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July 2014 issue - No 37



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Southwire buys Coleman for \$786m

375 JOBS BOOST AT SOUTHWIRE

FAA orders wiring inspection for Dreamliner

Lighting up 4

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#37 EDITOR

Yet another year has passed and wiredInUSA is celebrating its third birthday this July – and it's thanks to our readers and advertisers for helping us bring news from the wire and cable industries from across America.

We strive to bring you the latest news in a bright, colorful, digital format in the first working week of each month and the increase in subscribers – threefold since launch – has shown that we are reaching the targets we set ourselves in 2011.

So it's a big thank you to you all for helping us keep you in touch with news and events from across America and beyond.

And our birthday is just one of three celebrations involving the US this week – the other two have, in all likelihood, more far-reaching appeal across the country! USA's qualification for the final 16 of the World Cup in Brazil, I know, has been featured heavily and the team's success will be tested again today (Tuesday) when playing Belgium in Salvador for a place in the quarter-finals.

There's also the 4th July festivities this week and I hope you and your families enjoy the celebrations and holiday.

David Bell
Editor

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2014 issue

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DIARY SHOW EVENTS

2014

SEPTEMBER

24-27 September: **wire China 2014**
Shanghai, China
Exhibition
www.wirechina.net

OCTOBER

28-30 October: **wire India**
Mumbai, India
Exhibition
www.wire-india.com

NOVEMBER

9-12 November: **IWCS**
Rhode Island, USA
Conference and table top exhibition
www.iwcs.org

2015

MARCH

23-27 March: NPE2015
Orlando, Florida, USA
Exhibition
www.npe.org

APRIL

28-30 April: **Interwire 2015**
Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Exhibition
www.wirenet.org



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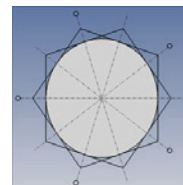
- Diameter repeatability: $\pm 0.005\mu\text{m}$ at 50kHz
- Diameter uncertainty: $\pm 0.15\mu\text{m}$
- Defect detection 75kHz, event recording
- Ultra fine air line detection, $0.3\mu\text{m}$, 400Hz
- Fibre position: $\pm 2\text{mm}$ range $\pm 0.1\text{mm}$, 1kHz
- Spinning frequency profile
- Fibre no circularity measurement

NCTM: Non Contact Tension Measurement
(Drawing force Birefringence principle)

- 0-400 grams $\pm 1\text{gram}$, 1kHz
- Measurement field: 4mm \varnothing
- $\pm 1\text{ gr}$ within 10-40°C ambient

CM5: Coating Monitor 5 axes

- Absolute diameter: $\pm 0.2\mu\text{m}$, 400Hz
- XY Positions $\pm 0.1\text{mm}$ 1kHz
- 5 axes Lump & Neck: $\pm 2\mu\text{m}$, 3.6MHz sampling
- Coating asymmetry: 30Hz
- Internal defect detection: 800kHz (Airlines, bubbles, inclusions, delaminations...)



Others: AIR (AIRline detector)
LDS-T (Laser Diffraction Sensor for transparent product)

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Conductors for Aerospace & Defense



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The Quality Connection

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MAKING THE NEWS

Copper wire batteries?

Reuters is reporting a possible breakthrough in energy storage for applications as diverse as smaller electronics, hybrid cars and even clothing that could recharge a cellphone.



Researchers at the University of Central Florida, led by nanotechnology scientist Jayan Thomas, have found a method of storing energy in a thin sheath around an ordinary lightweight copper electrical wire. As a result, the same wire that transmits electricity can also store extra energy.

“We can just convert those wires into batteries, so there is no need of a separate battery,” Mr Thomas said. “It has applications everywhere.”

The work will be covered in the June issue of the material science journal *Advanced Materials*, and is the subject of an article in the current edition of science magazine *Nature*.

Mr Thomas said the process is relatively simple. Copper wire is heated to create ‘nano-whiskers’, which are naturally insulated by copper oxide. The microscopic nano-whiskers vastly expand the wire’s surface area. A second, plastic-covered, layer of nano-whiskers creates a second electrode, similar to the positive and negative sides of a standard battery, he explained.

The technique has the potential to lighten airplanes and spacecraft, to store excess energy from solar panels, and to further miniaturize small electronics. There are plans to apply the same technique to fibers woven into clothing along with a flexible solar cell, creating a wearable battery pack.



President's export award

Allied Wire & Cable has been recognized for its contributions to US exports with a President's 'E' Award for Exports.

On 28th May US secretary of commerce, Penny Pritzker presented Allied Wire & Cable with the President's 'E' Award for Exports at a ceremony in Washington DC. The 'E' Awards are the highest recognition any US entity may receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of US exports.

"Allied Wire & Cable has demonstrated a sustained commitment to export expansion. The 'E' Awards Committee was very impressed with Allied Wire & Cable's creation of an interdepartmental committee to enhance exports. The company's participation in international trade fairs and missions was also particularly impressive.

"Allied Wire & Cable's achievements have undoubtedly contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the US economy and create American jobs," said Secretary Pritzker in her congratulatory letter to the company announcing its selection as an award recipient.

President Kennedy revived the World War II 'E' symbol of excellence to honor and provide recognition to America's exporters, and the program was established by executive order 10978 on 5th December 1961.

Four years of successive export growth and an applicant's demonstration of an innovative international marketing plan that led to the increase in exports is a significant factor in making the award. Allied Wire was one of 66 US companies presented with the award this year.

Florida fiber link

The first links on Allied Fiber's southeastern route are ready for service. The newly opened route segment runs 360 miles between Miami and Jacksonville, and is part of a system planned to reach Atlanta.

Allied Fiber's infrastructure system features a simplified design for connection to the network and to colocation facilities. The three major components are high-count dark fiber cable, handholes for lateral splicing, and integrated, network-neutral colocation facilities. The 528-count fiber optic cable uses Corning's SMF 28e+ and LEAF fiber. The cable is accessible via

handholes located every 5,000 feet along the network.

"This announcement is a monumental step in Allied Fiber's evolution to becoming the first national, open-access, integrated network-neutral colocation and dark fiber superstructure in the United States," said Hunter Newby, CEO of Allied Fiber.

"We believe the Florida segment of our southeast route will serve as a standard for all future segments of our national build where the process and benefits of physical interconnection will be repeated."



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Charter expansion

Charter Wire is expanding its Milwaukee Menomonee Valley factory, creating around 35 jobs. The \$20 million project consists of about \$14 million in new equipment and \$6 million for the building expansion, according to MEDC, a non-profit business lender affiliated with the City of Milwaukee.



Charter Wire will add 69,000ft² and new production equipment to its existing facility, following increased demand for pipes from the oil and natural gas industries. The project will increase Charter Wire's workforce at the building from 116 employees to 151 full-time employees.

Delaware upgrade

Delmarva Power is planning the reconstruction of a 50-year-old 230kV transmission line between Red Lion and Milford, Delaware.

Delmarva Power region president Gary Stockbridge said the rebuilt transmission line will help avoid extended power outages if a major problem occurs with transmission and generation infrastructure.

"This project is one in a series of transmission system enhancements we are making to maintain reliability on the Delmarva Peninsula," he added.

Work will begin on Phase 1 in June 2015 with planned completion in December 2016, and work on Phase 2 scheduled for June 2016 to December 2017.

The 58-mile project, which is expected to cost around \$71m, includes new circuits and replacing 400 wooden poles with all-weather steel poles.

More Pacific investment

The Wall Street Journal reports that Google Inc is considering a further investment in a new subsea cable across the Pacific Ocean.

In 2010, Google took a stake in a similar \$300 million cable and the latest investment is a result of the increasing amount of traffic being directed through secure private networks. Google's new subsea cable

would connect data centers in Oregon and Japan.

Much of Google's bandwidth is reserved for its private B4 network, transmitting emails, YouTube videos and other data. The Wall Street Journal report states that the private network carries more traffic than the public-facing network, used by Google to transmit Internet search results.

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Kevlar chemist dies at 90

Kwolek, who worked for the DuPont chemical company for four decades starting in 1946, died in Delaware after a short illness. "We are all saddened at the passing of DuPont scientist Stephanie Kwolek, a creative and determined chemist and a true pioneer for women in science," DuPont chief executive Ellen Kullman said in a statement. "Her synthesis of the first liquid crystal polymer and the invention of DuPont Kevlar highlighted a distinguished career."

The diminutive Kwolek was working to find a fiber to strengthen radial tires when she found a thin, milky solution

Stephanie Kwolek, the American chemist who invented Kevlar in 1965, has died at the age of 90.



of polymers that showed real promise. She told a News Journal newspaper in Wilmington, Delaware, in 2007 that it was not exactly a 'eureka moment' but it led to the development of Kevlar, now a critical part of many bulletproof vests, body armor components, fiber optic cables, electro-mechanical and fine gauge cables, and suspension bridge ropes.

Stephanie Kwolek was careful to take credit for only the initial discovery of the technology that led to the development of Kevlar and credited the work of others involved in the efforts. Of the DuPont management she said: "They immediately assigned a whole group to work on different aspects."

Kwolek told the newspaper: "There are very few people in their careers that have the opportunity to do something to benefit mankind."

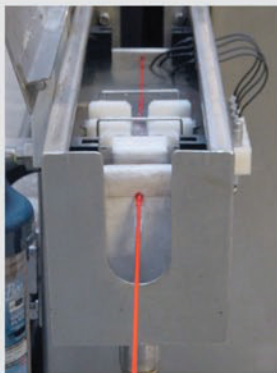
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Steel wire expansion

Steel wire manufacturer Mid-South Wire has paid \$3.7 million for a 19,000ft² former warehouse, with plans to expand.

John T Johnson Jr, CEO of Mid-South Wire, said the warehouse is ideal, being situated close to the company's headquarters. "We're just going to expand our current operations and add some product lines we think are opportunities for us," he explained.

"It made more sense to acquire this across the street to eliminate duplication of management, maintenance and transportation costs if we were to go somewhere else." Along with the building, Mid-South Wire has purchased the 19-acre plot.

Mid-South Wire makes steel wire for grocery carts, oven racks and other wire products.



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Cable acquisition

Molex Incorporated has acquired the Italian custom cable manufacturer, Flamar Cavi Elettrici Srl.

Flamar provides cables for industrial automation, robotics, broadcast audio/video, and telecommunications applications, and specializes in producing high-flex, multi-core cable with high resistance to torsion, chemicals and welding slag.

Molex's senior vice president of business development and corporate strategy, Tim Ruff, said the acquisition will expand

the Molex cabling range for machine and process control in the industrial automation and robotics industries.

"Flamar has an outstanding reputation as a trusted and reliable provider of high quality cable solutions for assembly lines, conveyors – anywhere industrial connectivity is required," explained Ruff.

The acquisition is expected to close during the calendar third quarter of 2014, after which Flamar will operate as a subsidiary of Molex Incorporated.



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Landmark installation

Standard Solar Inc has completed a solar installation on the historic DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Constitution Hall located in Washington, DC, just off the National Mall and a few hundred yards from the White House.

The array, mounted on the rooftop of the hall, is expected to produce 100,786kWh of energy per year and will help offset the energy demand of DAR Constitution Hall.

"This project with DAR is a leading example of how solar production can be maximized, even on urban buildings where space is limited," said Tony Clifford, CEO of Standard Solar. "In addition to being innovative with the use of rooftop space, our design had to integrate the requirements of a historic building and maintain the integrity of the architecture.

The result is a highly efficient advanced solar system powering an 85-year-old historic structure – a progressive blend of history and modern technology."

DAR Constitution Hall, which opened in 1929, was designed to house the annual Daughters of the American Revolution convention. It is currently Washington DC's largest concert hall, welcoming more than half a million patrons each year. It was designated a National Historic Landmark Building in 1985.

DAR president General Lynn Forney Young, said: "...when presented [with] the opportunity to reduce operating costs in a manner that conserves energy and preserves the historic fabric of our National Headquarters at the same time, it was an easy decision to make."

The Platts daily southeastern US rebar price assessment edged down mid-month to \$630-\$635/st ex-works. A southeastern US distributor said he expects domestic mills to hold pricing flat at about \$630/st ex-works as business “continues to improve slightly.”

Prices for imports continue to decrease, as is the case with offers for imports due for shipment at the end of the summer. “August arrivals from Turkey are being quoted lower than January arrivals, which was the lowest pricing so far this year,” the spokesman confirmed.

Rebar price pressure

Rebar steel prices in the southeastern US continued to be held down in June, held by low-priced and abundant imports.

At least three traders booked Turkish rebar at less than \$600 per tonne during the month, but indications are that prices have since risen.

Another southeastern rebar buyer said one of his mill suppliers lowered its price to about \$610/st ex-works to help it compete with imports. “It does seem like prices are softening a little bit and I hear awfully cheap numbers for future arrival,” he said, adding that he had heard of non-US rebar offered to end-users for \$620/st delivered in Florida.

The general outlook appears to be that prices will remain low, to compete with imports, while volume increases throughout the summer.

Solar goes online for Chile

President Michelle Bachelet of Chile has inaugurated the Amanecer Solar CAP plant in Copiapo, the largest photovoltaic solar power plant in Latin America and among the largest in the world. The project was developed, built and interconnected by SunEdison Inc under an offtake agreement with CAP Group, the largest iron ore and pellet producer on the American Pacific coast, and the largest steel producer in Chile.

The Amanecer Solar CAP plant has 100MW of total installed capacity, equivalent to 10 percent of the renewable energy generation capacity goal established by the Chilean government for 2014. The project involves an investment of \$250 million and is important for the future development of renewable energy in Chile and Latin America.

Located 37km from Copiapo in the Atacama Desert, the 250-acre plant has over 310,000 photovoltaic modules and was built in only six months. It is estimated that in its first year of operation the plant will inject 270GWh of clean energy into the central interconnected system.

Jose Perez, president of SunEdison for Europe, Africa and Latin America, said: "This plant demonstrates that photovoltaic solar energy is an ideal way of diversifying the energy matrix in Chile, reducing costs and contributing towards meeting the demand for clean and sustainable energy. SunEdison has now interconnected 150MW in the Atacama Desert – the 100MW Amanecer Solar CAP plant plus a 50 MW power plant in San Andres."

Cable company in the LEED

Superior Essex is the first company in the telecommunications cable manufacturing industry to offer environmental product declarations (EPDs), which can be used to obtain points in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification process for building projects. EPDs have been published for 25 Superior Essex premises copper data cable products, including multiple designs of plenum rated and riser rated category 5e, 6 and 6A cables.

An EPD is a comprehensive report that examines the environmental impact of a product or product family through its lifecycle, which provides the transparency necessary to assess the environmental standing of the products. EPDs for Superior Essex have been certified and published by Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

“Publishing an industry-first set of EPDs for 25 of their products not only demonstrates an important step towards greater transparency by Superior Essex, but also a willingness to take on a leadership position in the communications industry sector,” said Lisa Meier, VP and general manager for UL Environment.

“Additionally, as green building continues to grow in relevance, it’s key for manufacturers to keep moving the marketplace towards products that are easily recognized in green rating systems such as LEED.”

The LEED program is administered by the US Green Building Council (USGBC) and is applicable for new construction and existing structures ranging from data centers to government to educational and healthcare facilities.



USITC rods decision

The US international trade commission has reached a decision in its five-year review of carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod from Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ukraine.

With respect to the existing countervailing duty order on carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod from Brazil, and the existing antidumping duty orders on this product from Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, and Trinidad and Tobago, the commission made affirmative determinations, finding that revoking the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time.

As a result of the commission's decision, the existing orders on imports of this product from Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, and Trinidad and Tobago will remain in place.

With respect to the existing anti dumping duty order on the same rod products from Ukraine, the commission made a negative determination, finding that revoking the order would not be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time. As a result of the commission's negative determination, the existing order on imports of this product from Ukraine will be revoked.



EXTENDED COMPOUNDING LINE

S&E Specialty Polymers LLC has expanded its processing capabilities by adding a new materials compounding line at its Lunenburg headquarters. The line consists of a new Entek 53mm co-rotating twin-screw extruder with feeders and auxiliary equipment.

S&E has also purchased three additional sets of customized twin screws to support faster change-outs when running different materials. “We invested in the new screw sets to run an expanded portfolio of products and increase our processing flexibility,” said Duane Shooltz, president of S&E.

The new compounding line will allow S&E to significantly increase its line capacity and, in some cases, more than double its throughput rate for some materials. It will help the company extend production of some of its current brands such as TufPrene TPE compounds, Tuffill polyolefin compounds, and custom concentrates.

In addition, the new line will help S&E expand its current tolling capabilities to 15,000,000lb per year. S&E is equipped to handle tolling in a variety of polymers including PVC, PVC alloys, low smoke zero halogen, TPOs, TPRs and flame retardant and UV-based concentrates.



Dies partnership

Peter Neville, B&H Tool Company's president and CEO, announced that effective 21st October 2013, B&H was recapitalized and is now a partnership known as B&H Tool Company LLC. Neville will remain in his current role, and John Ulcej, who was formerly owner and president of EDI in Chippewa Falls, will become the director of technology, engineering, and manufacturing at B&H.

B&H Tool Company LLC specializes in the design and manufacturing of high quality standard and custom crosshead and in-line dies used for wire coating and tubing, serving industrial and medical markets throughout the world. Peter Neville has owned and managed B&H since 1994.

John Ulcej said: "We look forward to investing in the people and technology required to keep B&H positioned as a high quality manufacturer of precision tooling for the wire, cable, and tubing industries. Our intent is to become a state-of-the-art engineering and manufacturing facility that provides exceptional customer service."

Steel nails investigation

The US department of commerce has confirmed it will look into whether steel nails from India, South Korea, Malaysia, Oman, Taiwan, Turkey and Vietnam are being sold below cost in the United States.

The complaint was lodged by Mid Continent Steel & Wire, the largest bulk pallet nail manufacturer in the United States, which claims that imports benefited from unfair government subsidies.

The international trade commission will rule by 14th July. If it finds there is reason to believe the imports have the potential to damage the local industry, import duties of as much as 589.78 percent could be imposed on nails from India.



Power export

California-based energy company Pattern Energy Group plans to build the first high voltage direct current transmission line to connect Texas to the southeast of the country. The line would be part of the Southern Cross project to export wind power from Texas to other parts of the country.

Pattern has the approval of the federal energy regulatory commission for a proposed 400-mile line, which the company estimates will cost between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion to build.

Company officials said the project has the potential to expand the Texas wind energy industry by giving access to other markets via the Southern Cross route. Some of the highest capacity wind sites in the US are located within Texas.

Pennsylvania rebuild

Pennsylvania Electric Company (Penelec) is planning to rebuild sections of the 46,000 volt power line that connects substations in Nanty Glo and Ehrenfeld in central Cambria County.

The \$2.7 million project will replace 104 wooden poles, and the associated wire, insulators, fuses and cross-arms on a seven-mile section of sub-transmission line. The rebuild is expected to increase line capacity by over 70 percent.

“Our investment in infrastructure upgrades in Cambria County will continue to help us provide more reliable service to our customers,” said Scott Wyman, Penelec regional president. “These types of projects pay off over the long term with fewer and shorter service disruptions and result in a stronger system for future growth.”

Work was scheduled to be completed and the line in service by the end of June 2014.



EUROPE NEWS

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



New factory inauguration

ABB has inaugurated a new facility in Bulgaria for the production of low voltage control products and medium voltage power products. The ceremony was attended by Bulgaria's president, Rosen Plevneliev.

The facility is part of a \$23million investment to expand production capacity to serve Europe and Asia.

"This new unit further strengthens our manufacturing footprint in the region and enables us to deliver solutions across Europe, faster and more efficiently," said Bruno Melles, head of ABB's medium voltage products business, a part of the company's power products division.

Morten Wierod, head of ABB's control products section within the low voltage products division, added: "This represents an opportunity to build on an excellent team in this region. We are committed to develop our footprint in Bulgaria to support our growing business."

The new unit is the second major investment by ABB in the Plovdiv region. The first greenfield factory manufacturing low voltage products was built in 2009 and now employs over 1,000 people.



Interconnection proposals

Europacable, a representative body of European wire and cable producers, has welcomed the European Commission's energy security strategy proposal highlighting the contribution of dedicated infrastructure targets to ensure energy security in Europe.

However, the organization believes that the proposed interconnection target of 10 percent by 2020 and 15 percent by 2030 will fall short of benefitting from the full potential contribution of interconnection to Europe's energy future.

Europacable is specifically looking to the June Energy Council meeting for the development of specific, measurable and attainable targets to achieve concrete results. Europacable will continue to work with other industry partners to support the design and implementation of such objectives in the near future.



Meeting demand for fiber

CommScope Inc has extended its facility in Bray, Ireland, to include added production capabilities for its high speed fiber optic cabling.

The expansion of fiber cabling production in Ireland includes considerable capital investment, manufacturing equipment installation and employee training with processes designed and specified by CommScope's engineering teams. Approximately 50 percent of the Bray staff is trained on manufacturing of the high speed cabling solutions.

The Bray facility employs approximately 180 people, and is one of the largest manufacturers of Systimax solutions for CommScope. Occupying over 130,000ft² and also home to the sales, engineering, marketing and finance support organizations for the Europe, Middle East and African regions, it also includes the 1,800ft² Technology Innovation Center that incorporates a research and development laboratory and demonstration area.



Umbilical contract gets under way

Nexans has supplied the first of four contracted Statoil Standard umbilicals. The umbilical, made up of electrical and fiber optic cables, and hydraulic and chemical lines, will be employed at the Oseberg Delta field located 150km west of Bergen.

In December 2012 Nexans was awarded a contract from Statoil to supply static and dynamic umbilicals for three developments on the Norwegian continental shelf: Oseberg Delta field (North Sea), Snøhvit gas field (Barents Sea) and Smørbukk South (Norwegian Sea). In the fall of 2013 the contract was extended to include the delivery of umbilicals for the Gullfaks Rimfaks Valley gas field. In total, Nexans will provide 50km of static and dynamic umbilicals.

The umbilicals have been manufactured at Nexans' specialized facility in Halden, Norway.



World's biggest offshore consent

The UK government has agreed the 1.2GW East Anglia One offshore wind farm off England's east coast, making it the largest offshore project in the world to obtain consent.

The department of energy and climate change (DECC) has given approval for construction of the project, being developed by a joint venture between Vattenfall and Iberdrola's UK subsidiary, Scottish Power Renewables. It follows a positive recommendation from the UK's consenting body, the Planning Inspectorate.

Construction of the project is expected to begin in 2017, with the offshore installation commencing in 2018 and commissioning in 2019.

A turbine supplier has not yet been revealed, but the consent allows for up to 240 turbines to be installed at the site, which, considering the total capacity of 1.2GW, would mean a minimum capacity of 5MW per turbine.



First link for Lithuania

A time capsule has been laid on the seabed of the Curonian Spit to mark the place where the NordBalt international power link cable will be laid. The 450km 700MW cable between Lithuania and Sweden will be the third-longest submarine link in the world.

The ceremony marked the start of the construction of the first submarine power link in Lithuania. It was attended by prime minister Algirdas Butkevicius, minister of energy Jaroslav Neverovich, and representatives of governmental and municipal institutions.

Prime minister Butkevicius underlined that the construction of an electricity link will strengthen the reliability of the energy supply in the Baltic states and southern Sweden.

“In addition, the link will ensure security for us. Even in the event of a power failure, it will be possible to restore the capacity of energy systems sooner. The implementation of the project is necessary both to market participants and to consumers,” he said.

The work is planned to be complete in late 2015.



Prototype in waiting

The Alstom Haliade 6MW prototype turbine, installed in Belgian waters in October 2013, is still awaiting a cable connection. The machine was put in place at the 165MW Belwin 2 offshore wind farm, 45km off the Belgian coast.

Alstom managing director renewables Germany, Markus Rieck, confirmed at the recent Windforce offshore conference in Bremen that it is yet to supply any power to the grid.

Rieck added, however, that laying of the cables to connect the turbine to the grid will begin in July, with the first power exports expected in August, ten months after installation was completed.

The Haliade at Belwin 2 is the first to be installed offshore, but Alstom has won a number of contracts to supply the turbine on a commercial scale. The company won the tender to supply the turbines for several French offshore projects, the 480MW Saint Nazaire, 450MW Courseulles-sur-Mer and 498MW Fécamp.

It will also install five of its turbines at the Block Island project in the US.



More space for Scintilla

The Hungarian cable and wire harness manufacturer Scintilla is to double the production space at its Jászberény facility. Increasing the plant's output capacity is expected to allow Scintilla to expand its revenues to €10.53 million during 2014, an increase of 9.5 percent, compared with €9.62 million reported for 2013.

Scintilla supplies its output to a range of industries including telecommunications, domestic appliances, machinery and the automotive industry.



Italian steel wire producer

Celik Halat ve Tel Sanayii AS of Turkey has signed an agreement with an Italian joint venture to acquire the Italian stainless steel wire and alloy wire producer Trafilera Del Lario SpA (TDL) for €7.5 million.

In 2013 TDL reduced its capacity utilization to 25 percent due to financial difficulties. In 2011, TDL's total sales volume amounted to 11,553 tonnes, 50 percent of which was sold in Italy, 42 percent to other EU countries and eight percent to non-EU countries. TDL purchases 70 percent of its raw material from Europe and 30 percent from Asia.

According to the agreement, TDL will file for financial protection at a district court in order for its debts to be consolidated. TDL and Celik Halat have signed a three-year plant leasing protocol for €240,000 which will enable TDL to continue production until the agreement and the financial protection are concluded. The leasing cost will be subtracted from the €7.5 million acquisition payment.



Improved show services for members

The world's largest corporate membership association for the wire and cable industry – the International Wire and Machinery Association – will be providing a host of hospitality services for its members and their clients to use later this year at wire China and Wire & Cable India.

With a larger stand than in previous years, more centrally positioned for the convenience of members, the IWMA continues to be a valued industry partner of 'wire'.

For wire China 2014, taking place from 24th to 27th September at the Shanghai New International EXPO Centre (SNIEC), and Wire & Cable India 2014 which will take place at the Bombay Convention & Exhibition Centre in Mumbai from 28th to 30th October, the IWMA will offer improved services to members such as hospitality facilities, meeting and office space, translation services, Internet facilities and general exhibition advice and assistance.

In fact the IWMA stand at all regional wire shows will mirror the quality and range of services that are provided at the Düsseldorf show, the largest in the industry, and provide greater visibility for the association and its members alike, whilst continuing to provide the highest level of support and expertise that everyone has come to expect.

Shell scheme stand application packs for these prestigious wire and cable exhibitions are available upon request from the IWMA office. Once completed, they should be returned to the IWMA or forwarded directly to Messe Düsseldorf, which will then confirm your company stand allocation.

If your company wishes to exhibit at either of these well-established exhibitions, then please contact the IWMA office for an application pack. We would be delighted to help.

WIRE CHINA 2014

wire China, launched in 2004, co-organised and developed jointly by Messe Düsseldorf and its subsidiary in China together with Shanghai Electric Cable Research Institute, has now become the leading trade fair of its kind in Asia, not only in exhibition scale but also for its international influence.

Over the years it has been playing an irreplaceable part in the industries' trading and communication aspects. Together with industry players, wire China is committed to driving the development of China's wire and cable industry, witnessing achievements and exploring opportunities. The trade fair is widely acclaimed among Chinese and foreign exhibitors and visitors alike.

World-renowned companies and leading brands, industry experts and industry players will meet again here in September and brainstorm the latest developments and applications in the industry.

WIRE & CABLE INDIA 2014

Just a month later it will be the turn of Mumbai to host countries from around the world with the ever-increasingly popular Wire & Cable India.

The main customers for the wire and cable industry in India are the automotive, telecommunication and construction industries and all will come together for the 5th Wire & Cable India international exhibition. In the past few years, these three industries have witnessed a rapid expansion and that has led to an annual growth of about 25 per cent in India.

The Indian government has begun to focus primarily on public private partnerships with major infrastructure projects being the growth engine, especially for the development of the transport sector.

www.iwma.org

CabWire 2015 world technical conference – a date for your diary!

The IWMA is delighted to announce that the 7th biennial CabWire world cable and wire technical conference will take place on Tuesday, 3rd November 2015 in Düsseldorf, Germany, home of the wire industry.

The conference will be held at the Congress Centre, and is already attracting interest following the successful CabWire conference which was held at the Palazzo Turati, Milan in November last year, and attracted 200 wire and cable professionals from all over the world.

Preparations are well under way with Dr Probst, retiring CEO of Leoni AG, committed as a keynote speaker, and Acelor/Mittal preparing to host a visit for delegates to its rod mill in Duisburg on Wednesday, 4th November.

There will also be an event at a downtown Düsseldorf location on the Tuesday evening where delegates will get the chance to network and socialise.

If you would like to be involved by presenting a paper at this exciting event, then please forward by email a short abstract of no more than 50 words to the IWMA office at info@iwma.org

There are also a variety of promotional opportunities available, such as sponsorship and table top displays. Similarly, if you are interested in attending as a delegate and would like to be kept up to date with conference developments then please get in touch.

Follow us. . .

Remember to follow the IWMA LinkedIn page to ensure you are kept up to date with all activities, whether it is announcements about exhibitions, conferences and events or the educational trust, as well as member news.



ASIA & AFRICA NEWS



New Ducab plant in Abu Dhabi

Manufacturer of wire and cable, Ducab Aluminium, has secured a plot of land in Kizad's aluminum cluster. The plant will be Ducab's sixth in the UAE, having three facilities in Musaffah and two in Dubai, as well as AEI Cables in the UK.

Ducab's new facility is expected to be operational by 2015 and will focus on the production of aluminum rods and conductors for overhead transmission lines for the cable manufacturing industry and utility sectors.

Mr Khaled Salmeen, CEO of Kizad, said: "Ducab's manufacturing facility will integrate perfectly into our aluminum cluster and function as a downstream producer next to Emirates Aluminium, one of the world's largest single site aluminum smelters and Kizad's anchor tenant in the cluster."

Mr Jamal Salem Al Dhaheri, chairman of Ducab, added: "Being in Kizad offers Ducab a unique opportunity to communicate with other industries, identify future growing opportunities and enhance its efficiency in terms of logistics and manufacturing. Additionally, proximity to EMAL (Emirates Aluminium) for molten metal supplies is one of the most critical reasons, as is proximity to Khalifa Port for an unparalleled logistics infrastructure.

"We are currently exporting copper rods, cables and wires to clients in the GCC and MENA region, as well as to clients on the Indian subcontinent, in Africa and Europe. Being located in Kizad will further enhance our logistics infrastructure and market access."



Qatari infrastructure upgrade

Kahramaa, the Qatar General Electricity and Water corporation, will use Nexans medium and low voltage cables in the long term development of the state's energy infrastructure. An anticipated increase in electricity demand, up to 50 percent by 2020, has prompted network upgrades and increased grid capacity.

Nexans cables will be deployed as part of stage 2 of the phase 11 expansion and development of the network, connecting new sub-stations to infrastructure-oriented projects including New Doha Port and Doha rail and metro projects.

The Qatari government's strategic plan for the state, 2030 Qatar Vision, aims to provide sustainable development and a high standard of living for a population expected to double over the period, and requires significant upgrading of electrical and other infrastructure.

Nexans will provide over 2,000km of cable to Kahramaa. Production of the cables is already underway in Qatar at Nexans' QICC plant, and installation will take until December 2015.



Myanmar development moves forward

A 100MW power generation plant in Myanmar has become operational. The Mandalay plant, developed by APR Energy, will provide the Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) with a guaranteed minimum of 82MW of electricity.

The contract for the plant was the first agreement between a US company and the government of Myanmar for power generation since the lifting of sanctions. Fueled by Myanmar's natural gas resources, the plant features 68 of the latest CAT low-emission mobile gas power modules.

In 2013 the Human Development Index placed the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, commonly shortened to Myanmar (Burma), amongst the countries with the lowest levels of human development.

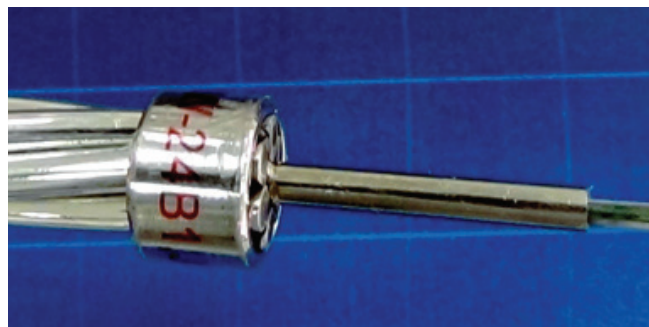


More cable companies change hands

Sarawak Cable Berhad will acquire 100 percent of Universal Cable Bhd (Universal Cable) and Leader Cable Industry Bhd (Leader Cable).

In a filing to Bursa Malaysia, Sarawak Cable proposed to acquire all the remaining interests in the two cable companies from HNG Capital Sdn Bhd (HNG Capital) through a combination of cash and the issue of new ordinary shares in the company.

The principal activities of both Universal Cable and Leader Cable are the manufacture and sale of telecommunication and low and high voltage power cables.



Taking on the temperature for Canadian project

Suzhou Furukawa Power Optic Cable, a subsidiary of Furukawa Electric, has secured a contract to provide optical ground wire (OPGW) and fittings for Nalcor Energy's power transmission project in Canada.

Suzhou will provide all-dielectric self-supporting cable (ADSS) and 1,100km of OPGW for the project to connect an 824MW hydroelectric power plant in Labrador with a substation in Newfoundland.

Furukawa said its technology will enable the project to cope with temperatures of -50°C , as well as severe conditions of snow and icing.

Furukawa Electric director and vice president Hiroyuki Otake said: "We are proud to work with Nalcor Energy on this great project."

The company is targeting the global environmental infrastructure market, which is expected to have significant growth. Mr Otake said the company has already made significant inroads in the North American renewable energy market.



Power for Java

The Indonesian government is planning to invest \$2.1 billion in a cable to transmit electricity from the island of Sumatra to the densely populated island of Java. The move is in an effort to alleviate the frequent power failures brought about by decades of underinvestment in energy infrastructure.

The 500kV cable will cross a 35km stretch of the Sunda Strait.

Minister of national development planning Armida Alisjahbana said \$1.19 billion of the necessary funds will come from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), a body promoting development in emerging economies. Alisjahbana added that JICA could also fund the remainder, depending on Indonesian presidential approval.

Dedy Priatna, deputy planning minister, stressed: "The power from coal-fired power plants in Sumatra must be distributed so it's not all concentrated in Sumatra. That's why we need the transmission cable to Java."



Mumbai to Singapore route

Global Cloud Xchange (GCX) plans to provide a direct subsea route to bridge an important gap in the emerging markets corridor, a direct Mumbai-Singapore route to bypass current outage-prone terrestrial routes between Mumbai and Chennai.

"With Singapore as a regional hub and gateway for multinational companies doing business in India and emerging markets, the ICX cable will complement our GCX global network infrastructure for direct connectivity to major business centers in Asia, Middle East, North America and Europe," said Bill Barney, chief executive officer, Global Cloud Xchange.

Based on 100G technology, the ICX cable will be a four-fiber pair system with initial design capacity per fiber pair of 80 x 100G using coherent submarine fiber. This new segment will deliver termination into the Middle East, Europe and to the US east coast through interconnection with GCX's Falcon, Hawk and FA-1 systems.

Submarine cable vendors and additional partners for the ICX subsea cable are being finalized. Global Cloud Xchange will announce the award of the supply contract by the third quarter of 2014.



Bevan Slattery

Cable on standby

TE SubCom has produced 3,300km of its SL17 submarine cable for use within SubPartners Pty Ltd's APX-West cable system.

Delivering both systems (APX-West and APX-Central) within 24 months is key to meeting the expectations of the foundation customers. The systems will stretch between Singapore to Perth, and Perth to Sydney, respectively. With the cable secured, and most major permits attained, SubPartners can finalize the remaining commercial agreements while maintaining its installation timelines.

CEO and co-founder of SubPartners, Bevan Slattery, stated: "TE SubCom have shown strong commitment to the APX projects from day one. The manufacture of this cable further highlights the strong partnership we have developed with the TE SubCom team, stemming from the PPC-1 Sydney to Guam cable system in 2008."



Fiber training in Africa

Two BICSI accredited training workshops on fiber optic communications have been scheduled for South Africa and Zambia, with plans for more training events to be organized throughout Africa. The two-day workshops will take place during July, and are the result of a partnership between ICT Africa and The Fibre Lab.

"Our fiber optic communications course is critical for engineers and managers responsible for optical transmission and network planning, especially for long haul, metropolitan and access networks," said Dr Jabulani Dhlwayo, founder of ICT Africa.

The ICT Africa and Fibre Lab partnership sees the latter responsible for the promotion of ICT Africa workshops, registrations and other administrative support. Attendees to the workshops use The Fibre Lab registration portal to register attendance.



PRODUCTS - MACHINES

& TECHNOLOGY

New wireline for the wellsite

A new environment-friendly wireline for the oil and gas industry was launched at the 2014 Global Petroleum Show in Canada. The EcoSeal cable from Camesa, a WireCo WorldGroup brand, eliminates the need for grease injection systems and allows for faster rig-up time at the wellsite. Double-seal technology features an inner sleeve and a specially designed outer jacket, which will reduce the need for additional equipment and provide for a cleaner jobsite.

“We firmly believe this new product will be a game changer in the oil and gas industry,” said Dustin Dunning, Camesa’s sales manager. “After more than a year of research and design work by our engineering staff, field and trial testing, and quality control, we are able to release a product that promises to speed up the wireline rig up process and provide a cleaner, more efficient cable.”

By using Camesa’s EcoSeal wireline, operators no longer need additional grease pumps which inject grease into traditional pressure control equipment, creating a cleaner and safer worksite. In addition, flow tubes and extended lubricators can also be eliminated, helping to reduce the operation’s footprint.

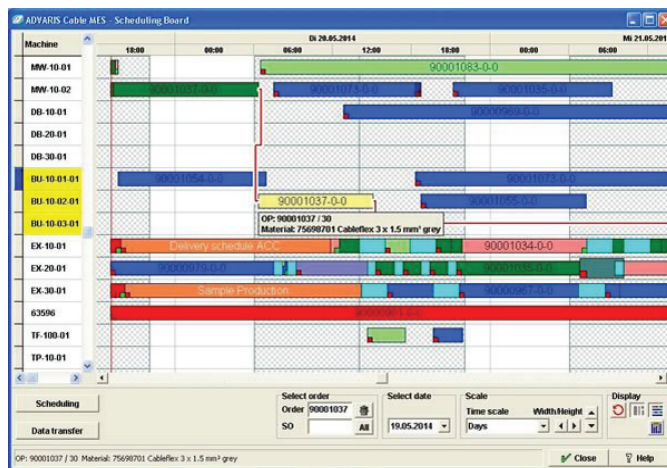
EcoSeal’s smooth technology allows technicians to achieve higher running speeds without the loss of pressure control, and the dual polymer coating helps to eliminate common cable problems, including birdcaging and loose armor wires.

Camesa will begin taking orders for the new product in early October of 2014.

SAP certification

Advaris has received SAP certification for its Advaris Cable MES 4.0 production tool. The certification confirms that the solution can be integrated with SAP Supply Chain Management (SAP SCM) 5.1 and is a significant milestone in the integration of the Advaris Cable Manufacturing Execution System (MES) with SAP software. Manufacturers can integrate Advaris Cable as a sector-specific production scheduling tool in SAP SCM.

Advaris CEO Dr Manfred Moser said: “Users who in addition to our detailed planning tool also use the comprehensive functions of Advaris for shop floor control and production data capturing can realize a complete latest generation MES system in the SAP environment.”



Advaris Cable performs fully automatic loading of the manufacturing orders from the SAP system and then synchronizes changes that occur. The program also takes into account the availability of materials in detailed planning. In order to do this, the MES downloads the material stocks from the SAP system and keeps them updated.

The target criteria for detailed planning are adherence to the deadlines for production orders, and minimizing machinery set-up time. By optimizing the workflow sequences, the Advaris software cuts the number and duration of idle times per machine to a minimum.

For detailed planning, Advaris offers a simulation environment in which the system draws up a resource allocation plan as a proposal for the production planner, who can then make changes manually and test out planning alternatives.

Safer shipboard cables

AEI Compounds Ltd, a supplier of polymer compounds for the International wire and cable industry, has launched a newly developed silane cross-linkable, oil resistant, halogen-free flame retardant compound. SX0620 is a highly flexible, low smoke and fume sheathing compound for use in offshore, shipboard, industrial and railway cabling systems.

SX0620 has been developed to meet the requirements of IEC 92-359 SHF2 and EN50264 EM104, ship and railway standards for low-smoke and fume cable sheathing material. Paired with SX0612 or SX559 insulated conductors, SX0620 sheathed cables are said to meet the highest fire retardant and oil resistance performance requirements while exhibiting rubber-like flexibility and excellent cable surface finish.

SX0620 is also suitable for use in heavy industrial and hostile environments, where abrasion resistance is required. An NEK606

carbo-sea mud-resistant compound is currently under development.

Centaur goes underground

Centaur cable saddles and accessories from Ellis are being installed in National Grid's London Power Tunnels project.

The cable saddles, used to secure high voltage cables along the 32km of tunnels, were specified in 2012 in a record £1.5million order for the UK cable cleat manufacturer.



Richard Shaw, managing director of Ellis, said: "While it's always great to secure a new specification, especially such a large one, it's even more rewarding seeing the product installed and being used for the purpose for which it was designed."

In the case of the London Power Tunnels, Ellis secured the specification from Südkabel – the German manufacturers of the cables being installed in the National Grid tunnels – as a result of a design inspiration that saw them deliver a perfect product that overcame a serious safety issue surrounding the restraint of HV cables up to 400kV with a diameter range of 100mm to 160mm.

"At the time we designed Centaur neither the British nor European Standards took into

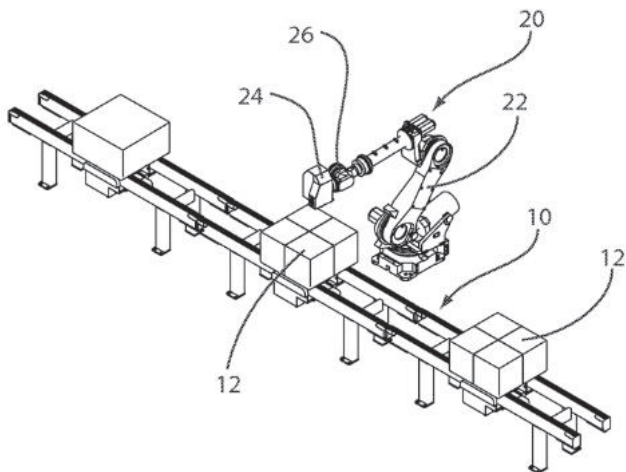
account cleats on HV cables of this size," Mr Shaw explained.

Before launch, Ellis put its new heavy-duty extruded aluminum product through rigorous testing. Using cable manufactured by ABB in Sweden, the company shipped the Centaur cable saddles and ABB cable to the Netherlands where they were tested to 163kA peak and 63kA RMS for one second, in both 3 phase and phase to phase fault scenarios.

"We invested well over £100,000 in designing, developing, testing and bringing Centaur to market," added Mr Shaw.

Robotic de-wiring

Automatic Handling International Inc, a manufacturer of custom handling systems, has announced the issuance of US patent number 8,707,532 for a method of removing wires from a bale.



The invention includes a robot with full range of movement on three planes. The robot carries an end of arm tool which comprises a vision system for locating the wire and a cutting tool for cutting the wire. The end tool

further includes a wire collecting spindle that removes the cut wires from the bale. The robot transports the wires to a hopper and the wire collecting spindle deposits the wires in the hopper.

The apparatus includes a conveyor system for moving one or more bales and a de-wiring station positioned adjacent the conveyor system. A wire-bound bale is moved into position by the conveyor system. The robot with end tool then moves to sense the location of the wires, cut the wires, and collect and deposit the wires in a collection hopper. The de-wired bale is then moved by the conveyor system and another wire bound bale is moved to the de-wiring station.

On-site spools

Badger Plug's spool kits contain all components for quick and easy on-site assembly of spools, or spools can be ordered pre-assembled.



Badger Plug's extended line of spool kits are suitable for OEMs and commercial and retail resellers producing or packaging flexible products such as cables, wire and

light chain. Kits include spool cores, flanges and spool plugs, with flanges available in corrugate, chipboard, MDF or hardboard.

Plastic or metal self-locking spool plugs secure spool ends to the core and are available to suit light to heavy-duty applications. Flanges are produced in a wide range of shapes and sizes, including viewing slots, bolt holes, hand holes and barrel grooves, with other custom configurations available.

Cables slim down

CABLExpress has announced a reduction in the diameter, weight and bend radius of its Skinny-Trunk® fiber optic trunk cables, to allow for increased capacity and ease of cable management in data center infrastructure systems.



“These fiber trunks will help organizations maximize the overall efficiency of their data centers,” said Lisa Belodoff, vice president of CABLExpress. “Our engineering team works in partnership with our customers to develop solutions for issues they’re dealing with on a daily basis. These enhancements will not only make their jobs easier, but provide a clear benefit when evaluating total cost of ownership of the IT infrastructure spend.”

“The bend radius impacts overall performance because the lower the bend

radius, the lower the potential for signal loss,” said Kent Goldsmith, RCDD, DCDC, engineering manager at CABLExpress.

Nylon protection for wire and cable

Honeywell Resins and Chemicals has introduced a new Aegis® nylon resin, designed to protect cables and electrical wiring from physical and chemical damage.

The new resin, Aegis H55WC, provides protection from grease, oil and gas, and resists impact, abrasion and cuts. It is certified by Underwriters Laboratories for use in demanding applications including residential and commercial buildings, machine tools, offshore oil platforms and marine equipment.

Aegis H55WC nylon is thinner than other insulating materials, allowing more strands of conductive metal to fit inside the insulation without increasing the overall cable size.

In addition to wires and cables, Aegis resins are used in fibers and filaments, engineered plastic components, and films for food and protective packaging. In April 2014, Honeywell announced the expansion of its nylon production capacity to 200,000 tonnes per year. The new capacity is expected to be online in 2015.

Composite transmission cable

Celanese Corp and Southwire Co LLC have developed an overhead electric transmission line made from thermoplastic composites, designed to replace the traditional aluminum conductor and steel-reinforced lines.

The C7 overhead conductor uses a bundled strand composite core of Celstran CFR-TPR composite long-fiber reinforced thermoplastics combined with heat-resistant Fortron polyphenylene sulfide, and capped with a layer of polyetherether ketone material to provide protection from galvanic corrosion and high abrasion resistance.



The cable bundle is jacketed with aluminum or aluminum-zirconium alloy.

Celanese and Southwire introduced the composite lines earlier this year, after seven years under development. The advantages of the line are said to include a minimal increase in line sag under high power transfer, high strength-to-weight ratio, and the multi-element core design means there is no single point of possible failure, as with monolithic cable constructions.

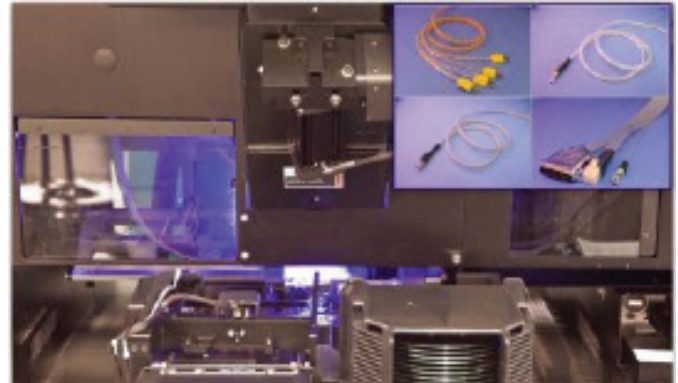
Southwire has reported a life expectancy for the composite wire of over 40 years.

Clean room cabling

Cicoil is now offering standard off the shelf clean room cables and assemblies for semiconductor industry applications. Rated for class 1 cleanroom use, the Flexx-Sil™ rubber jacketed cables meet the air cleanliness requirements of ISO 146441, exceed the outgassing requirements of ASTM E595 and are excellent for vacuum environments.

Cicoil's extrusion process allows each individual power conductor, shielded signal pairs, tubing or multi-wire bundles to be placed

in a flat parallel profile, precisely controlling the spacing of each individual component, insulation thickness and the overall cable shape. Unlike round cables made with bulky fillers, contaminating talc and low-friction tapes, Cicoil flat cables ensure that the inner components do not rub against each other, wear or deform during operation or move within the Flexx-Sil™ outer jacket.



Cicoil's Flexx-Sil™ extruded cables are impervious to continuous motion, tight routing, vibration, UV light, steam, pressure washing, de-ionized water, alcohol, autoclave, mechanical stress, expanded temperatures (-65°C to +165°C) and many chemicals. This combination of features makes Cicoil's cables excellent for semiconductor automation and controlled environment applications.

Cicoil's halogen-free clean room cables are UL & CSA recognized, CE conforming, RoHS and REACH compliant and are cured continuously, with no debris or material contamination in an automated, climate controlled environment. When cables need to be stacked together, or where a lower friction surface is desired, Cicoil offers its GlideRite™ and SlideRite™ coating options.

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