this part of the Sun's spectrum – and researchers at the Fraunhofer Institute for Telecommunications have recently succeeded in doubling their overall efficiency.

"Black silicon is produced by irradiating standard silicon with femtosecond laser pulses under a sulfur containing atmosphere," explains Dr Stefan Kontermann, who heads the research group "Nanomaterials for Energy Conversion" within the Fraunhofer Project group for fiber optical sensor systems at the Fraunhofer Institute for Telecommunications, Heinrich-Hertz-Institut, HHI.

Researchers at HHI have now managed to double the efficiency of black silicon solar cells, creating cells that can produce more electricity from the infrared spectrum.



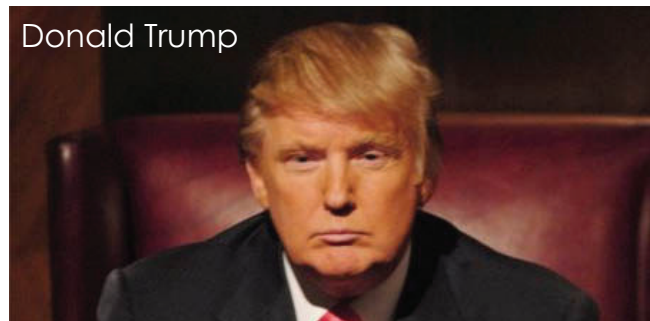


## Norway funds clean energy in Bhutan

A five-year funding grant from Norway is to help Bhutan achieve its target of providing access to electricity for the entire population. The grant will help to secure access to electricity and other modern energy services for all the people of Bhutan, including those on lower incomes.

The agreement on further energy cooperation was reached at a meeting between Norway's minister of international development, Heikki Eidsvoll Holmås, and Bhutan's Prime Minister, Jigmi Y Thinley, in the Bhutanese capital, Thimphu.

The cooperation with Bhutan will be based on the principles set out in the international energy and climate change initiative (Energy +), which was launched in 2011 by Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg and UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon.



## Trump calls for public inquiry

The BBC website reports that Donald Trump's lawyers have called for a public inquiry into plans to build an offshore wind farm close to his Aberdeenshire golf course. The £230m project is a joint venture by Vattenfall, Technip and Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (Areg).

In a letter to Marine Scotland, the lawyers said "no stone should be left unturned" in establishing if there was any economic risk to the Menie resort. The Scottish government has said that any correspondence will be considered.

The Trump Organization's legal representatives also said that if a public inquiry was not held, they would pursue all legal remedies available. The US billionaire claims the turbines would spoil the sea views for golfers on his course, and has criticized Scottish Natural Heritage and RSPB Scotland for dropping their own opposition to the wind farm.

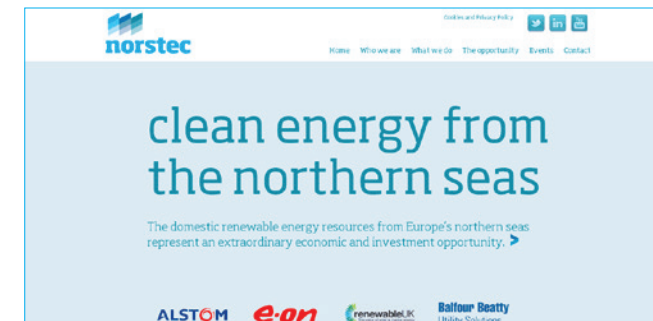


## Copper production dips

Reuters reports that one of the world's largest copper mining companies, Xstrata, has recorded a dip in third-quarter copper volumes, caused partly by a change in operations, but also by ongoing trouble at the company's Collahuasi mine where production fell 44 percent.

Xstrata announced that its total copper production dropped to 187,800 tonnes in the quarter, higher than the previous quarter, but 16 percent below the same period the year before.

Currently undergoing a \$32 billion takeover by trader Glencore, Xstrata expects the impact of a turnaround plan at Chile's Collahuasi mine, which it controls in partnership with Anglo American, and improved grades to increase production during the fourth quarter.



## Network to promote offshore wind power

Over forty organizations, including Alstom, Areva, E.ON, Prysmian Group, National Grid, Vattenfall, Siemens and Vestas, have joined forces to establish a long-term vision for the deployment of offshore wind in the northern seas and the economic opportunities this presents. The new network – called Norstec - will include manufacturers, developers, supply chain firms, researchers and industry bodies.

Norstec will communicate the scale of the opportunity and the benefits of clean energy in Europe's northern seas to the public and the business and political spheres. Signatories will collaborate and share information to ensure that the benefits offered by vast clean energy potential in the Northern Seas are fully realized.



## Fasteners joined

Lindstrom Metric LLC, a manufacturer and distributor of metric fasteners, bolts and screws and a company of Clayton-based Harbour Group, has acquired Bossard Metrics Inc, a supplier of metric fasteners.

Under the agreement, Bossard will be integrated with Lindstrom, allowing the combined operation to provide 2,000 distributor customers with more than 75,000 standard and specialty metric fasteners. Bossard only sells to distributors, with no direct sales to manufacturers. Lindstrom will become the exclusive master distributor for the entire range of Bossard products in the US.

Clayton-based Harbour Group acquired Lindstrom Metric LLC in July last year.

## Radio tower wire thefts

Potter County sheriff's deputies are searching for suspects who stole copper and aluminum wires from three radio tower sites and caused about \$170,000 worth of damage to the sites, chief deputy Roger Short reported to Amarillo GlobeNews. The thefts caused around \$30,000 in damage to one of the towers, \$40,000 to a second tower and \$100,000 to a third, Short said.

He added that some AT&T service was briefly interrupted in early October because of the wire thefts.

The sheriff's office, which has increased patrols around the towers, has alerted scrap metal businesses to look for wire and air conditioners taken from the sites, but the sheriff's office does not have an estimate on the value of the stolen wire.

## Solar park for Atacama

Chile's environmental evaluation service has approved the construction of a 162MW solar power park in the mineral rich Atacama region, where energy supply continues to be a challenge for the area's mining projects.

Irish Mainstream Renewable Power said its roughly \$420 million Diego de Almagro solar photovoltaic park would have a 20-year lifespan.

Projects in the Atacama region are particularly at risk after the Supreme Court rejected Brazilian billionaire Eike Batista's planned \$5 billion Central Castilla power plant project. More than \$22 billion in energy investment, and over 8,000MW of supply, are currently suspended as a result of legal disputes and regulatory delays, according to Libertad y Desarrollo, a conservative think tank in Santiago.

## Hydroelectric power in Brazil

Tractebel Energia subsidiary GDF Suez has unveiled its 1,087MW hydroelectric power plant at Estreito in Brazil. The project has been built across the Tocantins river at an estimated cost of €2.1bn with debt financing provided by 24-year loan agreements by the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) and a consortium of Brazilian banks.

Tractebel Energia owns a 40.07 percent stake in the project with Vale, Alcoa and Intercement being the other joint-owners; the company will also will manage operations of the plant on behalf of the consortium.

The project will sell 256MW of its output to distribution companies under a 30-year power purchase agreement.

# IWMA

## Wire China 2012

The International Wire & Machinery Association was honoured to be an international supporter of the recent wire and Tube China 2012 exhibition, which opened its doors from 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC).

The IWMA again enjoyed a very busy four days with a number of new memberships taken during the event, as well as applications and many general enquiries received.

A group of seven member companies exhibited through the IWMA exhibitor package available to all members, and a further 46 member companies exhibited through the halls.

Chairman Steve Rika was delighted to represent the association at the opening ceremony for the exhibition organised by Messe Düsseldorf, Messe Düsseldorf China and their local partners MC-CCPIT (Metallurgical Council of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade) and SECRI (Shanghai Electric Cable Research Institute).

The trade fair enjoyed record exhibitor and visitor levels, with the exhibitors of wire China 2012 presenting systems for wire manufacturing and processing, tools and auxiliary materials for process engineering as well as materials and special wires. Current trends in the areas of cable, measuring and control technology as well as inspection technology completed the ranges.

The next wire & Tube China exhibition will be held at the SNIEC again from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014.



## IWMA enjoying successful recruitment campaign

Providing a unique platform to promote new technology and business growth, the International Wire & Machinery Association (IWMA) is the world's largest and most influential corporate membership association for the wire, cable and wire product industries.

As part of a newly launched recruitment campaign, the association—which offers a range of benefits, services and events—recruited a further 16 companies to its membership last month.

### These included:

- Anglia Metal Ltd, UK
- Britec Industrial (Zhangjiagang) Co Ltd, China
- Comsuc Technology Development Limited, China
- Hangzhou Harbor Technology Co Ltd, China
- Honghui (Shanghai) International Trading Co, China
- Huzhou Jindu Micro-Nano Materials Co Ltd, China
- Nanoelectro LLC, Russia
- NeoFil Ltd, UK
- Shanghai YingGong Cold Welder Manufacturing Co Ltd, China
- Suzhou Forever Import & Export Corp Ltd, China
- ACME Engineering, Pakistan
- Shanghai HOSN Machinery Technology Co Ltd, China
- Shanghai Kingstrong Special Machinery Co Ltd, China
- Wire and Tube News, UK
- Yangzhou Hongri Machinery Co Ltd, China
- Ningbo Kaite Machines Co Ltd, China.

For full information on how the IWMA can make the world of difference to your business view the website at [www.iwma.org](http://www.iwma.org) or call +44 (0) 1926 834680.

# ASIA & AFRICA NEWS

## Africa's largest wire and cable plant

A joint venture between Groot Group and Hakahana Wire and Cable (Pty) Ltd, is to develop the Hakahana Wire and Cable manufacturing plant (Hakahana W&C) in Windhoek, Namibia.

Hakahana W&C is expected to become the largest wire and cable manufacturing factory in Africa, producing wire, cable, connectivity and networking products for the transmission of signals for data, sound and video applications for the whole of Africa and world markets.

Groot Group seeks to partner with some of the world's largest wire and cable manufacturing equipment makers, technology processes, and suppliers for the development and commissioning of the Hakahana Wire and Cable plant.

Budgeted at over \$1 billion for its development, Hakahana W&C expects to create more than 1,500 jobs at the plant, with more than 7,500 new indirect job opportunities throughout Namibia.



## Ethiopian plant inauguration

Senior government officials of Ethiopia including Abadula Gemedo, speaker of the parliament; Sirage Fegess, minister of defense; General Samora Yenus, chief-of-staff; Xie Xiaoyan, Chinese ambassador to Ethiopia and other officials attended the inauguration ceremony of two new projects - a wire and cable production facility and a heavy truck assembly factory.

Speaking on the occasion Sirage said the inauguration of the projects was an event to renew commitment to the implementation of policies and strategies designed by the late visionary prime minister Meles Zenawi, who had been supporting and closely following such developmental projects.

Ambassador Xie said Ethiopia and China are natural strategic partners in any areas, and the cooperation between Ethiopia and Chinese companies would be further enhanced in the future. He said the project at the Ethiopia Power Engineering Industry is the fruit of the cooperation by Ethiopian and Chinese brothers and sisters.



## Fire damages fiber optic plant

On 19<sup>th</sup> October a major fire gutted a portion of Oman Fiber Optic's production plant located in the Rusayl Industrial Area in Muscat.

Mohammed Harith Al Brashdi, CEO of Oman Fiber Optic Company, told media, "The fire took place at 8:45am on Friday morning and there were no casualties or injuries. Production facilities and properties which were damaged are adequately insured. Although the production capacity has been affected, the company is working with its strategic partners to provide alternative supplies to customers."

Apart from fiber optic cable manufacturing, the company has diversified its business activities into other lines such as Outside Plant (OSP) and Telecom Solutions Divisions. The incident has only affected the fiber optic production line; other business streams will continue to function as normal from its existing offices located at Al Khuwair.



## Red Sea connects to Milan

Gulf Bridge International (GBI), the Middle East's first carrier neutral regional network, and Xtera Communications Inc have announced full 100G connectivity between the Zafarana cable landing station in Egypt on the Red Sea and the Milan point-of-presence (PoP) in Italy.

Xtera deployed its multi-purpose Nu-Wave Optima platform in submarine and terrestrial line terminal equipment configurations delivering 100G in both the subsea and land sections of the 5,000km Zafarana-to-Milan route.

The Nu-Wave Optima configuration for regional repeatered submarine cable system includes a line-monitoring module used for the supervision of the submerged repeaters. For terrestrial backbone networks, the Nu-Wave Optima equipment delivers a believed unrivaled line capacity of 15Tb/s on over 3,000km. For unrepeatered applications, a capacity of 34 x 100G was recently transmitted over a cable attenuation exceeding 74dB.

The subsea section across the Mediterranean Sea connects Abu Talat, Egypt to Mazara del Vallo, Italy and has been in service since the first quarter of 2012.



## FO infrastructure investment

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) telecommunications corporation, Etisalat, has spent approximately \$4 billion to develop its fiber optic network, said its CEO Saleh Al Abdouli. He added that this is a long-term investment, which will contribute to the process of sustainable development in the UAE and to achieve network readiness in the country.

In October 2010, Etisalat managed to increase the speed of its 4G mobile broadband technology to 100Mbps and most recently to 300Mbps. At present, the total length of its fiber optical network comprises 2.8 million kilometers of cable. It has become the first capital city in the world to be entirely linked in fixed, data and mobile networks with fiber optic cables.

Etisalat's domestic fiber optic network, which fully covers the UAE, supports full protection as well as a variety of technologies, including VPN. The entire network is based on the synchronous digital hierarchy (SDH) technology as it offers high speed data transfer of the telecommunication and digital signals. The fiber link supports synchronous data transmission rates of up to 10Gbps.



## Philippine cable

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co (PLDT) group is constructing a fiber optic cable system linking Cebu, Bohol and Mindanao. The project will entail 450km of cable from Cebu to Cagayan de Oro City. A little over 300km will be inland, with another 150km of submarine links between Cebu and Bohol and between Bohol and Misamis Oriental.

The facility, initially equipped with 210 Gbps capacity, is due for completion in September 2013.

“We have fast-tracked this particular project because the demand for broadband services—both from consumers and businesses—is growing rapidly in the Visayas and Mindanao areas,” said PLDT and Smart head of network and IP systems, Rolando G Peña. “This will further strengthen our fiber advantage over other carriers. At this point, PLDT and Smart already have over 54,000km of fiber optic cable assets over the country—several times larger than the resources available to the competition,” he added.

The project will add a third leg to the two fiber optic highways already connecting Mindanao to the rest of the country via PLDT’s domestic fiber optic network.



## Building invitations

Iraq’s ministry of electricity has invited around 25 leading companies to manufacture and install solar and wind power plants, Reuters has reported. Laith al-Mamury, the head of the planning and studies department at the ministry, explained that the scheme is part of plans to spend up to \$1.6bn on solar and wind power stations over the next three years to add 400MW to the national grid. At present, Iraq suffers daily blackouts.

Invited companies include Japan’s Toyota Tsusho Corp, Swiss engineering group ABB and Egypt’s Orascom Construction.



## Thai merger

Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp has announced the merger of two subsidiaries in Thailand, creating the largest Japanese bar and wire processing company in southeast Asia. Steel Processing (Thailand) Co and Nippon Steel Bar & CH Wire (Thailand) Co have signed an agreement for the merger to be completed in January 2013.

The integrated company will be called Nippon Steel & Sumikin Steel Processing (Thailand) Co and will become a consolidated subsidiary of Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal.

The company expects production capacity to be 84,000 tons a year of steel wire for cold heading and cold forging, and 18,000 tons a year of cold-finished steel bars.



## ACE update from WARCIP

Mr Julius Kamara, project coordinator of the West African regional communications infrastructure (WARCIP), Sierra Leone’s Africa Coast to Europe (ACE) submarine fiber optic cable project, has told a press conference that the country is far ahead in its ACE project.

He also advised that the project is 100 percent government owned, but also funded by the World Bank, noting that government in its dictates of agreement with its funding partners will sell 51 percent shares to commercial service providers.



11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012

# IWCS CONFERENCE

Providence, Rhode Island, USA

IWCS - one of the most well respected conference and exhibitions in the industry - arrives at Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, USA, in November.

The 61<sup>st</sup> International Wire and Cable Symposium is the premier technology event, where experts deliver white papers on changes during the last 12 months.

This year also sees a return of Monday night football, hosted by Cable Components, in the ballroom from 6pm on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November.

The conference gets underway on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, with personal development courses, followed by 17 sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The exhibition runs on Tuesday from 2pm-6pm and Wednesday from 10am-6pm.

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AlphaGary Corp	<b>113</b>	ASI/Silica Machinery LLC	<b>300</b>
Amaral Automation	<b>117</b>	Aurum Chemicals Corporation	<b>323</b>
American & Efird Inc (A&E)	<b>118</b>	AW Machinery LLC	<b>412</b>

Beta LaserMike	<b>135</b>	MGS Manufacturing Inc	<b>209</b>
Borealis Compounds Inc	<b>305</b>	Miltec UV	<b>308</b>
Breen Color Concentrates	<b>413</b>	Mossberg Associates Inc	<b>330</b>
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Fil-Tec Inc	<b>334</b>	Technical Marketing	<b>200</b>
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Gem Gravure Company Inc	<b>105</b>	Teknor Apex Co	<b>213</b>
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## AlphaGary

Booth 104

To meet the evolving fire performance and environmental compliance criteria in North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, AlphaGary has developed a unique portfolio of specialty compounds for a wide variety of cable designs and applications – both copper and fiber optic:

- Smokeguard™ low smoke vinyl alloys meeting RoHS environmental compliance for North American plenum and European CPD Class B1/B2
- Megolon™ halogen-free materials for IEC 60332-1/60332-3C, European CPD Classes C through E, power cable sheathing and crosslinkable insulations
- Garaflex™ TPE styrenic, vinyl, olefinic/EPDM, and vulcanizate blends
- Garathane™ thermoplastic urethane flame retardant blends and alloys

AlphaGary offers color concentrates to support all of its compound types, both custom-matched and to standards such as Munsell and RAL.

The company delivers world-class support to help customers choose the most appropriate materials for their specialty cable designs. It has ISO 9001 registered facilities in the USA, UK, Mexico and Colombia.

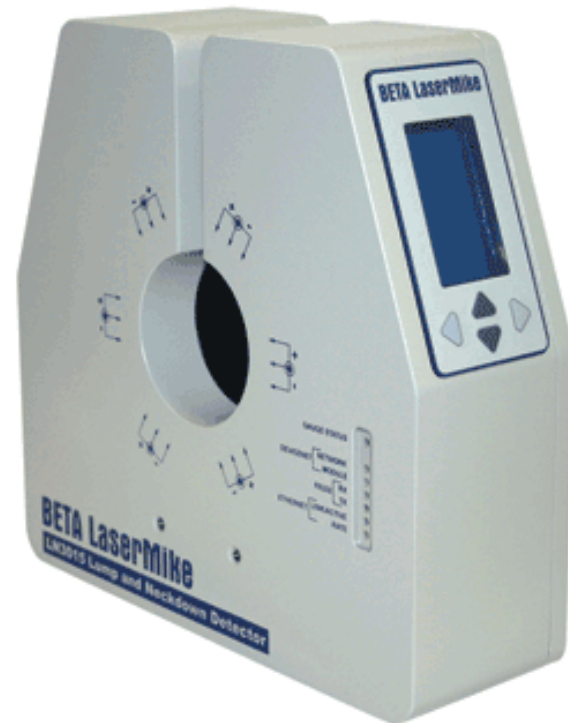
## Beta LaserMike

Booth 135

Beta LaserMike will be introducing its latest non-contact measurement and cable testing solutions and presenting a technical paper - "Shielding performance tests for twisted-pair communication cables."

Amongst the new products on show will be the three-axis LN3015 detector. This advanced, compact system is designed to provide more precise detection of short-term faults (lump and neckdowns) in the product diameter than is available from a two-axis system. The LN3015 detector measures product diameters up to 15mm (0.59") and detects flaws in height down to 0.02mm (0.0008".) at line speeds of up to 3,000m/min (9,842ft/min).

In addition, Beta LaserMike will present its newly acquired line of DCM cable testing solutions for LAN/datacom, telecom, and coaxial cables. Products to be highlighted include the latest Model 3S-XLD for testing 4-pair to 28-pair LAN/datacom cables up to 1GHz, the new Model 3S-PCX for testing broadband telecom twisted-pair cables up to 100MHz, and the new CATS-3000 for automatic measurement of coupling attenuation, screening attenuation, and transfer impedance.



## Fusion UV Systems

Booth 107

Fusion's UV curing systems include the DRF/DRC lamp system with patented back reflector housing, designed specifically for optical fiber, coloring, ribbon, wire and cable manufacturing, and its VAM mounting systems enable the precise alignment of multiple in-line lamps such as those installed on a fiber drawing tower.

Fusion UV Systems was founded in 1971 with the invention of its microwave powered UV curing systems, and is today among the world's major manufacturers of UV equipment.

## Guill Tool and Engineering Company

Booth 220

Guill Tool and Engineering Company will demonstrate a comprehensive line of extrusion crossheads, including a series of advanced CV crossheads available in both single and multi layer.

Other designs on display will include low volume fixed center crossheads for fiber optic and circuit size wires, and Guill's FlexiSpiral design. The FlexiSpiral design offers a package of features that includes multi-port spiral flow deflector, patented feather touch adjustment, and a Seal Right design to eliminate leaking.

## Hoowaki LLC

Booth 231

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.

## Inhol/PTL

Booth 415

The Inhol/PTL team at IWCS will introduce new compounds to the market. Inhol/PTL has a comprehensive range of special irradiation cross-linkable compounds for the wire and cable industry to meet many international specifications.

Inhol will also be promoting its hot set oven and TVAB abrasion tester for the wire and cable and heat shrink industry. The unit is approved to ISO 6722-1 standard.

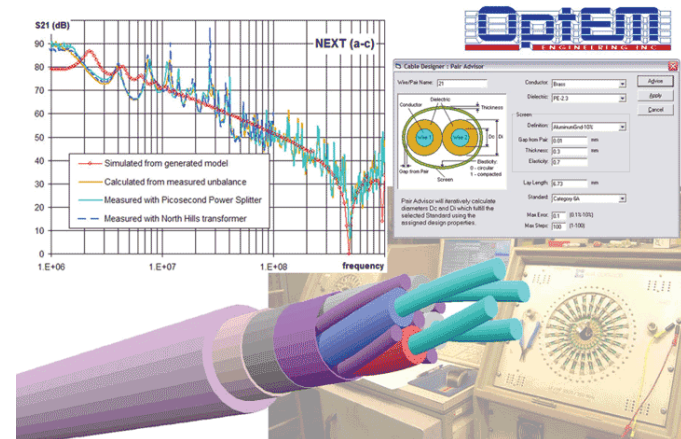
## OptEM Engineering Inc

Booth 224

OptEM Cable Designer is a copper cable design and modeling software tool, suitable for unshielded



and shielded twisted-pair, quad, ribbon, and subsea umbilical cables, as well as flex circuits from DC to 10GHz in telecommunication and data transmission applications.



The application uses hierarchical design techniques where existing design elements are building blocks (instances) in constructing higher level designs. Built-in libraries of materials (frequency and non-frequency dependent) and object definitions used in construction can be easily customized.

Objects in the cross-section are tagged with properties like core material (conductor or dielectric), color and plating. Each design instance has its own unique position, rotation and lay length properties, which provide realistic twisting parameters for individual pairs, bundles, shields and cables. The software uses an EM field solver to analyze high frequency skin and proximity effects in wires, eddy currents in shields, and dielectric losses in insulation.

Frequency dependent data is also incorporated by identifying variations in material properties at different frequencies. On output the software provides ASCII reports for LRCG parameters, and plots S-parameter data for RL, IL, NEXT, FEXT, ELFEXT, and PS-NEXT and PS-FEXT.

## Pressure Welding Machines

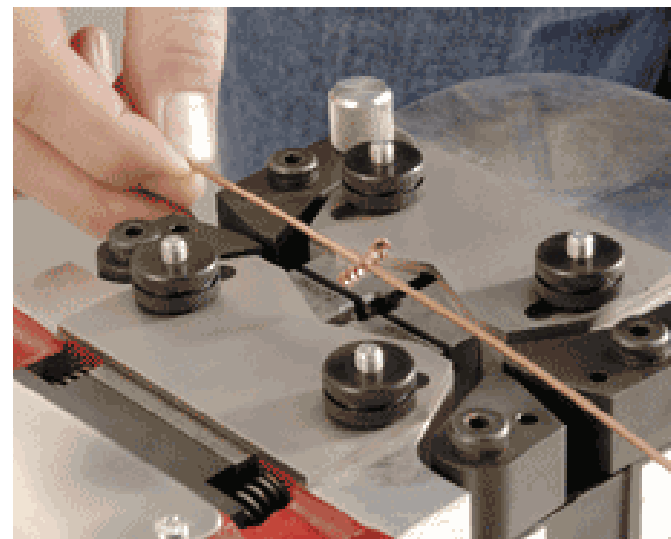
Booth 414

PWM's M101 cold welder, one of the company's best-selling machines, will be exhibited at IWCS by Joe Snee Associates, exclusive distributor for PWM's machines, spares and dies in the US and Canada.

The versatile M101 can be used on a workbench or supplied with a trolley, enabling the operator to move it quickly to the work area. Low maintenance and easy to operate, the M101 produces strong, reliable welds on copper wire 0.040" to 0.141" (1.00mm to 3.60mm) and aluminum 0.040" to 0.197" (1mm to 5mm). The M101 is also commonly used to weld profiles and strips for armoring lines.

PWM's manual range also includes three hand-held cold welders. Comfortable to hold and use, the M10, M25 and M30, for copper/aluminum wire sizes 0.0039" to 0.071" (0.1mm to 1.8mm), are useful for welding wire breaks in confined spaces.

The BM10 and BM30 models, for use on a workbench or with a trolley, are durable machines with capacities ranging from 0.0039" to 0.071" (0.1mm to 1.8mm).

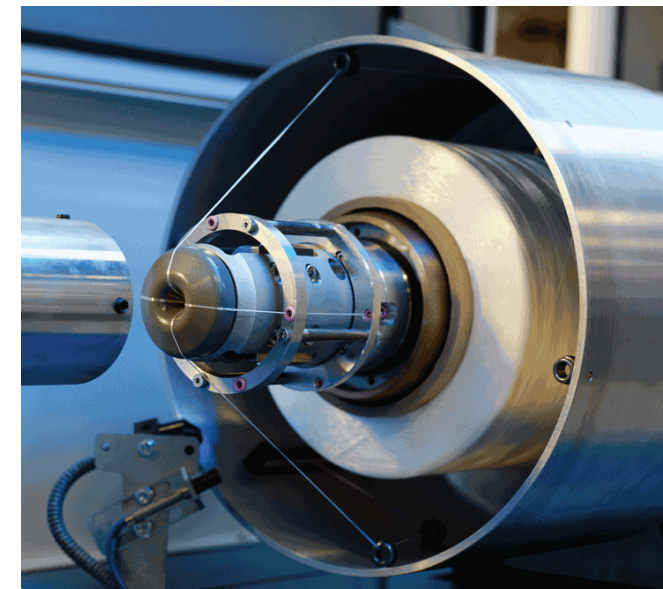


PWM's unique cold welding equipment is made to high quality standards by skilled technicians in PWM's own UK workshops. Dies are individually hand-made in matched sets, in standard or custom sizes, to suit round or profile wire. The company's extensive range includes air/hydraulic, electro/hydraulic pneumatic and electro/pneumatic machines, with capacities up to 25mm (0.984") copper and 30mm (1.181") aluminum.

Full details and video demonstrations can be found at the company's website.

## Roblon

Booth 218



Roblon will show its new lightly coated glass strength member, Ultra Light-flex, designed for high wear resistance with a minimum of coating (less than 2 percent). Named after its very low weight and flexible appearance, the Ultra Light-flex yarn maintains the soft and flexible behavior of a glass roving, but with improved wear resistance properties. The Ultra Light-flex is suited to high-speed production and all types of machinery, and is available in standard and water-blocking versions.

Another newly introduced Roblon material is an ultra low shrinkage polyester binder yarn. Shrinkage is said to be as low as 0.60 percent at 190°C, making it ideal for compact cable designs and binding of flexible loose tubes. It minimizes the footprint of the binding yarn and thereby reduces the risk of attenuation on the optical fibers.

Roblon Industry is ISO 9001 and 14001 certified, developing industrial fibers including glass and aramid strength members, binder yarns and ripcords, as well as serving, binding, take-up and payoff equipment.

## Sikora

Booth 409

IWCS 2012 is providing the stage for a multitude of pioneering technologies from Sikora. Modern Laser and X-ray technologies are setting standards in measuring and control technology.



Sikora will be shining the spotlight on the new X-RAY 6000 Pro for the measurement of up to three insulation layers. The system includes as a standard the display and control device Ecocontrol 6000 with a vertical arranged 22" TFT monitor. It is either mounted directly at the X-RAY gauge head, a separate stand, or is remotely integrated in the control cabinet of the line control. The X-ray measuring system assures a continuous quality control to fulfil the required specifications regarding wall thickness, eccentricity, diameter and ovality.

The company is also showing the diameter gauges of the Laser Series 6000 including a number of technological highlights, one being a measuring rate of 2.5 kHz for highest accuracy. The high measuring rate allows for reliable detection of lumps and neckdowns at the same time. In addition, the gauge heads are equipped with an integrated LCD display with control panel, which enables the operator to read the diameter value directly from the device and to control the line.

Another highlight on the booth is the Centerview 8000e for non-contact online measurement of eccentricity, wall thickness, diameter and ovality of communication, automotive and installation cables. The device has now an integrated 7" touch screen monitor that displays the measuring values. A special edition of the Centerview 8010 is suitable for the measurement of micro-coax-cables from 0.05 to 10 mm.

**SSCP USA**

*Booth 207*

The SSCP USA booth will feature its latest products, including PC 363 AP low index polymer cladding. With an index of 1.363 at 850nm, the cladding is said to give an NA of 0.5 on fused silica fibers.

Also available is PC 404F AP, a cladding designed for faster curing speed, optimized viscosity for drawing, and increased modulus. There will be full details available of Efiron® UV curable polymer claddings with NAs from 0 to 0.5, primary/secondary fiber coatings, adhesives, and ink and matrix for fiber ribbons.



**T & T Marketing**

*Booth 301*

AS well as its range of wire and cable industry products, T & T Marketing will be promoting its recently implemented Technical Service Hotline. Customers can speak with a T & T representative able to assist with any technical questions they may have regarding process parameters, troubleshooting advice or tooling recommendations, and can also call the hotline to schedule onsite technical service visits. A qualified representative will be available to answer calls on weekdays from 7am to 7pm (EST).

**Teknor Apex**

*Booth 213*

Products highlights on display from Teknor Apex include:

Vinyl division: RoHS-compliant, UL-recognized Apex® flexible and semi-rigid PVC, Fireguard® plenum compounds, Flexalloy® UHMW-PVC elastomers, Halguard® halogen-free FR compounds, and conductive PVC and PE compounds; plus Laripur® TPU compounds from COIM.

The company will introduce a new line of BioVinyl™ PVC compounds incorporating bio-based plasticizers; these RoHS and REACH compliant compounds will eliminate use of certain other substances deemed objectionable while offering a low acid gas option.

TPE division: Broad range of UL recognized and RoHS-compliant TPE compounds for insulation, jackets, and molded parts; including Elexar® styrenic block copolymers, Telcar® thermoplastic olefins, and Sarlink® TPV compounds. The Elexar® HPFR series is UL94 V-0, RoHS compliant, and exhibits a high degree of heat stability while maintaining flexibility and toughness over a wide temperature range.

**Windak Inc**

*Booth 326*

Windak will present the latest information about its products such as the new Spool Winder 6-14 and Automatic Reeler AR24.

New Spool Winder 6-14 is a fully automatic, in or off-line, packaging and palletizing of wire, cable and other flexible products onto spools from 165mm (6.5") to 360mm (14") in overall diameter. Spools are automatically loaded and unloaded into/from the spooling head.

Outer ends are secured with stretch wrap. All operational parameters and mechanical settings are recipe controlled in order to reduce time between product and spool changeovers. Output of the new spooler is three spools per minute.

The Auto Reeler AR24 is a fully automatic reeler developed for automatic packaging of cable and wire products on spools or reels between 298-609mm (11.75"-24") in overall diameter. It can be run both in line (direct connection with extruder) and off-line, and loads and unloads the empty reels automatically, includes stretch wrapping of spool to contain the cut end. The output of the machine is two reels per minute. It requires minimal floor space, and when combined with the integrated palletizer, makes a complete automatic spooling line with a short investment payback.



Windak will also present the latest information about its full range of products such as; pay-offs, take-ups, rewind lines, coiling and spooling solutions, accumulators, and palletizers.

**GET YOUR FREE MAGAZINES!**

Staff from wiredInUSA, EuroWire and Wire & Cable ASIA magazines will be represented at this year's IWCS on Booth 330.

Visitors will be able to pick up a free copy of both EuroWire and Wire & Cable ASIA, as well as a CD of wiredInUSA ezine.

# New process offers cheaper, high-performance wire



The Conductus® 2G HTS wire manufacturing approach from STI (Superconductor Technologies Inc) utilizes a simplified, layered wire architecture, with the goal to deliver high performance wire at a cost competitive with copper.

Conductus 2G HTS wire architecture consists of three key manufacturing processes. First, a commercial-grade stainless steel template is passed through a solution deposition planarization (SDP) process. SDP is a non-vacuum, self-planarizing, inexpensive process, which provides a smooth starting surface while eliminating the need to polish the template, reducing both cost and chemical waste.

Next, the template proceeds through an ion beam assisted deposition (IBAD) process in order to produce a template with the right surface conditions to enable the effective

deposition of superconducting material. Both the SDP and IBAD layers provide an ideal surface condition to take advantage of the Conductus proprietary HTS materials deposition process.

The HTS materials are deposited onto the template using the Conductus proprietary reactive co-evaporation cyclic deposition and reaction (RCE-CDR) high temperature superconducting (HTS) deposition.

The advantages of Conductus 2G HTS wire include a reduced number of process steps; a reduced number of template buffer layers for a simple and repeatable process; basic raw compounds, as opposed to more expensive premixed, solution-based compounds; lower cost of production equipment; and less electricity and production floorspace required per kilometer of wire produced.

# FIBER OPTIC NETWORK ACROSS SOUTH



*Tower Cloud Inc, a fiber optic and wireless backhaul network provider, has announced the completion of a 1,225-mile high fiber count cable network traversing the I-75 corridor and key markets between Macon and Valdosta with extensions to Thomasville, Waycross and other rural markets throughout South Georgia.*

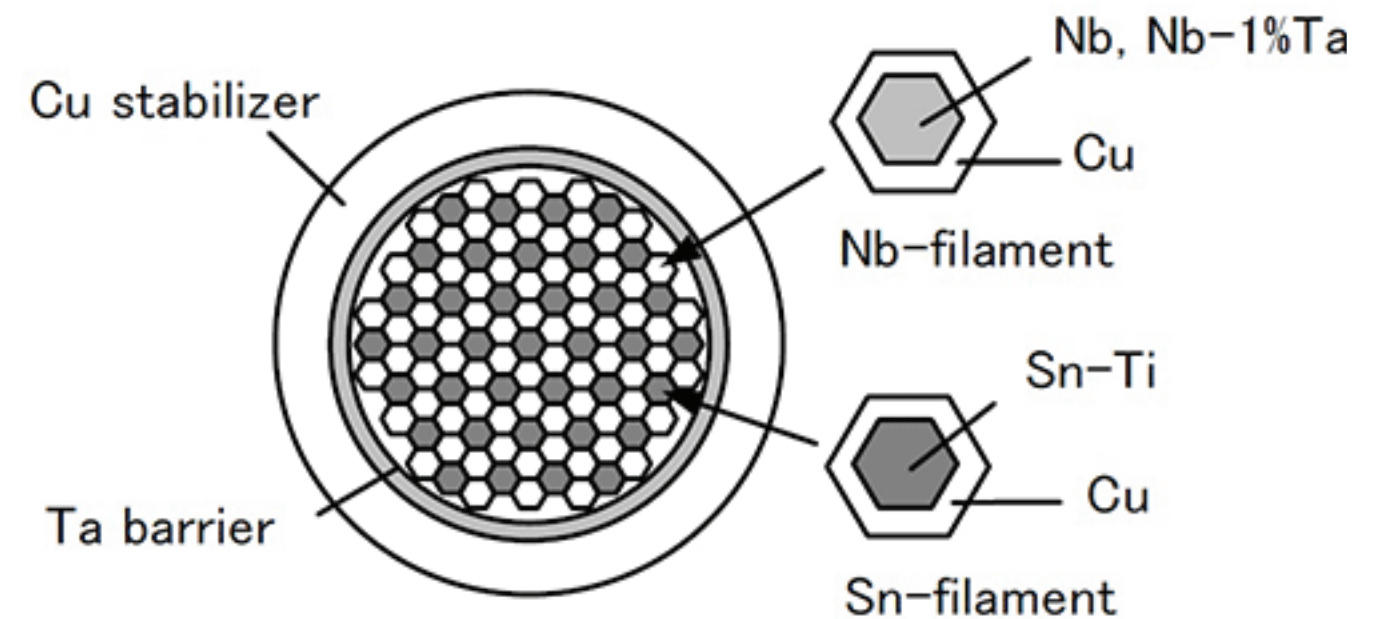
“Carriers are experiencing a doubling, and even tripling of mobile data bandwidth demands due to the explosion of 4G wireless services,” said Ron Mudry, founder and CEO of Tower Cloud.

“Tower Cloud is building networks to meet these demands and support the data tsunami being created by the rapid adoption of smartphones, tablets and other bandwidth intensive devices.”

An IEEE report, published in August 2012, found that while total data traffic is doubling every 18 months, mobile data is growing at 92 percent every 12 months.

Tower Cloud's new South Georgia network will initially serve as the backbone for 13 fiber rings and will support more than 300 cell sites stretching from Thomasville to the west and Waycross to the east.

# PRODUCTS - MACHINES & TECHNOLOGY



### New superconducting wire

**Hitachi Cable** has announced the successful development of a niobium-tin ( $Nb_3Sn$ ) superconducting wire.

$Nb_3Sn$  superconducting wires are widely used for superconducting magnet systems generating strong magnetic fields in nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), analytical systems and nuclear fusion facilities such as the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER).

They are mainly manufactured using a method called bronze-process. In the bronze-process, the billet incorporating many niobium (Nb) cores in bronze (Cu-Sn alloy) is processed

into thin wire by extrusion and drawing processes. The resultant multi-filamentary thin wire is formed to  $Nb_3Sn$  superconducting wire by heat treatment.

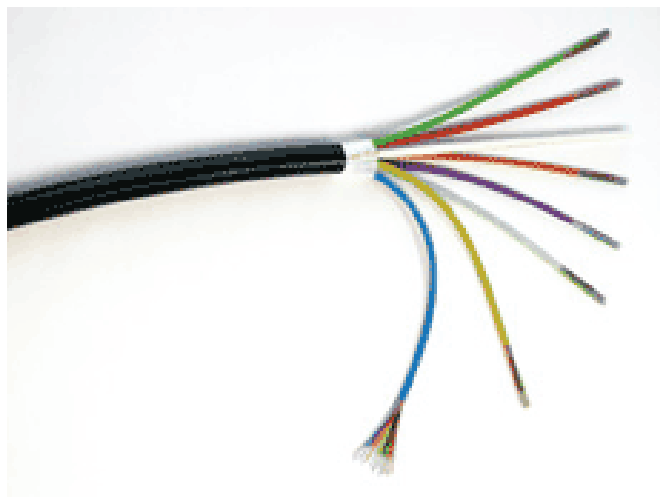
In order to realize high precision of analytical systems, it is necessary to increase the critical current density of superconducting wire.

In the bronze-process, the concentration of tin (Sn) in bronze has been increased to improve the critical current density, but further improvement is limited because of the solubility limit of tin (Sn) in bronze. Hitachi Cable has succeeded in developing an  $Nb_3Sn$  superconducting wire with about 1.5 times higher critical current density by using an internal-tin process and single-stacking structure.

### High-density multifiber solution

**Nexans** is to complement its Kinoptic™ fiber optic infrastructure and access networks with a high-capacity solution of up to 1,008 fibers distributed across seven strands, made of 12 micro sheaths each containing 12 fibers.

The new product was developed at the Nexans facility in Cortaillod (Switzerland) and demonstrated at October's TeleNeffair in Lucerne, Switzerland. It is designed to double capacity while increasing cable diameter by only 15 percent, compared to conventional technologies.



"The current challenge is to connect as many subscribers as possible while at the same time minimizing the impact of civil engineering works, which account for up to 80 percent of the FTTH infrastructure cost," says Raymond Voillat, vice president sales and marketing operators at Nexans. "With this high-density solution, we significantly reduce time on-site for our customers."

Flexible and resistant to tension, the high-density cables in the Kinoptic range are also designed for easy installation. For example, the micro sheathing that protects the optical fibers can be hand stripped, reducing preparation time by 50 percent.

### Space saving cable

**Draka** has launched a space saving high density Cat 6 network cable. The compact design of the UC 400 HD C6 U/UTP cable will enable installers to save time and money by running increased numbers of cables in cable trays and conduits.

The high density Cat 6 U/UTP cable has an outside diameter of 5.25mm, compared to the outside diameter of between 6mm and 6.3mm of standard Cat6 U/UTP cable. Draka's cable has a cross-sectional area approximately 25 percent less than that of standard Cat6 U/UTP cabling.

The advantage of the cable's compact design can be seen using the example of a 300mm x 35mm cable tray. If market standard Cat6 U/UTP cabling is installed in the tray, it can carry 140 cable links. When Draka's new compact cable is used, the tray's capacity is increased to 195 links, a 40 percent improvement.

In addition to new build projects, the high density Cat 6 U/UTP cable will also be beneficial for existing system upgrades.



The high-density cable's 5.25mm diameter is the same as that of a lower performance, standard Cat 5e cable. The similarity in diameter will enable the performance of existing installations to be upgraded with the new high-density cable while reusing the current containment systems, generating significant cost savings in both materials and installation time.

### Copper alternative

**Zhone Technologies Inc** took the opportunity to showcase its GPON-based FiberLAN optical LAN solution (OLS) and a new line of multi-port VDSL2 bonded and 30A profile modems at three industry events (Gitex, Broadband World Forum and TelcoTV) during October. Zhone demonstrated how service providers can take advantage of FiberLAN for 73 percent reduction in capital expenditure and up to 84.7 percent

increased energy savings, compared to traditional copper.

To ensure businesses deliver the high speed connections needed to support access to cloud-based applications and connected devices, service providers are turning to solutions such as Zhone's FiberLAN suite and multi-port VDSL2 to improve efficiency while providing faster, more reliable network connections.

Brian Caskey, chief marketing officer of Zhone, said: "In order to keep up with bandwidth demands and maintain productivity in the workplace, service providers and enterprise customers are turning to VDSL2 and fiber technology for speed, reliability and efficiency."

### Double performance, lower cost

**AMSC** introduced a new grade of Amperium® superconductor wire at the Applied Superconductivity Conference (ASC 2012). Described as a "breakthrough", the new wire is expected to facilitate lower cost superconductor power cables while expanding the global market for such systems.

AMSC now offers brass-laminated 4.4mm Amperium wire with demonstrated current carrying performance up to 200 amps. This is considered industry-leading performance for high-volume second generation (2G)

high temperature superconductor (HTS) wire and compares with AMSC's existing line of 70-100 amp wires. Similar to AMSC's existing Amperium product line, the new wire has improved electrical, mechanical and thermal properties.

Along with this substantial increase in performance, AMSC also has announced that the kiloamp-meter pricing of this new brass-laminated wire has been substantially reduced compared with AMSC's existing Amperium product line. This, in turn, is expected to lead to a reduction in the cost of superconductor power cables while also expanding the global addressable market for these systems.

Superconductor power cable systems can conduct up to 10 times the amount of power of conventional cables made with copper wire. When placed strategically in urban power grids, superconductor power cables deliver more power than conventional cables in the same right-of-way to mitigate grid congestion or can be used to replace overhead lines. These types of cables are currently in the early stages of adoption, with initial in-grid installations in China, Japan, South Korea, Germany and the United States.

**New cable development**

**Belden Inc** has expanded its range of data center solutions with SFP+ direct

attached cables, designed to deliver lower power and latency with higher density. The SFP+ cables are described as an economical alternative to traditional fiber and twisted-pair copper cabling in top-of-rack and middle-of-rack data center deployments.

SFP+ cables are manufactured with Belden's Lightskew series cable, offering intra-pair delay skew as low as 10ps/m, silver-plated conductors, aluminum/Mylar foil and tinned copper braiding and an FT4/CL2-rated PVC jacket.

Belden offers SFP+ cables in one-foot increments, so cable management in high-density applications can be significantly simplified with less slack and easier reconfigurations.

**New compounds**

In late stages of development at **Teknor Apex Company** are nearly 50 PVC compounds that incorporate new bio-based non-phthalate plasticizers and other formulation enhancements to address the environmental concerns of wire and cable users. Teknor Apex will present data on some of the new compounds at 2012 IWCS International Cable Connectivity Symposium.

The new RoHS- and REACH-compliant compounds will be available commercially

in early 2013 under the brand name BioVinyl™. They will be the first wire and cable offerings from Teknor Apex to incorporate bio-based plasticizers, manufactured using plant by-products.

The use of these bio-based ingredients enables BioVinyl compounds to possess lower greenhouse gas emission potential than conventional vinyl and a carbon footprint that is even smaller in comparison with non-vinyl plastics used for wire and cable, said vinyl division industry manager, Mike Patel.

Target applications for the new BioVinyl compounds include power cord, appliance wire, data cable, and tray cable.

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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 December edition – send us the details by **22<sup>nd</sup> November** to ensure its publication.

All editorial should be sent to editor David Bell at [david@wiredinusa.com](mailto:david@wiredinusa.com)

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