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**USA**

June 2012 issue - No 12

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**W A T C H**  
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**Walking the wire... p9**



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# #12 EDITOR

It will be all wired on the night, or let's hope it will be! Stuntman Nik Wallenda is walking on a two-inch diameter steel cable across Niagara Falls on 15<sup>th</sup> June, live on national TV.

Nik will be walking 60m above the iconic falls on the 550m long cable after explaining that he feels "compelled" to walk on wires. He has been practicing using a cable suspended between two cranes on a casino car park in preparation for the walk. You can find the full story on page 9. Good luck, Nik.

Also in this issue of *wiredInUSA* is news of the laying of a new 380-mile long underwater line from Virginia to New Jersey. The line will carry up to 7,000MW of power from the Atlantic Wind Connection and is expected to supply power to two million homes. Read all about it on pages 10 and 11.

All the American members of the International Wire and Machinery Association will be delighted to hear of the appointment of a new executive manager for the association (page 32).

Andy Lewis, 41, has already taken up the position and the marketing professional is looking forward to a hectic year.

**David Bell**  
**Editor**

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#12

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Picture : Mike Gieson

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The latest news from machine industries

# wiredInUSA.com

# DIARY SHOW EVENTS

## 2012

### SEPTEMBER

10-12 Sept: **International Manufacturing Technology Show**  
McCormick Place Convention Center,  
Chicago, Illinois, USA  
Exhibition  
[www.imts.com](http://www.imts.com)

### OCTOBER

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

### NOVEMBER

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

## 2013

### APRIL

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

### MAY

TBA: **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

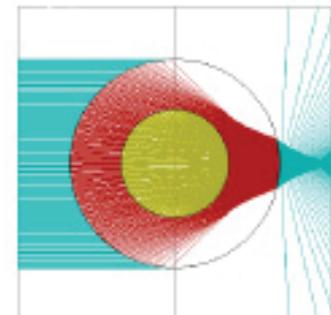
8-10 Oct: **wire South America**  
São Paulo, Brazil  
Exhibition  
[www.tubotech-online.de](http://www.tubotech-online.de)

# OPTICAL FIBRES

## Measurement Instruments

### LIS-G:

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



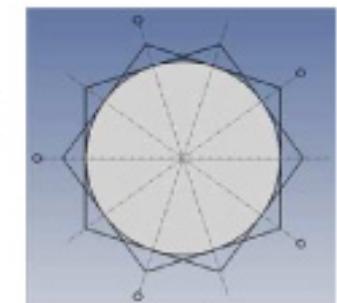
### NCTM :

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



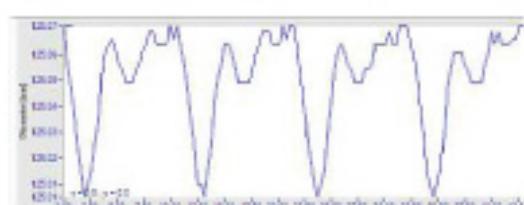
### CM5:

**Coating Monitor 5 axes**  
Diameter, lump & neck, defects detection, coating asymmetry  
Absolute diameter:  $\pm 0,15\%$ , 50-400 $\mu\text{m}$ , 400Hz  
Lump & Neck:  $\pm 2\mu\text{m}$ , 500kHz  
Internal defect detection: 400 kHz  
(Airlines, bubbles, inclusions, delaminations...)



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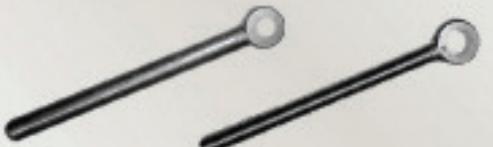
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# MAKING THE NEWS

## Walking a fine wire line – 60m above Niagara

Stuntman Nik Wallenda is using a cable suspended between two cranes on a casino car park to practice for his forthcoming tightrope walk across Niagara Falls on 15<sup>th</sup> June. A 550-meter long, two-inch diameter steel cable will be suspended 60 meters above the Falls, and the walk will be watched live on national TV.



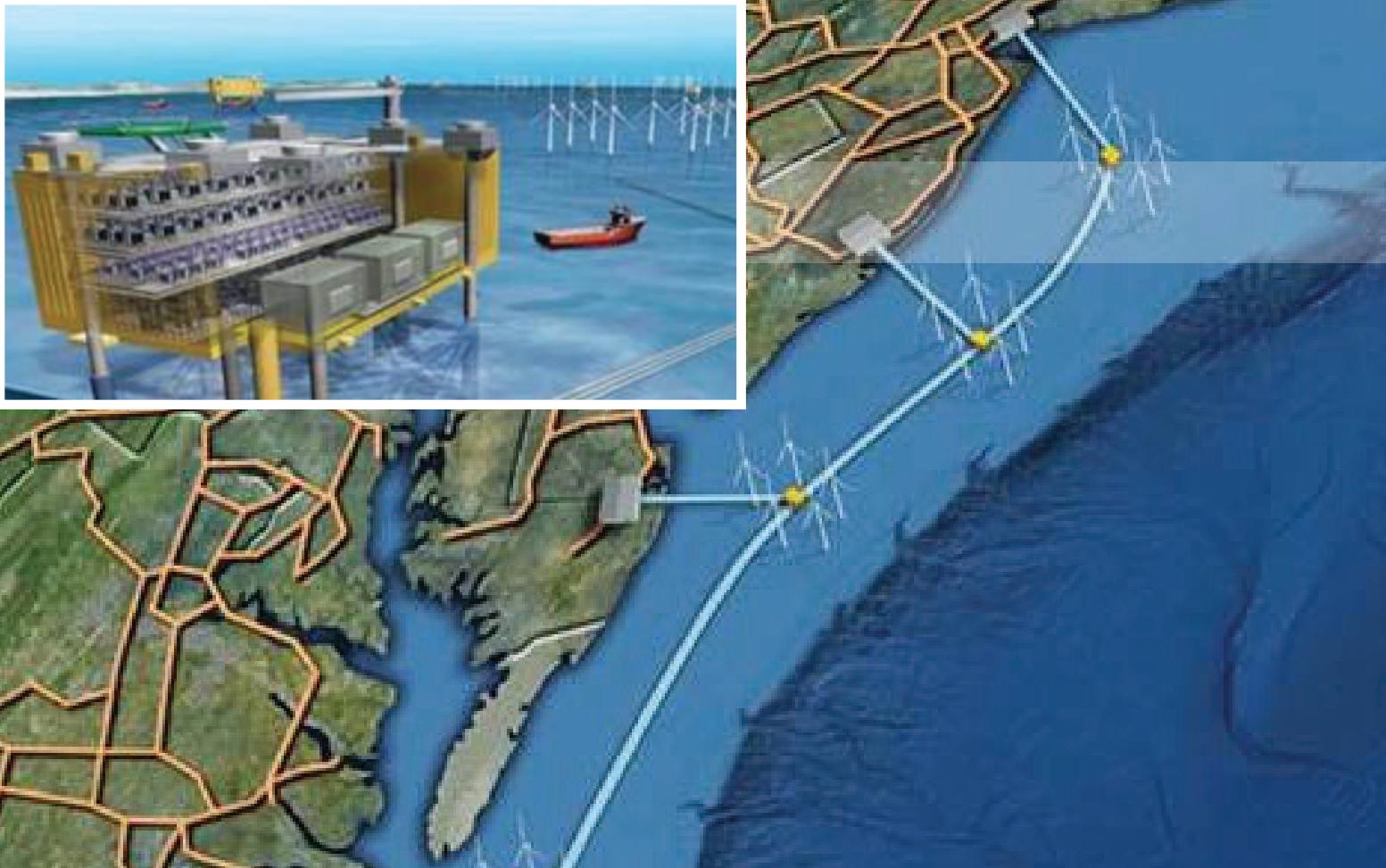
With Canada's Skylon Tower in the background, Nik Wallenda in training for his Niagara walk

Wallenda says he feels compelled to walk on wires, and explained his attitude by

quoting his great-grandfather, Karl Wallenda: "Life is on the wire, and everything else is just waiting." Karl Wallenda died in 1978 after falling from a tightrope in Puerto Rico, a walk Nik Wallenda has since completed.

Of the technique of wire walking, Wallenda says: "Wire walking is generally about keeping your whole body straight and stiff; only the pole and your legs will move." Holding a 30-foot pole weighing between 16 to 25 kilograms also takes its toll, "It's an extremely harsh forearm workout. I have to make sure my forearms don't cramp up."

Concern for the walker comes from the Canadian Peregrine Foundation, who have recommended the walk be postponed until September to avoid the risk of offending a nesting pair of falcons in the vicinity. "They go 360 kilometers an hour — he could get a 2-pound missile attacking at the back of his neck," cautioned a spokeswoman.



## Approval for 380-mile underwater line

The Interior Department has given Atlantic Wind Connection the go-ahead to secure a federal right of way for construction of the 380-mile underwater power line in the US. The project, known as the Atlantic Wind Connection, is expected to generate 7,000MW of electricity from offshore wind farms located from Virginia to New Jersey.

Google and fellow investors Good Energies, Marubeni and Trans-Elect

Development Co, have pledged to invest \$5 billion for a network of transmission lines for offshore wind farms to be built over the next ten years.

Construction of the line could commence in 2014 and on completion will meet the power needs of 2 million homes, reports Associated Press.

Bob Mitchell, Atlantic Wind Connection CEO, said the government's action is an important milestone for the project.

# LINE-Dry

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# Strike at wire mill



Workers at the Davis Wire mill in Kent began a strike early on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, in response to mass layoffs and other alleged actions by the company.

The company laid off 27 employees at the Kent facility - nearly a third of its unionized workforce - just three days after the strike vote. Workers overwhelmingly voted to strike on 12<sup>th</sup> May, and the company laid off workers on 15<sup>th</sup> May.

"I have no doubt that these layoffs are retaliatory in nature. For Davis Wire to purposely destroy workers' livelihoods and eliminate local manufacturing jobs in an economy that is struggling to recover is unconscionable," said Tracey A Thompson, secretary-treasurer of the union Teamsters Local 117.

Harry Stang, outside labor counsel for Davis Wire, said workers received adequate advance notice on layoffs, and that "there was no correlation" between the strike vote and the layoffs.

"Our primary concern is we have a fine group of workers who were led into an unfortunate strike," Stang said.

Davis Wire is one of four manufacturers in the Heico Wire Group.

The 85 workers at the Kent facility have been without a contract since 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011. Davis Wire also operates plants in Irwindale, CA and Pueblo, CO.

# Sale of Encore Wire shares approved

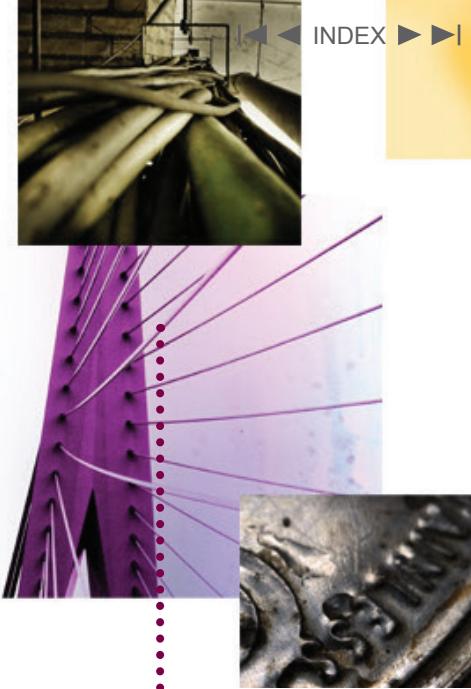
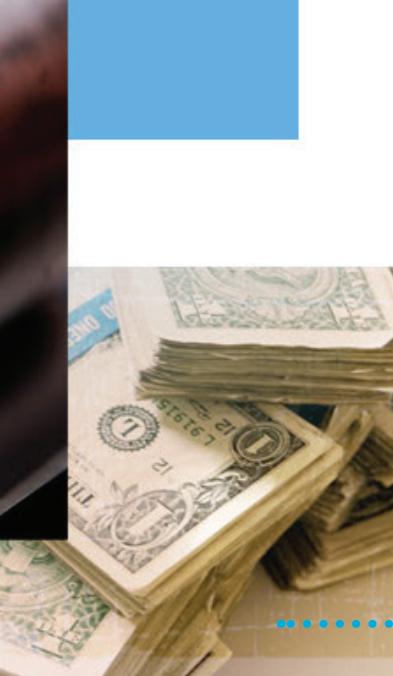
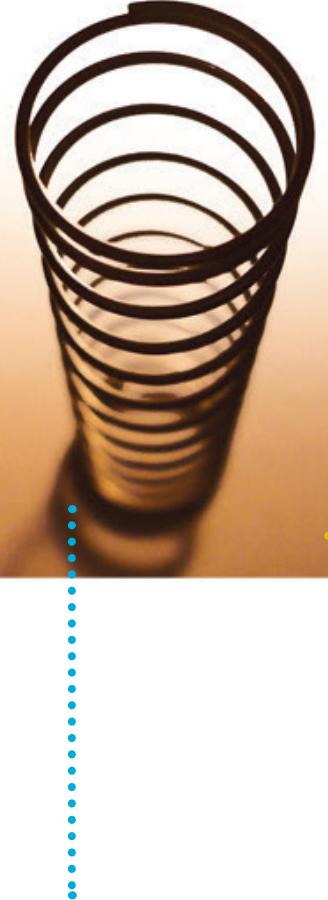
The board of directors of Capital Southwest Corporation has announced the sale, to Encore, of 2,774,250 shares of common stock in Encore Wire Corporation held by its subsidiary, Capital Southwest Venture Corporation. The aggregate sale price was \$66,637,485, based on a price of \$24.02 per share. Capital Southwest Corporation continues to hold its 1,312,500 shares of common stock in Encore Wire Corporation.

The sale will generate a capital gain of \$66,037,485. The board has approved the distribution of the entire capital gain proceeds directly to its shareholders. The dividend will be paid on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and represents the largest single distribution the company has made to shareholders in its 51 year history.



As a regulated investment company, the company has the option to retain the capital gain proceeds, pay the related taxes and pass a tax credit to its shareholders or distribute the capital gain proceeds to its shareholders, who will then pay the related taxes.

It is anticipated that the dividend will be taxable as a long-term capital gain dividend to Capital Southwest shareholders.



## Latin American chapters' new chairman

The Latin American Chapter of the Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Council Americas, an organization that seeks to promote next-generation, all-fiber connectivity in the Latin American and Caribbean region, has re-elected Gilberto Guitarte of TE Connectivity as chairman.

Guitarte first became technology chair of the LATAM chapter in April 2009 and served two years in post. In 2010 he was recommended to act as the chairman of the LATAM chap-

ter for the remaining five months of the 2010-11 term, operating in both positions. Guitarte was then officially elected chairman in May 2011 for the 2011-12 term, in addition, serving as technology chair through the same term. With these new elections, Guitarte will be serving his second full term as chairman of the LATAM chapter.

At the chapter's annual conference and expo in Mexico City, members also selected committee chairs. Serving for the coming year will be Eduardo Jedruch of Wiltel (technology), Liza Poe of Corning (marketing), Reinaldo Jeronymo of Prysmian Group (finance), and Jorge Rivadulla of Calix (regulatory).

## Fiber optic, wireless and copper OSP for South Central States

Charles Industries Ltd, a provider of enclosed solutions for telecommunications service providers, has entered into a manufacturer's representative agreement with Tel-Quip, LLC of Houston, Texas. Under terms of the agreement, Tel-Quip will represent

Charles' fiber optic and copper product lines in the states of Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Arkansas.

Charles Industries' buried distribution pedestals, cell site and MDU enclosures, remote terminals, multi-purpose housings, fiber interconnects and cross-connects are utilized by telecom and wireless service providers to protect fiber optic, copper and coaxial networks.

The flood-proof design of Charles' non-metallic distribution pedestals has assisted many South Central US service providers maintain service during the floods and severe weather typical of the area.



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## General Cable to buy Alcan Cable

General Cable is to buy the wire and cable business Alcan Cable from Rio Tinto PLC, for \$185 million in cash.

Subject to regulatory approval, the deal is expected to close in the second half of 2012.

Alcan Cable, based in Atlanta, employs around 1,050 people in its aluminum cable manufacturing and distribution facilities servicing the energy and construction markets in the US, Canada, Mexico, and China.

General Cable said the acquisition will contribute between \$650 million and \$700 million in annual revenue at current metal prices.

Highland Heights-based General Cable manufacturers copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable products for the energy, industrial, specialty, construction and communications markets.

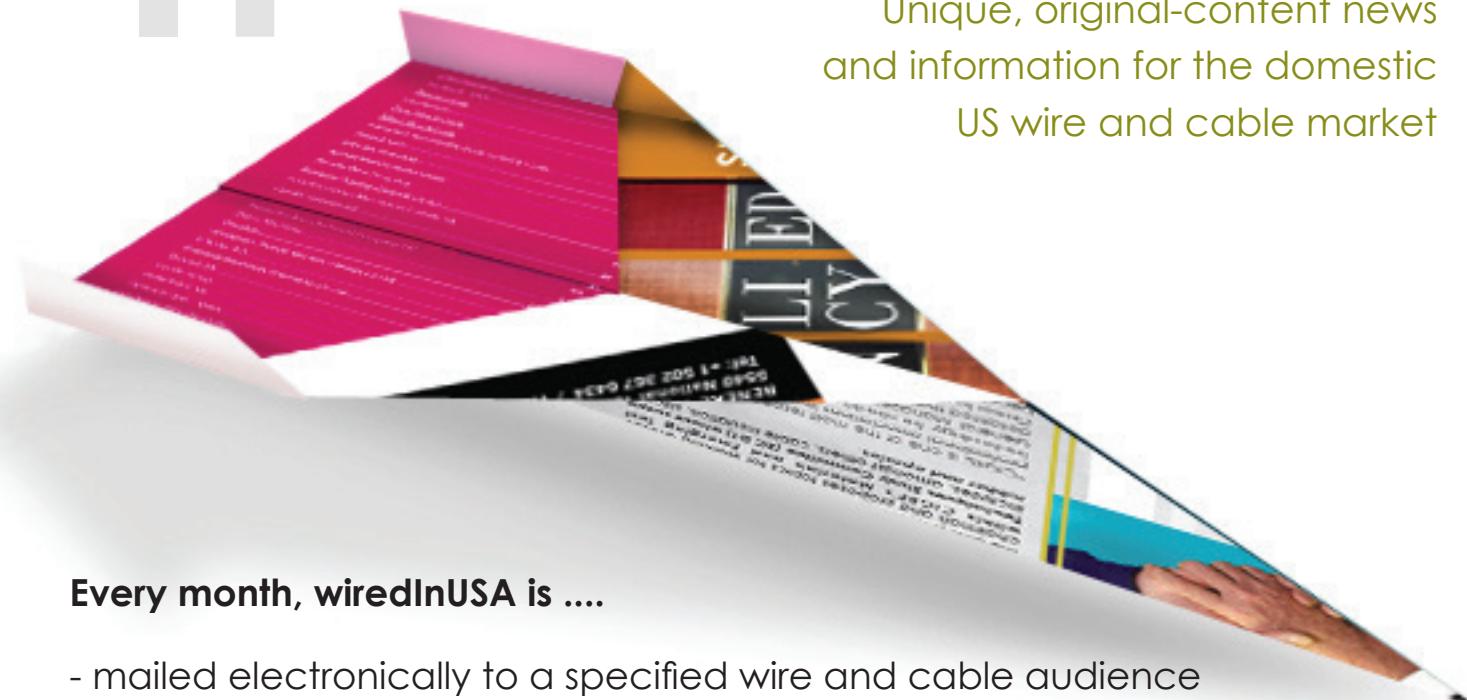
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## Optelian's new VP

Optelian, a company whose portfolio of optical solutions enables telecom, multi-service operator (MSO), utility and enterprise customers to expand fiber capacity, has announced the appointment of Dennis Isotti as the company's new vice president of operations. Isotti will be responsible for supply chain management, manufacturing, engineering support services, and logistics groups.

Mr Isotti brings more than 25 years of experience in the manufacturing, defense and communications industries. His most recent position was as plant/business unit general manager for Sanmina-SCI Corporation in Ottawa, where he held overall profit and loss responsibility. Dennis began his career in manufacturing engineering working at Gandalf before moving to Newbridge Networks (now Alcatel Canada) gaining experience at Allen Vanguard and Meriton Networks where he was responsible for operations.

# C&M CORPORATION CERTIFICATION

C&M Corporation, a manufacturer of bulk cable, coil cords, and cable assemblies, has announced ISO 13485:2003 certification for C&M de Mexico, its assembly facility located in Guaymas, Empalme, Sonora, Mexico.

C&M de Mexico manufactures coil cords and assemblies, both molded and mechanical. The facility features a LEAN manufacturing focus and cellular manufacturing concepts.

The primary objective of ISO 13485:2003 is to synchronize medical device regulatory requirements with those of quality management systems. ISO 13485 includes some requirements for medical devices and excludes some of the requirements of ISO 9001 that are not relevant as regulatory requirements.

Jesus Gamez, C&M de Mexico's manufacturing manager, commented, "ISO 13485 is based on ISO 9001 but places emphasis in an organization's ability to meet both regulatory and customer requirements, as well as effective risk management and the ability to maintain the effectiveness of their processes. ISO 13485 certification serves as a framework for compliance to the demands of regulatory agencies and the customer base."

Kate Houghton, C&M's vice president of marketing, added, "The certification to this very specific, medically-focused ISO standard will provide additional momentum to our effort to expand our presence in the medical assembly marketplace."

In addition to receiving ISO 13485:2003 certification, C&M de Mexico has also been certified to ISO 9001:2008 by QMI-SAI Global, the registrar that performed the audits.

## 2012|61<sup>st</sup> CALL FOR PAPERS

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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# Trust in Houston

Houston Wire & Cable Company (HWC), a provider of electrical and mechanical wire and cable, has been presented with Forbes' prestigious Most Trustworthy Company Award for 2012. More than 8,000 companies, traded on US exchanges, are reviewed by their accounting and governance score, or AGR, provided to Forbes by GovernanceMetrics International (GMI).

GMI's in-depth analysis looks beyond the raw data of income statements and balance sheets and examines wider company details such as excessive executive compensation, high levels of management turnover, substantial insider trading relative to corporate peers, and level of short-term executive compensation encouraging focus on short-term results. In calculating the ARG score, the absence of negative events can count just as much as the existence of positive events.

"What these companies have in common is what they don't have: problems that indicate elevated risk," said GMI chairman James A Kaplan.

## Western USA district sales manager

Beta LaserMike has appointed Ethem Erdas as western USA district sales manager.

In his new position, Mr Erdas will be responsible for the market penetration of Beta LaserMike's products and services with key customer accounts and target market segments. A key role will be working with channel partners to drive continued sales growth in the western USA region. This involves the delivery of the company's non-contact measurement and control solutions and services across a range of industries including wire and cable and metrology-related applications. Mr Erdas will be based in California.



## Asia sales director

Beta LaserMike has appointed Stuart Manser as sales director for the Asia region.

Mr Manser has been with Beta LaserMike since 1990, holding a number of key positions including UK & Ireland sales manager, general manager of Beta LaserMike Ltd (UK) and, most recently, as western USA district sales manager. Prior to Beta LaserMike, Mr Manser developed extensive experience in the field of metrology. He spent his early career as an engineering metrologist for Rolls-Royce Aero Engines. Mr Manser holds professional qualifications in both mechanical and production engineering.

In this new role, Stuart Manser replaces Ken Wright, president of Beta LaserMike, who has been assuming the role of sales director in Asia. Mr Manser will be responsible for overseeing the Asia-Pacific sales strategy and implementation, as well as working closely with Beta LaserMike's channel partner network to increase the company's presence and delivery of measurement and control solutions in China, Japan, Korea, and South East Asia.

# EUROPE NEWS



Photographer : Rafal Steciuk'

Picture : www.bigstockphoto.com 'Spring'

## Alcatel-Lucent lands contract for Fiji fiber

Alcatel-Lucent Submarine Network of France has won the contract to lay a submarine fiber-optic cable system from Fiji to Tonga, expected to be in service by June 2013.



The contract was signed by Robert Bolouri, the interim managing director of Tonga Cable Ltd, and Michel Bouvard, the vice president operations of Alcatel-Lucent Submarine Network, at the Tonga Communications Corporation office, Fasi. Tonga Cable Ltd awarded the contract to Alcatel Lucent after evaluating the bidders, which included Huawei Marine Networks of China, NEC of Japan and TE Subcom of the United States.

Michel Bouvard said that a survey has begun in Fiji to determine the cable

route. The survey will also specify the type of cable needed for the project.

"Once we specify the type of cable, whether it is a deep water cable or a shallow water cable, we will start its production in France and airfreight it to Fiji."

The Fiji to Tonga route is jointly funded, 20 percent by TCC and 80 percent by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. When the service comes into full operation it will have a total capacity of 320Gbits, 6,000 times more than the 50 to 55Mbits full capacity of the satellite network currently available in Tonga.

"We would like to use the existing facilities and infrastructure that could directly connect Ukraine and Georgia. It is the Poti-Varna cable that lies at the bottom of the Black Sea and from Varna to Odesa," Baramidze explained.

Baramidze said that implementation of this project would reduce the cost of telecommunications services, as well as increase capacity and improve their quality.



## Wind power in Chile

Siemens has secured an order from Chile for the supply of wind turbines with a total capacity of 115MW. The clients for the El Arrayán wind power project are the partners Pattern Energy Group, Ashmore Energy International and Antofagasta Minerals.

The supply includes delivery, installation and commissioning of 50 wind turbines, each with a capacity of 2.3MW and a rotor diameter of 101m, and service and maintenance for five years.

Commissioning of the El Arrayán plant is expected in early 2014, supplying power for up to 200,000 households.



## Talurit expanding into China

Talurit AB, a development company in the field of mechanical splicing of wire rope, has recently expanded its activities in Asia by opening the Talurit Ningbo representative office. Thommy Andersson, CEO of Talurit AB explained, "It's a step in the right direction for us and is consistent with our global plan for the Talurit Group. Expansion is a part of business growth and we have been fortunate to constantly increase in sales and demand, all over the world. Our new representative office in China will enable us to better serve the needs of our existing and prospective customers in this market."

The establishment of the new office in China demonstrates the success of Talurit AB's strategy to create business in the Chinese market, with high potential for mechanical splicing of wire rope. "We believe that China will continue growing in importance and be a driver of our future sales," continued Thommy Andersson.

Talurit AB was established in 1948 and has subsidiaries in Germany and the UK. Talurit develops, manufactures, markets and maintains equipment and systems for mechanical splicing systems for wire and wire rope fabricators worldwide.



## Going underground

Power lines for the UK's proposed new Hinkley Point nuclear power station could run underground along with the use of pylons, the National Grid has revealed.

Campaigners have objected to a proposed 50-mile stretch of pylons, saying it would ruin the countryside, but a spokesperson for the National Grid told the Weekly News they were currently carrying out surveys along the route to see what technology could be used. She said: "We are likely to be using a combination of overhead lines and underground cables, but we can't say where or how much it would be." An announcement is expected soon.

An independently commissioned report recently revealed that underground cables could cost five times more than overhead cables. Parsons and Brinckerhoff, endorsed by the Institution of Engineering and Technology, reported that an overhead cable could cost between £2.2million and £4.2million per kilometer, compared to the cost of underground cables at between £10.2million and £24.1million per kilometer.



## Russia preparing smart grid upgrades

Russia's Federal Grid Co "operates the world's largest high-voltage network with 118,045 kilometers (73,350 miles) of electricity transmission lines and 758 substations. The company plans to spend \$6 billion annually over the next five years on renovating and expanding the network," according to Kari Lundgren in Bloomberg Report. The high voltage network crosses 9 time zones and has such economic potential that USAID and the Russian Energy Agency (REA) have signed a Protocol of Intent "to deepen collaboration of energy efficiency, smart grid technology and clean energy."

Russia prime minister Medvedev is clear about his vision for the future of Russia and has proposed using energy efficiency as the driver of economic growth. He has previously committed to the "goal of effectively reducing our economy's energy consumption by almost half." With this commitment, using energy efficiency through smart grid technology to drive Russia to economic growth, the government has made partnerships with several countries, including the US, for the implementation of this vision.



## ABB finally buys Thomas & Betts

ABB has completed its previously announced acquisition of Thomas & Betts.

The acquisition of Thomas & Betts advances ABB's strategy of expanding its low voltage products division into new geographies, sectors and products. The complementary combination of Thomas & Betts' electrical components and ABB's low voltage protection, control and measurement products will create a broader low voltage offering.

In North America, the combination will double ABB's addressable market to approximately \$24 billion. Thomas & Betts has a North American network of over 6,000 distributor locations and wholesalers that will provide greater access for ABB low voltage products. In Europe and Asia, distribution capabilities and coverage will be expanded through ABB's established channels.

"The acquisition of Thomas & Betts furthers our global strategy and provides substantial opportunities to create value for our shareholders" said Joe Hogan, ABB's CEO.



## April 2012 crude steel production

The World Steel Association has revealed that crude steel production for the 62 countries reporting to the World Steel Association was 128 million tonnes (Mt) in April 2012, an increase of 1.2 percent over April 2011. China's production for April 2012 was 60.6 Mt, an increase of 2.6 percent.

Elsewhere in Asia, Japan produced 9.1 Mt of crude steel in April 2012, up by 7.6 percent compared to the same month last year. South Korea's crude steel production for April 2012 was 6 Mt, an increase of 2.1 percent compared to April 2011.

In the EU, Germany produced 3.6 Mt of crude steel in April 2012, a decrease of -5.5 percent on April 2011. Italy's crude steel production for April 2012 was 2.4 Mt, down by -3.2 percent on April 2011. In April 2012, France produced 1.4 Mt of crude steel, a decrease of -1.8 percent compared to April 2011.

Spain's crude steel production for April 2012 was down by -14.3 percent compared to the same month in 2011, with US production up by 9.3 percent on April 2011.



## New facility for ultra-high-tensile fine wire

voestalpine Austria Draht GmbH has expanded its activities in wire processing, acquiring 54 percent of CPA Filament GmbH from the Steinklauber Group. A new production facility for ultra-high-tensile fine wire (up to 0.08mm) is to be developed on the Fürstenfeld site as a joint venture, and will begin operations in late 2012.

"The first expansion stage corresponds to an annual capacity of about 3,000 tons and will create about 40 new jobs in the region," stated head of the railway systems division Franz Kainersdorfer. Additional expansion stages are planned.

voestalpine has materials technology expertise, experience in metallurgical technology, and can take advantage of synergy benefits from the proximity of its own steel plant in Donawitz and the collaboration with the Styrian Steel Association. Steinklauber Group's expertise is as a plant manufacturer and in the production of high-tensile fine wire and cord.



## Solar modules to Bulgaria

China Sunergy has delivered 5MW in solar modules for the Yerussalimovo solar park in Bulgaria. The modules were sold to Mitsubishi International and are being installed and managed by Helios Power. The Yerussalimovo solar plant is located in the vicinity of Yerussalimovo Village, in southern Bulgaria.

Ivo Georgiev, managing director of Solaren Park Bulgaria EAD (a subsidiary of Helios Power), said, "This solar plant is the seventh of a series of PV projects that we plan to develop in the next couple of years. We rely on China Sunergy's efficient products and services to achieve high project performance, and ultimately to guarantee the outcome of investments."

Since the beginning of 2012 China Sunergy has delivered a total of 22.32MW modules to Bulgaria.

# Entrepreneur of the Year goes to the wire



Allied Wire & Cable's co-presidents and co-owners, Tim and Dan Flynn, have been named as finalists in the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2012 program in the Greater Philadelphia region. The award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Awards

will be presented at a special gala on 21<sup>st</sup> June at the Terrace Ballroom of the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia.

Now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year, the Entrepreneur of the Year Program has expanded to recognize business leaders in more than 140 cities in over 50 countries.

Regional award winners are eligible for consideration for the Ernst & Young National

Entrepreneur of the Year Program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the Ernst & Young National Entrepreneur of the Year Overall Award winner, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The awards are the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum.

# Reeling in the custom orders



Elite Sales Inc has acquired a 30-ton reeling machine for custom wire rope orders. The machine is designed to spool wire rope more efficiently than more traditional coiling methods.

The greatest challenge in spooling wire rope is in creating the correct amount of back tension. Back tension has traditionally been created by passing the wire rope through multiple sheaves, tightened by bolts to create the tension, or by

running the rope between two large tires while being spooled. This latter method can cause damage to the rope.

ESI's new 30-ton reeling machine is designed to provide the ideal back tension for wire rope spooling. Even coiling wire rope with winches could lead to uneven coiling and a weak foundation of layers which can result in damaged cables and wire rope.



# IWMA

## New executive manager for IWMA



Andy Lewis is the new executive manager of the International Wire and Machinery Association.

Mr Lewis, 41, started in his new role on 23<sup>rd</sup> May and is already looking forward to the challenges ahead at the world-leading wire and cable association.

The marketing professional, with more than 20 years' experience, has traveled extensively throughout his career and in his last position was responsible for marketing in Europe and the Asia-Pacific regions.

Married to Katherine with two children, Georgina and Joey, the self-confessed sports fan said: "This new role is a really good opportunity for me personally.

"Whilst I have a lot to learn I am looking forward to getting to know people in the IWMA, the industry itself and meeting the challenges which have been set."

IWMA chairman Steve Rika said: "On behalf of the executive board and myself we are delighted to welcome Andy Lewis into the role of Executive Manager of the IWMA. He has a wealth of experience in marketing and is familiar with global travel and I am sure that he is the right man, along with his team, to take the association to the next level. We are eager to start working with him and we wish him well and look forward to a long and enjoyable career with the IWMA."

Mr Lewis' first overseas project for the IWMA will be manning the stand at the forthcoming wire China 2012 from 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September, and a few weeks later in Mumbai, India, for the new Messe Düsseldorf show, Wire & Cable India (30<sup>th</sup> October-1<sup>st</sup> November).

He can be contacted at [andy@iwma.org](mailto:andy@iwma.org) or on +44 1926 834680.

Mr Lewis started in the new position following the retirement of executive secretary Philip Knight.

# wire China

## Dragon Exhibitor Package

The IWMA is offering members a superb package deal for this year's wire China on 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre.

The '**Dragon exhibitor package**' is a 12m<sup>2</sup> (130ft<sup>2</sup>) fitted and carpeted stand at a cost of €4,300, complete with:

- Three leather chairs
- Lockable counter
- Square table
- Waste basket
- Three spotlights
- 1 x 220v power socket
- Fascia with company name (max 20 English/12 Chinese letters)
- Daily stand cleaning
- Prime location in IWMA area
- Meet and greet service at Pudong Airport for a maximum of four people to SNEC area hotels
- Interpreter/Hostess (English/Mandarin)
- Overnight security for items left on IWMA stand
- Free Internet, hospitality, beverages, and additional interpreter service at IWMA stand
- Continuous assistance with preparation and advice via IWMA office
- Free visa invitation letters for anyone booking hotel rooms via Pacific World Shanghai (IWMA official travel agents)

### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**

- Very special room rates at the Eton Hotel, convenient for SNEC via Pacific World Shanghai
- Additional fittings, extra interpreters, meet and greet service to Shanghai city center hotels
- Other stand sizes: 15m<sup>2</sup> €5,250 - 18m<sup>2</sup> €6,300 - 24m<sup>2</sup> €8,150

The Dragon exhibitor package is offered at cost to members, subject to availability, without a management fee. Non-members fee €195 (Includes one year's free membership of IWMA).

# ASIA & AFRICA NEWS

Picture : Alessandro Paiva

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## Southern Steel partners Bekaert

Sector analysts predict long term benefits for Southern Steel Bhd (SSB) following its partnership with Belgian steel wire producer NV Bekaert SA.

The Malaysian steel products manufacturer has formed a joint venture company in Singapore with NV Bekaert to manufacture and sell specified steel wires in the Asean region.

Hwang DBS Vickers Research said that the joint venture will enable SSB to use NV Bekaert's technology to enhance its product range and capture the high-end wire market. "Each party has a different customer base. "There should be cross-selling opportunities within the Asean region. We expect the joint venture to be long-term positive to SSB," said the research unit.

The joint venture will own NV Bekaert's galvanized and multi-coated wire business

in Indonesia currently undertaken by Indonesian subsidiary, PT Bekaert Indonesia. SSB will have a 45% stake, with the remainder held by Bekaert.

Hwang DBS Vickers Research said the sale of Southern Speciality Wire and Southern Wire Industries should not have a significant impact to SSB's earnings although the original costs of investment and the book value of the two subsidiaries were not disclosed. "We understand the two subsidiaries, which manufacture steel wires, wire ropes, welding and galvanized wire, are currently incurring losses due to low utilization and uncompetitive product offerings," said the research unit.

OSK Research said with the joint venture, SSB would be moving up the value chain and have the opportunity to expand its steel wire manufacturing and sale business.

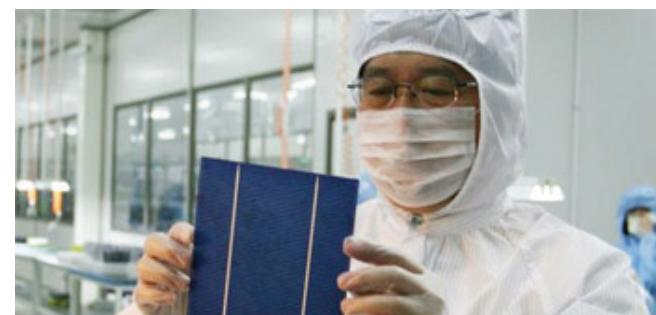


## Automation in warehousing

AMEInfo reports that Bahra Cables Co Ltd is to open a new automated storage facility, utilizing the latest storage and products classification technologies.

The 10,000m<sup>2</sup> warehouse can accommodate over 19,000 pallets, in addition to 2,500 pallets in an air-conditioned and temperature controlled storage area. Machinery and spare parts for the company's production operations and 5,000 cable drums will also be accommodated.

The first stage of the new storage will be opened in early June, with the second stage in use by the end of the year.



## South Africa places anti-dumping charges

An anti-dumping duty has been imposed on imports of screws from China following an investigation by a South African trade authority that found they were causing local manufacturers "material injury". The anti-dumping measures are seen as an extension of existing measures against Chinese manufacturers of nuts and bolts.

The International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (Itac) completed its preliminary investigation into the import of fully threaded screws with hexagonal heads (excluding stainless steel screws) from China, and introduced an anti-dumping duty of 104.5 percent to protect the industry in the interim. It will now finalize the investigation.

The application for the investigation was brought by South African Fasteners Manufacturers' Association, an industry body that represents 80 percent of the production volumes in the Southern African Customs Union. In July 2011 the South African Fasteners Manufacturers' Association submitted evidence to Itac on *prima facie* proof of dumping.



## Solar panels for Arizona

The Japanese electronics company Kyocera Corp has begun shipment of 34 megawatts of solar panels for a 127-megawatt project in southwest Arizona. Kyocera is making the panels at its San Diego factory and the company's Kyocera Solar unit expects to complete the order for the Arlington Valley Solar Energy II project in March 2013.

LS Power Group is developing the solar farm, which will span 1,160 acres (469 hectares) and is scheduled to begin producing electricity late next year. Sempra Energy (SRE)'s San Diego Gas & Electric will purchase the power.



## National Network growing with Corning

Corning Cable Systems has established a new manufacturing plant in Victoria, Australia, following the confirmation of an important National Broadband Network Co contract.

Federal member for Hotham and minister for regional Australia, Simon Crean, said: "The people of Hotham can be proud that the fiber made here will be shipped right across Australia, helping build the NBN and allowing regional and rural Australia to access the same broadband services at the same price as the rest of the country for the first time."

Between 16,000 to 18,000 jobs are said to have been created by the National Broadband Network Co project.



## MESC to supply its own PVC

Middle East Specialized Cables Company (MESC), a manufacturer of instrumentation and control cables based in Riyadh, has established a new plant for the production of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) products.

At the factory's inauguration ceremony Eng Abdulaziz Al Namlah, chairman and board executive director of MESC, said that "the reasons behind setting up a PVC compound plant in Riyadh-KSA is to cover the needs and requirements of all MESC plants and to have a steady supply of raw material that is up to the international standards."

The PVC plant has a dedicated laboratory of test and measurement equipment to international standards. This plant will not only meet the PVC requirements of all MESC plants, but it will serve and supply some of the local and international markets. The production capacity of the plant is expected to exceed 36,000 tons per year.



## Tanzania and Seychelles linked underwater

A brief ceremony to lay the first inch of the almost 2,000-kilometer underwater cable to run underwater between Tanzania and Seychelles was organized in Dar es Salaam in the presence of the Seychelles minister for natural resources and industry, Peter Sinon, and the island's honorary consul to Tanzania, Ms Maryvonne Pool. The event marked the launch of the first fiber optic submarine cable to the Seychelles.

The Alcatel Submarine Ship (ASN) will lay the submarine optic fiber system under the coordination and management of the Seychelles East Africa System (SEAS), linked to the EASSy fiber optic cable already on the coast of the African continent.

SEAS has been built by Seychelles Cable Systems Limited through funding from Seychelles government, Cable and Wireless (Seychelles), and the mobile phone company Airtel.



## South Africa approves power plans

South Africa has approved 19 wind, solar and hydropower-plant proposals costing 28 billion rand (\$3.4 billion).

The Department of Energy received 79 bids in the second round of bids, 51 of which met the qualification criteria. Minister Dipuo Peters announced in a speech in Pretoria, bidding for a maximum capacity of 1,275 megawatts. This is in addition to the 28 plants to generate 1,416 megawatts that were approved in December 2011.

In August 2011 South Africa announced it is looking to add a total of 3,725 megawatts by the end of 2016: the entire program will cost an estimated 100 billion rand. The country is expanding its capacity after state utility Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd, which generates most of its power from coal, ran short in 2008.

Costs proposed in the second round declined while the proportion of equipment and services sourced locally rose as bids became more competitive, Energy Department director-general Nelisiwe Magubane revealed. The average cost for solar photovoltaic plants dropped to 1,645 rand a megawatt-hour in the second round from 2,758 rand in the first.



## SRC production expansion

Blind rivet manufacturer SRC Group (Special Rivets Corp Group) is to establish a third plant in Jiashan, Zhejiang, China to expand its production capacity. SRC was established in 1983 and has developed a product range that includes blind rivets, high strength and structural rivets, blind nuts and insert nuts, air and hand riveting tools.

The third plant, located in Jiashan, is already under construction and expected to be completed in spring 2013. The 50 acre site is anticipated to produce over 700 million blind rivets per month.

"Though we have a large production capacity, we still cannot meet the demand from our customers. Hence, we decide to establish a third plant in Jiashan, Zhejiang province, in which we will produce our competitive products like blind rivets, rivet nuts and high quality riveting tools," said Mr Chang, vice general manager of SRC.



# PRODUCTS & TECHNOLOGY MACHINES

## Turbine cables at Windpower 2012

Helukabel USA will be attending the Windpower 2012 conference and exhibition in Atlanta during June, showcasing its range of wind cables and accessories for equipping an entire turbine from rotor tip to tower base.



Developed and tested to provide a service life of over 20 years, the Heluwind WK-series is constructed using specially stranded copper or finely stranded, flexible aluminum and conductor/jacket insulation compounds that are believed to be unique. The WK-series is designed to offer high resistance to torsional stress, a wide operating temperature range, low surface adhesion/abrasion, global approvals (UL / CSA / VDE / CE) as well as approval for use on- and off-shore.

Helukabel will also display its enhanced JZ 603 and JZ 603-CY control cables, which recently received certification from both the CCC (China) and Gost-R (Russia) for use in their countries. These additional approvals add to the existing certifications received from the UL (US), CSA (Canada) and HAR (Europe).

Helukabel's flexibly-screened or unscreened, wind turbine TC-rated cables are suited for transmitting data and power to the operating components within the turbine's nacelle and tower base. Protected by PVC, PUR or TPE outer jackets, the Traycontrol series has been TC-ER, PLTC-ER, and ITC-ER approved for open installation. Additionally, the cables are oil resistant, passing Oil Res I and II, flame retardant according to the FT4 flame test, and compliant with NFPA 79 2007 standards.

## High speed I/O cabling

FCI, a manufacturer of connectors and interconnect systems, has launched a new line of high-speed I/O cabling solutions. XLerate™ is available in bandwidths from 10Gbs up to 120Gbs, and FCI is believed to be the first supplier to offer the complete range of speeds in both copper and fiber optic options.

"FCI's XLerate I/O cabling solutions provide the highest bandwidth per port and the highest hardware faceplate port density," said Rob Poort, general manager, optical solutions group, FCI.



The XLerate portfolio comprises copper and fiber optic solutions for aggregated bandwidth ranging from 10Gbs up to 120 Gbs in various industry standard-compliant interfaces. The product line is said to simplify the design process by providing a limited number of discrete components in the link.

Plug-and-play XLerate cabling supports both Infiniband and Ethernet protocols and provides a closed optical system for worker safety as well as to protect the cable from dust contamination. The assemblies are 100 percent final tested, and assembled in a clean room environment.

#### Cables for demanding environments

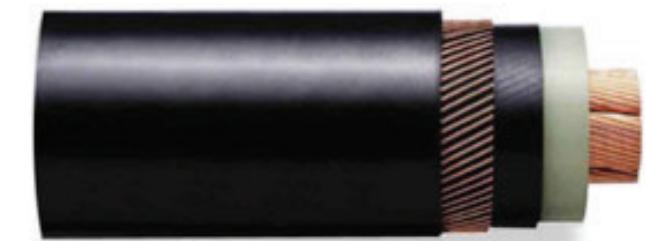
Habiatron from Habia Cable is a range of radiation-tolerant cables for the nuclear power industry. The high performance, halogen-free, low smoke and toxicity, thin wall and small dimension LOCA Class 1E safety cables are qualified to 60 years of service life according to IEEE 383:1974 (IEEE 383:2003 qualification pending).

Habia Cable's portfolio includes high performance wire, custom design cables and interconnection systems for the world defense market, supplying cables for varied applications such as armored fighting vehicles, weapon systems, soldier systems, naval, airframe and communication systems.

Habia's standard and custom multicore signal, power and data cables, including coaxial and databus cables, meet the demanding requirements of in-theater

handling and environmental conditions, and will be on display at the UK Ministry of Defence's "The Event" on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June.

#### UV resistant XLPE cables



Orange high-voltage XLPE cables used in the automotive industry have historically been unsuitable for exposure to direct sunlight. The need for UV resistant high-voltage power cables has been rapidly increasing in military, construction, mining and agricultural equipment where exposure to direct sunlight is common. Champlain Cable Corporation's new EXAR 150FX-UV product is said to solve this problem. "We're excited to have developed this feature. We see significant opportunities for this technology and have already had strong interest in the marketplace. Our independent third-party testing partner has validated that this is a significant improvement over any competing products on the market," enthused Richard Antic, vice president, business development at Champlain Cable.

#### Solar PV wire from AIMS



AIMS Power has introduced the AIMS Power PV 10 AWG

PV 600V UL listed wire. The PV wire is stranded, with a sunlight resistant black jacket, for use in PV arrays, wind applications and hydroelectric systems.

PV wire is an essential component to any solar power system. AIMS Power is working toward a complete solution for solar power systems, which will be scalable and easily deployed. "Our goal is to offer a complete solar power solution that can be delivered anywhere on the globe," said Sean Nichols, VP of sales at AIMS Power.

#### Labeling for true sequential footage



Cerro Wire's large print Max Print® wire labeling system is available on all sizes of its True Sequential Footage™ sequentially printed cables. Max Print enables contractors to easily identify the wire manufacturer and size and view the sequential footage in large print, making installation and inspection easier and faster.

With Max Print, gauge size is printed 300 percent larger than standard labeling. This makes it easier and quicker to read the gauge size, which reduces errors and aids in the inspection process, and can be a great advantage in warehouses and job sites where lighting is an issue. Max Print is available on 1 AWG – 750 MCM THHN-2/THWN-2 products.

Max Print is used in conjunction with Cerrowire's True Sequential Footage, a sequentially printed cable reel that uses a footage mark to document remaining wire, beginning with zero at the bottom of the reel and ending with the finished length at the top. The accurate footage mark allows for quick identification of the re-order point, guaranteeing the full purchased wire length and reducing random lengths.

True Sequential Footage uses Doppler lasers to ensure precision far more accurate than a mechanical counter. The non-contact capabilities allow for zero slip and zero wear compared to a contact counter during the cutting process. Cerrowire's measurement system is said to produce an accuracy of better than plus or minus half one percent.

#### Asheridge picks Entropic

Fabless semiconductor company Entropic Communications' MoCA silicon and software product is to power the echoBox, an Ethernet-over-coax network adapter offered by European equipment maker Asheridge Communications.

Using Entropic's MoCA technology, the echoBox is designed to distribute high-speed video and data around the home by using unused frequency space on the same coax cable that carries the DVB-T signal or cable TV signal. With its plug-and-play connection, the echoBox turns any home with a coax cable network into a wired Ethernet network, compliant

of streaming HD content and high-speed data.

While consumers get home entertainment networking between all CE devices with the fastest performance and video and data delivery connectivity, home installers gain from the ability to eliminate Wi-Fi dead spots with Wi-Fi extension and ability to connect up to sixteen devices on the same network within the home. The echoBox is currently available in Europe through Asheridge Communications' home installer network.

#### **Initial 2G HTS wire testing complete**

Superconductor Technologies Inc (STI), a developer and producer of high temperature superconducting (HTS) materials and associated technologies, has announced that Nexans has completed testing of STI's high performance second-generation (2G) HTS wire samples. Nexans confirmed the wire met the company's critical current objective for its HTS AC power cable applications by carrying greater than 500 Amps per centimeter width at 77 Kelvin.

"Nexans' independent wire performance verification represents an important milestone for our 2G HTS wire initiative," said Jeff Quiram, STI's president and CEO. "We believe that the success of these initial tests is another indication that our wire technology development is on track to meet the demanding needs of future transmission cable projects."

"Nexans possesses over a decade of superconducting cable experience and has implemented numerous HTS cable installations. We are eager to continue our work with Nexans to meet its requirements for high performance 2G HTS wire," Quiram added.



Superconducting high power transmission cables transmit five to twenty times the electrical power of traditional copper or aluminum cables with much improved efficiency. The benefits of applications utilizing HTS cable technology include the reduction in substation footprint requirements, and achievement of higher power throughput in congested rights of way, thereby eliminating the requirement to retrofit existing duct banks and high load connections between distribution substations or to high capacity users.

#### **Introducing aluminum DC feeder cable**

USA Wire and Cable has announced the immediate availability of aluminum photovoltaic wire in sizes for DC feeder cable runs between combiner box and inverter station. The company has also

created the USA Solar Solutions group to provide solutions and service for lowering cost per watt for contractors, developers and owners.

It is claimed that growth in solar project development, and aluminum production labor strikes, are leading to long lead times for aluminum cable. With some factories quoting lead times of 20 weeks or more, utility-scale customers can keep projects on track, without delay, by accessing USAWC's PV 2KV aluminum direct burial cable in sizes 1/0AWG, 4/0AWG, 350KCMIL and 500KCMIL. All other sizes can be available in four to six weeks.

The cable is constructed with sunlight-resistant RHH/RHW-2 cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) insulation, and compact stranded 8030 aluminum alloy conductor. It is UL 4703 listed, direct burial, CT rated, 90°C wet or dry and VW-1 flame test compliant.

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