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News Release

OFS AND ALLOPTIC DEMONSTRATE FTTP SERVICES WITH 60% GREATER EXTENDED REACH ACROSS NETWORK

First Live Extended Reach Demonstration of EPON Network Enabled by Access ADVANTAGE™ Fiber-to-the-Premises System

NFOEC, Booth #601, September 8, 2003 - OFS, designer, manufacturer and supplier of leading edge fiber optic products, and Alloptic, a pioneer in the development and deployment of passive optical networks (PONs), today announced they are demonstrating the first extended reach Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) Ethernet Passive Optical Network (EPON). The demonstration is achieved with OFS' Access ADVANTAGE™ FTTP System and Alloptic's GigaForce™ solution to extend the reach of EPON to 16 km, 60% longer than conventional EPON solutions. Voice, video, and data are demonstrated in a triple play combination that can provide new revenue sources for service providers while maximizing reach with low-cost optics, thereby helping to reduce the initial investment.

The configuration consists of Alloptic EdgeGEAR 2000 Chassis connected to Alloptic HomeGEAR Ultra over 16 km of the Access ADVANTAGE cabling system. The Access ADVANTAGE system leverages OFS' zero water peak AllWave® fiber cable, low loss splitters, and low loss LC connections to reduce channel insertion loss, which conserves up to 3.5 dB of optical power compared to a conventional cabling system. This optical power enables the 60% longer reach than the 10 km rated distance to permit customers to use lower cost laser transceivers while maximizing service area coverage for each central office or head end. The applications include broadcast analog video at 1550 nm, Internet Protocol (IP) data and two-way live voice using Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) at 1490 nm and 1310 nm. The voice capability is provided by Alloptic's patented voice TDM technology, which offers carrier grade voice reliability in concert with high bandwidth data and video over the EPON network.

“The Access ADVANTAGE solution is another first from OFS, providing a low loss system to extend reach while enabling maximum transmission capacity,” said Paul Neuhart, President Optical Fiber cable and Connectivity Division, OFS. “It integrates all of the key advantages of OFS’ cabling and apparatus products to help lower installation costs, maximize reach, bandwidth and revenue, reduce space requirements, and simplify fiber connectivity management, all helping to maximize return on investment for FTTP networks.”

The Access ADVANTAGE system is a complete FTTP cabling system that features cable designs for multiple right of ways, and offers OFS DryBlockÒ technology to speed installation while helping to reduce costs. A key component, of the Access ADVANTAGE System is AllWave fiber that opens the full spectrum to offer 50% additional bandwidth that can be used for low cost CWDM overlays to add premium business services and instant on-demand HDTV services. It also features compact and efficient fiber closures and low loss splitters, Blue Tigerã jumpers to minimize bending loss in dense patching fields, and the industry’s best selling and lowest loss small form connector – the LC connector, invented by OFS.

“We are pleased to be working with OFS on these pioneering achievements in EPON technology. By extending the reach of our unprecedented bandwidth, we are able to offer the industry’s most complete range of voice, video and data services to even more end-users,” said Mike Moone, President and CEO of Alloptic. “This translates directly to more revenue opportunity for service providers.”

Alloptic’s GigaForce System solves the “last mile bottleneck” that currently limits widespread broadband deployment. Using pure PON technology, based on Ethernet, the world’s most widely deployed communications protocol, Alloptic delivers an unparalleled 1 Gb/s of symmetrical bandwidth to subscribers for voice (TDM and VoIP, data, and advanced video (RF and IP) services.

About Alloptic, Inc.

Alloptic delivers proven, standards-based, passive optical access equipment that simplifies cost-effective Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) deployment. Alloptic's unique, flexible technology enables service providers to deploy true triple-play services, including voice (TDM and IP), video (RF and IP) and data. Founded in 1999, Alloptic is privately held and based in Livermore, California.

For more information, visit <http://www.alloptic.com>.

About OFS

OFS is a world-leading designer, manufacturer and provider of optical fiber, optical fiber cable, connectivity, FTTx and specialty photonics solutions. Our marketing, sales, manufacturing and research teams provide forward-looking, innovative products and solutions in areas including Telecommunications, Medicine, Industrial Automation, Sensing, Government, Aerospace and Defense applications. We provide reliable, cost effective optical solutions to enable our customers to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's digital and energy consumers and businesses.

OFS' corporate lineage dates back to 1876 and includes technology powerhouses such as AT&T and Lucent Technologies. Today, OFS is owned by Furukawa Electric, a multi-billion dollar global leader in optical communications.

For more information, please visit www.ofsoptics.com.

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