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Interwire's touchdown in Atlanta











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BETA LaserMike

Measured by Commitment

EDITOR

Two long years it may have been in the planning, but the anticipation was clear for all to see before the start of this year's Interwire last month.

On that opening Tuesday morning, attendees and exhibitors alike – some of which only meet up at exhibitions around the world – had been talking, meeting socially and all looking forward to America's largest and most important wire and cable exhibition.

Thanks largely to the lady greeting them at the doors of the Georgia World Congress Center, they were whipped into a partial frenzy as they headed inside on day one. Her enthusiasm in greeting everyone clearly had the desired effect as the escalators swelled to carry the early birds inside.

And as the hustle and bustle of the day continued, she was quick to grasp the mood, ensuring that everyone passing her had a smile on his or her face. The numbers may well have been similar to those of two years ago, but it was clear to see that this show plays a major part in the calendar.

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#23







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Products, Machines and Technology
The latest news from machine industries



DIARY SHOW EVENTS

2013

JUNE

16-18 June: **Guangzhou Wire and Tube**Guangzhou, China
Exhibition
www.julang.com.cn

25-28 June: wire Russia 2013
Moscow, Russia
Exhibition
www.wire-russia.com

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

1-3 October: wire South America São Paulo, Brazil Exhibition www.wiresa.com.br

NOVEMBER

3-5 November: Cabwire 2013
Milan, Italy
Conference
www.cabwire.com

10-13 November: **IWCS** Charlotte, NC, USA Conference www.iwcs.org

OPTICAL FIBRES

Measurement Instruments

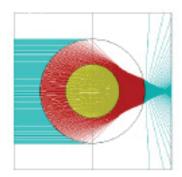
LIS-G: Laser Interferometric Sensor for Glass fibre

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NCTM: Drawing force

Birefringence principle

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CM5:

Coating Monitor 5 axes

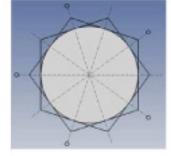
Diameter, lump & neck, defects detection, coating

asymmetry

Absolute diameter: ± 0,15%, 50-400µm, 400Hz

Lump & Neck: ±2µm, 500kHz Internal defect detection: 400 kHz

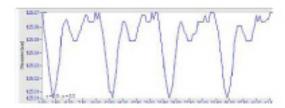
(Airlines, bubbles, inclusions, delaminations...)



CIM PC

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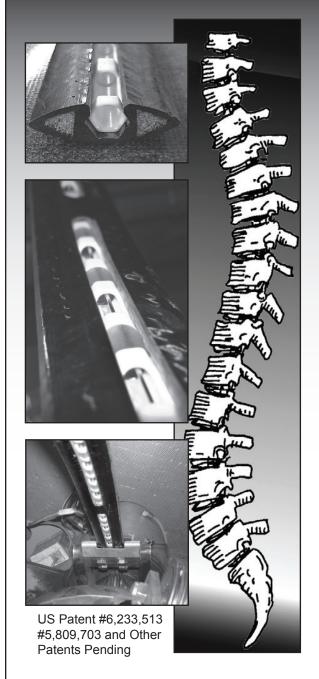
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MAKING TIHENES



Interwire shines in Atlanta

Atlanta played host to Interwire last month, the largest wire and cable exhibition in the US.

More than 4,000 people were at the three-day show at the Georgia World Congress Center, as more than 400 exhibitors set out their stalls for the biennial event.

Whilst out on the floor companies flocked from all corners of the globe, there was a whole host of activities going off behind the scenes, ranging from the golf tournament and charity 5k run to plant tours and a keynote speech from Pittsburgh Steeler star Hines Ward.

Two stalwarts of the industry were also recognized by organizers the Wire Association International with the Mordica Award and the Donnellan Award.

The late Thomas W Tyl was named winner of the Mordica Memorial Award, which honours individuals for their technical contributions to the wire and cable industry. Mr Tyl was principal at Tire Wire Technology until his untimely death in July 2011, and his son, Jeff Tyl, gave the Mordica Lecture.

And Erik Macs, an outgoing and active member of the WAI, was presented the Donnellan Award marking an individual's contribution to the organization. Mr Macs has recently taken up the position of vice president of sales for Progressive Machinery Inc, Ontario, Canada.

An opening reception was also held on the Tuesday night for exhibitors at this year's event.



The world's largest man-made excavation, Rio Tinto's open-cast Bingham Canyon Mine, has been closed by an enormous landslide that smashed roads and buildings and left two-thirds of the pit base buried

Nobody was hurt in the collapse at the mine, run by Kennecott Utah Copper, chiefly because workers had been evacuated following several weeks of warning signs that the ground was becoming unstable.

According to The Salt Lake City Tribune, Rio Tinto-Kennecott spokesman Kyle Bennett revealed: "We started noticing movement in that part of the mine in February." The mine is constantly monitored for movement and indications were that the mine's wall was slipping a millimeter or so each day.

By 10th April mine engineers observed movement of up to 5cm per day and moved all 37 workers from the bottom of the vast open mine. The company also warned nearby residents nearby that a slide was possible.

"All of our employees are safe and accounted for," Bennett confirmed.

Bingham Canyon Mine has been in production since 1906, and features a pit almost 1km deep and 4km wide.



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The Quality Connection

LEONI

SUPER CONDUCTOR -SHAME ABOUT THE FINANCE

Further problems for Superconductor Technologies Inc have led the company to disclose substantial financing problems. The company, which moved its headquarters from California to Austin early last year, reported a loss of \$10.9 million on revenue of \$3.5 million for 2012, with a negative cash flow from operations for the year of \$8.2 million.

The company also stated an accumulated deficit of \$262 million since its foundation in 1987.

"Our cash resources will not be sufficient to fund our business for the next 12 months," the company said in its filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Because of the uncertainty of these factors we will need to raise funds to meet our working capital needs... If we cannot raise any needed funds, we might be forced to make further substantial reductions in our operating expenses, which could adversely affect our ability to implement our current business plan and ultimately our viability as a company.

"These factors raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern."

The company, which describes itself as "a world leader in the development and production of high-temperature superconducting materials," is in the process of having its wire qualified for a variety of electric-power-related equipment.

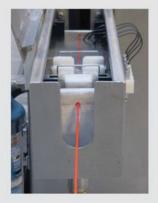
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CTC Global has entered into a formal business relationship with General Cable to manufacture high-capacity, low-sag ACCC® conductors for electric utilities in the US and Canada. The collaboration will allow CTC Global to utilize General Cable's manufacturing capabilities and expertise to produce the conductor, already deployed at over 250 project sites worldwide.

General Cable began working with CTC in 2004. Since General Cable's acquisition of Alcan Cable in 2012, the company has become a leading manufacturer of electrical utility cables in North America and is among the largest in the world.

"We are pleased to re-establish our relationship with CTC," said Jay Lahman, vice president and general manager, General Cable Electric Utility Products. "General Cable and CTC are both committed to delivering innovative cable technology to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of power delivery."

Jason Huang, CEO of CTC Global, stated: "We are excited to once again work with General Cable. We believe their experience and production capacity will help make the ACCC conductor the ubiquitous conductor solution for new and reconductor projects worldwide."



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New alliance for copper and fiber

Nexans company, Berk-Tek and Leviton have announced the creation of the Berk-Tek Leviton Technologies (BLT) alliance. The combination of Leviton's extensive connectivity portfolio with the performance of Berk-Tek's cables creates a copper and fiber provider to offer customers a range of options for high-performance networks

The BLT alliance extends beyond marketing to include product development and manufacturing as well as joint sales and support. Together, Berk-Tek and Leviton are determined to deliver the highest performance pre-terminated copper and optical fiber solutions for data centers, capitalizing on both firms' capabilities.

The scope of BLT is the United States and Canada as well as global customers that demand consistent performance across all their networks. Both companies are mutually represented in the United States through local sales representative companies.

"We are pleased to align with Leviton, whose enterprise and data center solutions combined with their expanded global reach allow us to provide exceptional value to our customers and channel partners," stated Paul Trunk, president of Berk-Tek and vice president and general manager of Nexans LAN division North America.

Ross Goldman, vice president and general manager of Leviton Network Solutions, added: "Together we offer customers, contractors and distributors a best-of-breed solution, outstanding value, industry-leading technology, support and quality."

BLT projects will be backed by a limited lifetime warranty and supported through an integrated contractor program.





Superconductor Technologies Inc (STI) exhibited its Conductus® superconducting wire in SuperConductingCity at Hanover Messe World Trade Fair during April. Hanover Messe is believed to be the largest energy trade show worldwide, focusing on topics such as renewable and conventional power generation, power supply, transmission, distribution and storage.

SuperConductingCity is the world's leading showcase for the superconductor industry. In electric generation and distribution applications, superconducting lines are much more efficient than conventional copper line systems because they can carry 100 times the current at practically zero resistance, incurring minimal losses.

Superconductors lend themselves well to power engineering applications in areas such as ship propulsion systems, wind turbines, power distribution grids and superconducting current limiters for power grid protection.



Geothermal system linked to grid

Ormat Technologies Inc, a US developer of renewable power projects, has increased output at a Nevada geothermal plant with the first commercial use of technology developed to tap underground energy sources that would be inaccessible using traditional systems.

Ormat increased the capacity of its Desert Peak 2 facility in Nevada by about 38 percent, or 1.7 megawatts, according to a statement from the US energy department.

In enhanced geothermal systems, water is injected into the ground, either at aging power plants where the steam resource has been depleted or at sites where there are hot rocks and no steam. Once heated, the water is piped back to the surface to make power.

Desert Peak is the first commercial plant connected to the US power grid to use enhanced geothermal systems. The US Geological Survey estimates the technology may eventually enable the development of as much as 500GW of capacity in the country.





Integra adds to fiber optic network

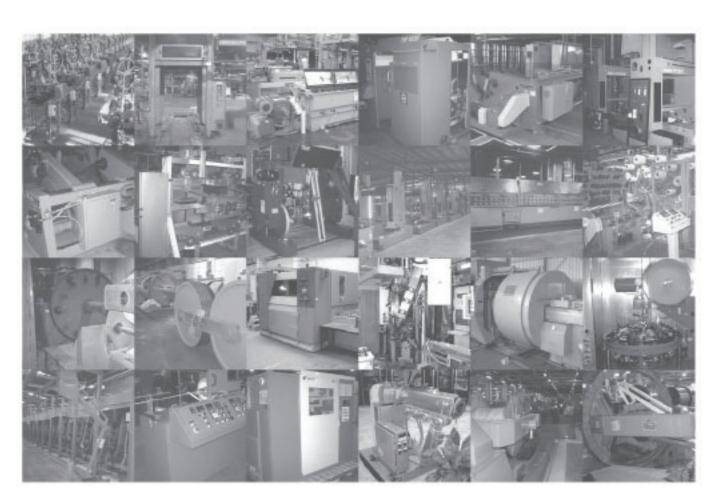
Network service provider Integra has selected packet optical transport and packet networking platforms from Ciena Corp to add 100Gbps capability to its long-haul network. The service provider will offer low-latency 100Gbps services to enterprise and wholesale customers.

Integra's infrastructure includes a 5,000 mile long-haul fiber optic network, 3,000 miles of metro fiber, and a nationwide IP/MPLS network. It selected Ciena to supply the 100G technology, identifying "its advanced technology capabilities, future product roadmap, and commitment to operational efficiency," according to a company press release.

"Integra selects vendors that align with our long-term goals for

network expansion and market growth. Ciena's platforms are very well suited to our business strategy," said Jason Koenders, seniorvice president, engineering and network planning at Integra.

The company will use Ciena's 6500 packet optical series for long-haul and metro network integration. The systems will enable Integra's Wavelength services to provide up to a 15 percent latency reduction and very high bandwidth. As part of the initial roll out, Integra will target large enterprises that require reliable, secure, and data-intensive network services in markets such as Seattle, Portland, Santa Clara, Phoenix, and Las Vegas.



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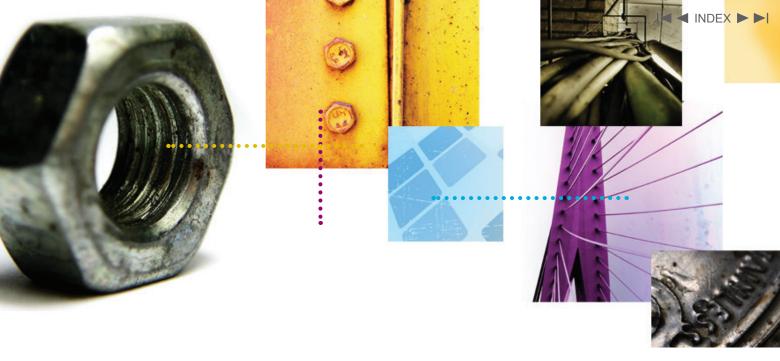
FTTH drives opex savings

A recent study by RVA LLC for the Fiber to the Home Council Americas indicates that small and medium-sized carriers in North America have seen an average annual operational expenditure (opex) savings of 20.4 percent. The study included input from over 350 fiber optic network service providers across North America.

"This latest survey shows not only the continued build-out of high-bandwidth fiber to the home networks in North America, but also provides one reason why hundreds of small and medium-sized telcos have been upgrading to fiber it saves them real money in the long run," said Heather Burnett Gold, the FTTH Council's president.

RVA and the council report that, at the end of March 2013, the number of North American homes with access to services from FTTH networks had grown 17.6 percent, to 22.7 million, since the same time last year. North America's FTTH subscriber count has increased to 9.7 million. Verizon and Canada's Bell Aliant are the two largest FTTH players, but the council has identified almost 600 small and medium-sized telephone companies and nearly 100 municipalities using FTTH to some extent.

"While it is clear from our survey that many prospective FTTH providers continue to face funding difficulties and regulatory uncertainty, many are still finding ways to upgrade to all-fiber because doing so reduces their maintenance costs and strengthens their opportunities to expand their subscriber base and offer customers more services," said Michael Render, president of RVA.



Fiber optics in Illinois

Illinois Fiber Resources Group (iFiber - a coalition of local government, university and not-for-profit organizations) is deploying Ciena Corporation's converged packet optical and packet networking platforms throughout its regional fiber optic network in northwestern Illinois.

The deployment will provide Community Anchor Institutions in previously underserved locations with advanced ethernet service delivery and a cost-effective means to transport data services at speeds of up to 100G and beyond.

"With iFiber, we intend to bring economic development and information exchange to community anchors and, ultimately, with the help of ISPs, businesses and homes, at speeds not possible with the existing infrastructure,"

said John L Lewis, chairman of the iFiber board of directors.

"Ciena has been a key contributor to this project from the onset, providing design and consultation services, as well as a full suite of 100G coherent optical transport and packet networking capabilities that allow us to meet the needs of underserved cities, counties and commercial entities throughout the region," he continued.

Chad Whalen, vice president and general manager of Ciena's North America field operations, said: "iFiber is a great example of government, education and the private sector coming together to bring broadband connectivity and economic opportunity to their local communities."

Superconductor technology moves on?



GE Power Conversion may have developed a new component for direct drive wind turbines with its announcement of the successful trial of a high-temperature superconductor (HTS) generator called Hydrogenie.

Compared to conventional generators of similar power rating, HTS enables compact generator units with much reduced mass. The greatest benefits in terms of size and mass are for high-torque electric machines such as direct-drive wind turbine generators.

Several other international parties are working on HTS technology, including US-based AMSC with its 10MW direct-drive turbine, SeaTitan.

GE's Hydrogenie uses superconductors operating at 43 Kelvin (-230°C) instead of common generator rotor winding copper wires. According to GE developers, superconductivity could until recently only be achieved at around 4 Kelvin (-269°C).

The new superconductors exhibit the phenomenon at substantially higher temperatures, requiring less-complex insulation systems and less powerful cooling devices.

They are manufactured by depositing a superconducting ceramic layer onto a relatively cheap base metal.

As there is virtually no electrical resistance at -230°C, the cross-section of the wires can be reduced to around 2 percent of that of a copper wire of similar capacity. As a result, many more windings can be fitted into an electromagnet – hence a compact, lightweight design.

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Elgin secures Vegas Fastener

Elgin Fastener Group (EFG) has completed its acquisition of Vegas Fastener Manufacturing of Las Vegas, Nevada. Founded in 1998, Vegas Fastener Manufacturing operates a range of forging presses, computer-controlled turning centers, vertical CNC mills, and CNC bar feeders.

Jeff Liter, EFG CEO, said: "The acquisition of Vegas Fastener Manufacturing represents a major advancement in EFG's goal to become the premier North American supplier of specialty fasteners. The experience and reputation that Vegas Fastener has developed in the production of high quality fasteners from exotic materials, for some of the most demanding applications in our industry, takes us to a new level of supplier recognition in the specialty fastener market."

Elgin Fastener Group now comprises nine domestic specialty fastener manufacturers: Ohio Rod Products, Leland Powell Fasteners, Chandler Products, Silo Fasteners, Landreth Fastener, Quality Bolt and Screw, Northern Wire, Telefast Industries, and Vegas Fastener Manufacturing, as well as the metal finishing company, Best Metal Finishing.





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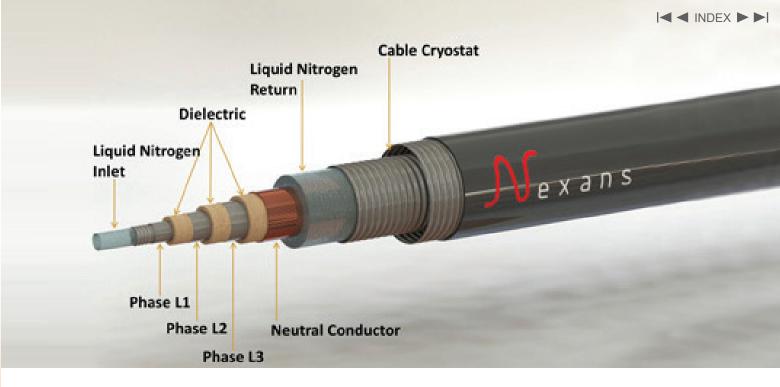
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Superconductor in Essen

What is believed to be the longest superconductor installation in the world has been announced by Nexans. Testing has been completed on a 10kV HTS system, part of the AmpaCity project.

The 1km long, three-phase, concentric cable is designed to transport 40MW and was produced at the company's superconductors plant at Huerth. It will replace a 110kV copper cable in the RWE-operated distribution network in the city of Essen at the end of the year.

The combination of a superconductor cable with a resistive superconducting fault current limiter is also a first for the industry. The device protects the grid and the cable from overloading caused by short circuit currents, and prevents them from spreading to other network parts.

"The superconductor cable being laid in Essen city centre runs between two transformer stations and is the first to have a length of one kilometer. It will facilitate a discernible increase in the power density and efficiency of the city centre power supply," said Dr Andreas Breuer, head of the new technologies and projects division at RWE Deutschland AG.

Christof Barklage, CEO of Nexans Deutschland, added: "This project could revolutionize the power networks. We are happy to be among the pioneers in this fascinating, trend-setting technology."



Manufacturer calls for plastics ban

Richard Shaw, managing director of North Yorkshire, UK-based cable cleat manufacturer Ellis, has called on the electrical industry to ban the use of plastic products as the sole means of cable support in areas where fallen cables may put lives at risk.

Shaw's call was prompted by the coroner's report into the deaths of two fire fighters in 2010, and in 2005 fire fighter Jeff Wornham died in similar circumstances.

Recommendations made by the HM Coroner following Mr Wornham's death called for the removal of plastic trunking and conduit, drawing attention to part of the Building Regulations act: "Methods of cable support should be such that circuit integrity will not be reduced below that afforded by the cable used, and should withstand a similar temperature and duration to that of the cable, while maintaining adequate support."

"In effect, this recommendation precluded the use of plastic cable clips, cable ties or trunking, where these products are the sole means of cable support," stressed Shaw, adding his wish that: "All cables, not just fire alarm cables, are supported by fire-resistant cable supports."



Belarusian Steel to double exports

Belarusian Steel Works is to export 1,800 tonnes of wire to Singapore, for use in high-pressure hoses. This is twice the amount exported during 2011, the company's press secretary, Alexander Olesik, has revealed.

Between January and March, Belarusian Steel Works exported 168 tonnes of different types of wire to Singapore. The products are sent to the Bel-Kap-Steel Company and then transported to the Aeroquip facility, owned by the American company Eaton.

Belarusian Steel Works has been cooperating with Eaton for 15 years. Wire has been delivered to the company's production departments since 1999, and to its facility since 2004. From around 300 tonnes per year the export reached 900 tonnes in 2012. Eaton awarded the Best Supplier title to Belarusian Steel Works in recognition of its quality of products, supply logistics and quick response to consumer needs.

Belarusian Steel Works, which employs around 12,000 workers, is the managing company of Belarusian Metallurgical Company.



Continued growth in MENA markets

The market for insulated wire and cable in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) has seen highs and lows in recent years. The rally in oil prices from the mid-2000s to 2008 fueled a boom in demand for cable from construction and infrastructure developments in the Gulf regions, resulting in many companies adding cable making capacity. Meanwhile, European OEMs actively invested in North Africa's wiring harness assembly industry, boosting local wire and cable consumption.

Since the boom, the MENA cable industry has faced upheavals from both the Arab Spring and global financial crisis, resulting in new capacity coinciding with a sharp drop in demand for cable. Since the lows of 2009, when consumption contracted by 28 percent year-on-year to \$8.4 billion, the MENA wire and cable market has steadily recovered to reach \$15.4 billion in 2012.

"Despite ongoing challenges, especially the threat of further unrest, the outlook for the MENA cable market to 2017 is promising," commented Andrea Valentini, senior analyst and editor of a recent Integer Research wire and cable report.



Helukabel expands into Canada

Cable and wire manufacturer Helukabel has opened its Canadian headquarters in Mississauga, Ontario. The new facility will house the Canadian corporate, sales, warehousing and distribution operations.

"Canada's continued industrial and renewable energy expansion made adding a domestic distribution center a logical choice to further enhance our services to the market," says Alex Kanouni, general manager of Helukabel Canada.

When sales operations began in Canada in 2008, products were shipped from the firm's US-based distribution center in Elgin, Illinois. Now, with the opening of the new warehouse, 600 line items, including Helukabel's TrayControl 600, TrayControl 530, TopFlex 600 VFD, JZ-602, and JZ-603, will be available for immediate shipment. Customers will also enjoy the added convenience of receiving quotes and purchasing product in Canadian dollars and based on meter length measurements.

Helukabel has over 30 years of industry experience in the field of cable and wire, specialty cable and cable accessories, and employs around 800 people worldwide.



Submarine cable goes on show

ABB exhibited a section of the world's highest-rated three-core submarine cable at this year's Hannover Messe. The AC cable will be installed on the "Little Belt", the strait between the Danish island of Fünen and the Jutland peninsula, which links the North and Baltic seas.

In conjunction with a 420kV land cable system, the submarine cable will replace an overhead transmission line route. This is part of a project initiated by the government to replace overhead lines in ecologically sensitive areas.

The order from Energinet was to deliver and install the cable system, comprising a total of 30km of 420kV single-core underground cables and 15km of the 420kV three-core cable. Two submarine cables will be laid in parallel, each of them able to transmit over 500MW. ABB is also responsible for the cable termination and for the sea cable laying.

The completed project will be the world's highest-rated three-core submarine cable system.



\$150 million power order

ABB has won an order from China, said to be worth around \$150 million. The contract is for the supply of converter transformers, DC filter capacitors and key components for converter valves for what is thought to be the world's highest capacity power link.

Due for completion in 2014, the 8,000MW Xiluodu-Zhexi link will be capable of transmitting the equivalent energy of eight large power plants and supplying 40 billion kilowatt hours of electricity per year – enough to meet the needs of over 11 million Chinese consumers.

The UHVDC transmission connection will transport hydropower over a distance of 1,670km, from Yibin in southwest China to Zhejiang province on the east coast. As part of the transmission process, converter transformers provide a critical interface between the DC link and the AC network.



Excel moves up

Excel Networking Solutions, a copper and optical cabling infrastructure provider, has been identified as the UK's second largest supplier of copper cabling systems.

The BSRIA 2013 structured cabling report for the UK shows that Excel is one of a few manufacturers to increase its market share, from 15 percent to 17 percent, at the same time moving from third to second position in the rankings.

Excel was also reported as the number one supplier of copper cable for the second year, with a total market share of 24 percent – an increase of 2 percent over the previous year.

The company has increased its multimode fiber market share by 1 percent and is within the top four UK manufacturers of fiber cable.

Commenting on the report, Andrew Percival, managing director, said: "We are absolutely delighted with the results; 2012 was a significant year for Excel and saw some great projects come to fruition... I would like to thank the entire Excel team, and most importantly our customers, for the ongoing support which has made this announcement possible."



Ordnance identification tender

German grid operator, 50Hertz Offshore GmbH is inviting tenders for the provision of underwater ordnance identification services for offshore Germany.

The project includes extensive tracking to identify anomalies in the ferromagnetic area of the planned subsea cable routes from landfall in Lubmin, the priority area for wind energy, west of Adlergrund. The width of the corridor exploration area is up to 40m, in water depths ranging from zero to 40m.

Also included in the scope of work are analysis and interpretation of data, representation of anomalies in maps and lists of objects detailing the volume, diameter, shape and depth of each object.

The contract is divided into lots, and tenders may be submitted for part or the entire contract. Work is expected to take two months from the date of awarding the contract.



IWMA

Heading for Milan...

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Co-organisers of this year's CabWire are once again joining forces ahead of this year's conference at the Palazzo Turati in Milan, Italy, on Monday, 4th November.

This year's theme will be 'Innovations driving worldwide wire and cable markets' and will feature a panel of both ferrous and non-ferrous expert speakers, presenting the latest technological developments within the industry.

A number of opportunities are available for anyone wishing to attend the conference, including:

- A range of sponsorship opportunities from as little as €250
- Tabletop exhibit displays where you can promote your own company's products and services.

The tabletop exhibits are on display for the duration of the day, ideally situated in the lobby area, near the main conference rooms, putting exhibitors right in front of a captive audience of industry professionals.

In the evening, there will be the opportunity to attend a gala dinner at the nearby Royal Palace overlooking the historic Duomo Piazza.

The following day, Tuesday, 5th November, there will be the opportunity to visit a local factory for a guided tour of the facility.

To find out more, simply go onto the designated website **www.cabwire.com**

Full details including terms and conditions are included on the site.

You can download the relevant application form and either email or fax to the details on the form.

If you are interested in attending the conference as a delegate, details will be posted on the website shortly.

Asia beckons IWMA members

Returning to Thailand for the tenth edition, wire Southeast Asia is the industry's most significant regional trade exhibition for Southeast Asia.

This year's exhibition will again be held in **Bangkok**, **Thailand**, from 17th to 19th September.

This event is a platform that links a targeted audience of key decision makers from Thailand and around the region with international industry leaders showcasing the latest wire and cable processing machinery and equipment, new technology and manufacturing solutions.

The IWMA is offering its members the opportunity to take part in this exhibition by taking our exclusive exhibitor package ensuring an excellent stand location and all the benefits to make exhibiting easy and effective.

For further details, call the IWMA on 01926 834680 or email info@iwma.org for further details.



The 6th biennial world conference at the Palazzo Turati in Milan, Italy, on the 4th November 2013.

This year's theme will be "Innovations driving worldwide wire and cable markets" and will feature a panel of both ferrous and non-ferrous expert speakers, presenting papers on the latest technological developments within the industry.

For more information, visit the website, email info@iwma.org or telephone: +44 (0)1926 834680.

www.cabwire.com



Associazione Costruttori Italiani Mecchine per Filo d



International Wire & Cable Exhibi



International Wire & Machinery Association



The Wire Association International, Inc.





Umeme aims to cut losses

Energy utility Umeme is to install a new insulated power cable to improve safety, reduce energy theft and cut power losses to about 23 percent over the year. Naked electricity wires will be phased out to make illegal connections more difficult to achieve.

"We have already introduced the insulated cables in Entebbe, Nateete and Abaita Ababiri. The ABC conductors have reduced energy losses to 21 percent, from 35 percent, in these areas," said Selestino Babungi, the Umeme chief financial officer.

To date 513,000 users are connected to the electricity grid; 55,000 more than the start of 2012. About 300 new connections are made each day since the process was decentralized. It now takes seven days to get an electricity connection, compared to 14 days in 2010.

Umeme is refurbishing two substations at Waligo in Mutundwe and Lubowa to connect 20,000 new consumers in the surrounding areas, and has acquired a SCADA system to monitor electricity usage from a central location, improving operational efficiency.

Babungi said the 250MW Bujjagali power dam has decreased the incidence of power black outs, improving revenues. He, however, added that power blackouts may resume in the next 12 months if no additional supply reaches the market.

"Power demand is growing rapidly at 10 percent annually. We need about 50MW to be added on the national grid every year until the 600MW Karuma power dam comes online," he noted.



Al Areen awards cabling contract

Gulf Daily News reports that Bahrain-based Al Areen Holding Company has signed a major cabling contract with Al Kooheji Electrical Contractors and Construction for a residential development. The key components of the Al Areen development include the Al Areen Palace and Spa, Lost Paradise of Dilmun Water Park, Sarab Al Areen, Domina Prestige - Al Areen, Al Waha Resort, Downtown Al Areen, Al Areen Medical Centre, Oryx Hills, Sunset Hills, Al Areen Homes, and a number of residential villages, entertainment and recreational facilities.

The scope of work includes the supply and installation of 11kV feeder cables from BSP Al Areen substation to Oryx Hills, a residential development owned by Surooh Bahrain.

"In pursuit of a continuous commitment, our aim is to provide [a] world class quality living experience to residents and this project is an achievement in that direction," said Al Areen Holding Company board member Mohammed Al Hassan.



Indonesian power grid tender

A tender for the construction of an undersea power grid to connect South Sumatra and West Java has received bids from five multinational companies.

Nasri Sebayang, construction director of state-owned electricity company PLN, said that Siemens, Hitachi, Toshiba, a Marubeni/ ABB consortium, and a consortium of Alstom and the state-owned construction company PT Wijaya Karya (WIKA), have all formally passed the pre-qualification process.

Sebayang was quoted as saying: "The bidders completed the pre-qualification selection process in 2012 and are ready to join the tender."

The 700km South Sumatra-Java transmission network will have a capacity of 500kV, and will transmit power from a number of coal-fired power stations currently under construction in South Sumatra.

Sebayang added that the \$2.06 billion undersea power grid project is expected to start in 2013 and be completed sometime in 2016.



PV plants go to the grid

Sky Solar's Japanese subsidiary, Skv Solar Japan, has successfully connected two PV power stations to the power grid. Located at Otsuka-cho, Tochigi Prefecture, Honshu Island and Kamishihoro-cho, Hokkaido, the two projects total approximately 2.3MW with an annual generation capacity estimated to be 2,528,000 kWh.

The projects were among a total of 10MW under construction by Sky Solar Japan. In April and May this year, Sky Solar Japan will seek to achieve grid-connection of another four PV projects currently under construction, and from May this year Sky Solar will invest and begin the simultaneous construction of another 30 PV power projects in Japan.

Active in the Japanese market since 2009, Sky Solar has completed all of the key elements, including the development, investment, construction, project management, grid-connection and operation and management, of PV power projects in Japan, offering a complete closed-loop for PV power projects.



Power on the port side

The Lebanese energy minister, Gebran Bassil, has announced that a Turkish power ship will supply an additional two hours of electricity per day to the country, The Daily Star has reported.

Fatmagul Sultan, the Turkish electricity barge currently hooked up to the Zouk power plant, will provide 188MW of electricity, with a second ship due to arrive in June to provide an additional 82MW.

Fatmagul Sultan is owned by Turkish firm Karkey Karadeniz Elektrik Uretim. In July 2012, Lebanon signed a \$360 million three-year contract to lease electricity-generating barges from the Turkish firm. The two barges combined could generate 270 megawatts of electricity.

Lebanon suffers severe power shortages as the country produces 1,500MW of electricity per day while consumption exceeds 2,400MW.

The government plan to lease the power-generating ships also includes the construction of 1,500 megawatt power plants.



Biogas feeds the Malaysian grid

A biogas power generation plant at Felda Palm Industries' (FPI) Serting Hilir palm oil mill has begun supplying power to the Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) national grid.

Ismail Hasan, FPI's CEO, said the biogas plant has been producing up to 1.2MW of renewable energy since 2008, and will supply 0.5MW to the national grid.

"The plant produces about 400 to 600 cubic meters of biogas an hour. It was previously only used to power the mill's operations, but now TNB will distribute the power from the biogas plant to sites in Negeri Sembilan," he told reporters after the connection was launched by Felda chairman Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad.

"We now have 15 biogas plants operating nationwide, and we plan to build biogas plants at all our 71 palm oil mills by 2018," Ismail Hasan said, adding: "Biogas power generation also has economic benefits as it reduces dependence on diesel generators in a palm oil mill...and generates a side income...from the use of biomass feedstock."

A second biogas plant in Jengka, Pahang, a joint venture with TNB, will supply 12.5MW to the national grid when completed later this year.



Malaysian anti-dumping probe

The Malaysian government may impose an anti-dumping duty on Chinese stranded wire, steel ropes and cables if an investigation proves that the products have been dumped into Malaysia at low prices.

Malaysia's international trade and industry ministry (Miti) said it would initiate the investigation following a petition from "a domestic producer".

The petitioner has claimed that imports from China have increased in terms of absolute quantity, resulting in the domestic producer suffering from material injuries including profitability, price suppression, a reduction in domestic sales volume, a loss of market share, negative returns on investment, a decrease in the number of employees and an inability to raise capital.

Miti pointed out that it had determined that there was sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and causal link, culminating in the decision to initiate a preliminary investigation on the imported goods in accordance with the Countervailing and Anti-Dumping Duties Act 1993.



Rwanda's electrification faces constraints

Rwanda's Electricity Access Rollout Program (EARP) is faced with a heavy funding shortfall, which looks to frustrate the target to connect 1.7 million Rwandans to the national grid by 2017.

The coordinator of EARP, Edouard Kasumba, told The Rwanda Focus that the program, which demands \$1 billion, has so far secured an estimated \$170 million.

Earlier this year, the director of planning and design at EARP, Dieudonne Ngizwenayo, had suggested that the program had already secured 60 percent of the required budget.

Access to electricity has been identified as of major importance in the realization of Rwanda's middle-income status by 2020. The next phase targets accelerated poverty reduction from 45 percent to less than 30 percent of the population and rapid, sustainable and inclusive growth. Experts say investing in access to electricity will enable the government to spur the growth stipulated in its poverty eradication programs.



Saudi cables contract

Saudi Electricity Company (SEC) has awarded a contract to Bahra Cables Co for the supply of low- and medium-voltage cables for use in SEC's projects.

A delegation from the Saudi Electricity Company recently visited Bahra Cables and was received by its CEO, Engineer Talal Idriss, who briefed them about work procedure and guided a factory tour.

Engineer Idriss assured the delegation that Bahra Cables products meet all international standards, and that the company has a number of accreditation certificates, including KEMA, IPH, SASO, LPCB, CSA and BASEC, for its power cable range. The company has ISO 9001: 2008 for its medium- and high-voltage cables up to 132kV, and is the first Saudi cable manufacturer to have ISO 14001: 2004 and OHSAS 18001:2007 accreditiation.



Composite cable for deep-sea resources

LS Cable & System has announced the first deep sea ROV umbilical cable developed in Korea. The cable is essential for deep-sea resources development as it supplies both power and communication signals to ROVs.

The umbilical cable is a composite cable comprising a 4.5kV power cable to supply power to the drive system, a 3.3kV cable to supply power to the ancillary systems, and two optical fiber cables for the control systems. Designed to endure extreme subsea conditions, such as high water pressure and vacillating tidal currents, the cable has been designed to withstand 100 tons of tensile stress to enable operation even at 6,000m under the sea.

In 2007, Korea had already developed an unmanned undersea vehicle for deep-sea mineral resources exploration and polar study capable of depths up to 6,000m. However, cables that can be used to operate at such depths were only produced by a few companies in Europe and America, thus Korea was entirely dependent upon imports to meet the requirement. As localization of this umbilical cable has been completed, LS Cable & System has not only secured price competitiveness, but also reduced the delivery period.

"Since establishment of our Donghae Plant in 2009, LS Cable & System has continuously

been building our marine cable development competencies," explained LS Cable & System senior vice president Dongwuk Kim, adding that the company will be looking to produce: "a wide range of products, such as oil and gas cables, tether and armored cables."

Precision layer winder

Lamnea Bruk has launched a new 5kg fully automatic precision layer winder machine, capable of winding a spool per minute at a speed of 25m per second. The machine line consists of a horizontal payoff, dancer arm system and the automatic precision layer winder.

When the payoff is loaded and the wire attached, the machine will automatically and precisely coil the wire onto spools until the payoff spool is empty. No operator is needed to oversee the process as all steps such as hooking the start end, winding the first layer, hooking the finish end, offloading the full spool and loading a new empty spool are fully automated.

To ensure that the first winding layer is laid correctly onto the spool the machine is equipped with an automatic stick. The machine will calculate and automatically adjust the flanges during the first layer to ensure subsequent windings are made correctly.

If there should be an error in the winding, the machine will recognize it and rewind to a point before the error occurred to recommence the winding process. Rewind speed is 15m per second.

The magazine holds 120 spools. An empty spool is automatically collected from the magazine and moved to position in the cassette when needed.

Where plastic spools are used the spool is checked automatically for correct width and parallel sides prior to loading. A faulty spool is ejected from the machine.

Flexible, flat and food-friendly

Cicoil's non-toxic silicone-encased flat cables are designed for food manufacturing machinery applications. The cable needs no external armor or conduit for protection, is tear-resistant and will not deform or wear during an operating lifetime of over 10 million cycles, even under tight bending radius and high speed flexing conditions. Cicoil's silicone is self-healing from small punctures, and cable jacket damage can easily be repaired in the field. For applications that require resistance to friction and adhesion, Cicoil offers coating options by request.

A patented process of encapsulating individual components in a shock absorbing silicone jacket renders them unaffected by repeated exposure to hazards such as CoilPAKTM payoff, designed to eliminate

severe vibration, washdown processes, low temperatures (-65°C), UV, cooking oils, animal fats, cleaning agents, heat (+260°C), water, high pressure sprays, salt, microbial growth and many chemicals.



halogen-free flat cable Each can incorporate a variety of components including power conductors, feedback pairs, shielded control wires, tubing for liquid or air transfer, video conductors, FlexRail™ self-supporting flat cable system and Cicoil's StripMount™ fastening strip, all combined in a single condensed cable design, precisely controlling the inner component spacing, jacket thickness and the overall cable shape. Custom and standard cables are available in continuous lengths cut to order, or as complete assemblies.

Southwire payoff

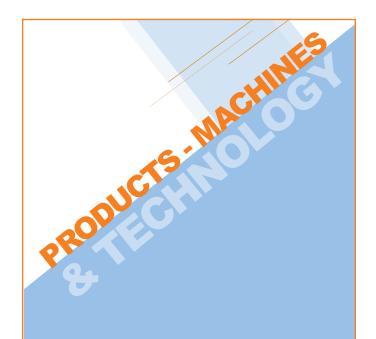
Southwire has introduced the SIMpull®

the need for heavy spools. Workers use a special, patent pending process to coil NoLube® SIMpull THNN® wire into a sturdy but lightweight package that gives a tangle-free pull. The SIMpull CoilPAK payoff uses the same inertia-free pulling design as the SIMpull WireBARREL™ wire drum, making the wire much easier to push and pull.

The package is molded with a carrying handle. Southwire also offers a cart, dolly and hand truck that are all easily maneuverable and allow for installation of multiple SIMpull CoilPAK payoffs.

The addition of the SIMpull CoilPAK payoff completes Southwire's SIMpull circuit management system. When the SIMpull circuit management system products are used together, they are designed to provide a significant impact on the time, margins and labor associated with circuit pulls.





Make sure your new machines or products receive ALL the publicity they can get!

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

To make sure your editorial is published in the June edition – send us the details by **24th May**

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

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