

New Test Equipment from AFL Telecommunications

From BBP Wires

DUNCAN, SC – AFL Telecommunications (www.afttele.com) introduced a new single-mode optical time domain reflectometer (OTDR), a piece of equipment that is used to measure fiber, test for losses and locate faults such as breaks. The Noyes OFL 250 is a single-mode OTDR with an integrated optical power meter, laser source and visual fault locator in a handheld package weighing only 1.7 lb. With short dead zone and midrange dynamic range performance, the OFL 250 is designed for testing optical fibers in service provider metro

areas and FTTx networks.

The OFL 250 provides automatic and manual setup, precision event analysis, multiple-wavelength testing, a 12-hour battery life, internal data storage, and USB connectivity. OTDR and OPM test ports are equipped with tool-free adapters, which can be changed in seconds. Results are saved as industry-standard .SOR files, which can be transferred to a PC for viewing, printing, and analyzing with the supplied Windows-compatible software.

Pannaway Acquires TelStrat's Access Division, Gains GPON Line

From BBP Wires

PORTSMOUTH, NH – Two leading fiber-to-the-home providers join forces as Pannaway Technologies (www.pannaway.com) entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the access division of TelStrat International (www.telstrat.com). The two companies market to the same customer base – smaller telephone companies and municipalities – and have complementary product lines. TelStrat was one of the first companies to bring a 2.4 GPON-based FTTH solution to the market, while Pannaway, which has been committed to an Active Ethernet FTTH solution, was one of one a few FTTH providers left without a GPON product line. In terms of platforms, Pannaway has the high-capacity MAGNM-20 chassis and the lower-capacity stackable Broadband Access Switch (BAS) family, while TelStrat offers the medium-

capacity Intellex broadband loop carrier. The combined company will have a broad product portfolio including circuit switch, carrier-grade IP, and next-generation 2.4 GPON technologies across a range of platforms based on the same underlying architecture.

The cash and stock transaction is expected to close by the end of August and will expand Pannaway's telco customer base to over 300. As part of the transaction, Bob Carroll, founder and CEO of Telstrat, has joined the board of Pannaway Technologies. Sid Schmid, formerly GM of Telstrat's telecommunications division, has joined Pannaway as an Executive Vice President and will lead the integration efforts. Telstrat will now focus its efforts on its Enterprise Business Division and its CallParrot Business Call Recording product line.

Fujikura Launches Universal Mechanical Splicer

From BBP Wires

CHESSINGTON, UK – Fujikura Europe (www.fujikura.co.uk) announced the launch

of its newly upgraded Universal Mechanical Splice (UMS) system, the latest addition to

LuminentOIC and Fiberxon Become Source Photonics

From BBP Wires

CHATSWORTH, CA – In July, MRV Communications (www.mrv.com) acquired Fiberxon, a manufacturer of optical transceivers, and merged it with its own transceiver subsidiary Luminent. The two companies have begun to operate as a combined business and have now announced that they will be branded under the name Source Photonics (www.sourcephotonics.com). The Source Photonics brand will offer one of the broadest and most comprehensive portfolios of optical transceivers for access, telecommunications and data communications networks, shipping more than 1 million transceivers per quarter at current run rates. The company is a market leader for BPON, GPON and GePON transceivers for the fiber-to-the-home market, and also makes metro, access and enterprise transceivers, including 10-Gb transceivers.

While the transition is being completed all LuminentOIC and Fiberxon product lines and customer engagements will continue to be supported without disruption. Going forward all new product introductions will be made under the new company brand.

its portfolio of products aimed at the rapidly growing European fiber-to-the-home market. The Fujikura UMS system is capable of splicing all standard telecom fiber from 250µm to 900µm with a single-handed action.

The lightweight, handheld wedge tool device, measuring just 142mm x 57mm x 22mm, allows engineers to perform essential fiber connections quickly and easily, and requires minimal training to produce reliable splices. Because it facilitates rapid deployments and helps ensure minimal downtime, it offers a cost-efficient alternative to the use of preconnectorized cables for FTTH installations.

Sumitomo Electric Lightwave Introduces Fusion Splicer Line Designed to Increase Field Productivity

From BBP Wires

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC – Sumitomo Electric Lightwave (www.sumitomoelectric), which manufactures fiber optic cable, air-blown fiber systems and fusion equipment, has introduced its next generation of fusion splicers, designed to increase productivity in the field. The new additions are the Type-66 TuffCat Mass Fusion Splicer – a dual-heater multifiber splicer – and the Tom-Cat Type-25e family of handheld FTTX splicers.

An upgrade to the single-heater Type-65 Mass Fusion Splicer, the TuffCat Type-66 accommodates a built-in dual

heating system and simultaneous operation, reducing heater wait time by 88 percent. By eliminating time wasted waiting for a single-heater system to complete its cycle, the TuffCat streamlines the splicing process, improving mass splicing efficiency and productivity in the field by 70 percent, thus reducing labor time and costs while increasing project and customer service turn-up.

Sumitomo's TomCat Handheld Splicer family has undergone numerous enhancements, starting with a bold color change from blue to bright orange. The product family, consisting of three bat-

tery-operated splicers (two single-fiber units and a four-fiber mass fusion splicer), now features new optical technology for its one-camera or industry-standard dual-camera splice loss estimation system. Combined with a quicker splice protection sleeve heater, the new optical technology allows a typical splice time of less than 11 seconds for single-mode or multimode fiber.

The units also feature internal battery chargers and AC adapters, as well as cross-compatible Sumitomo electrodes, to reduce the customer's equipment and inventory costs.

Telco Systems' New Customer Premises Equipment Supports SIP-Based Voice, 1-Gigabit Bandwidth

From BBP Wires

FOXBORO, MA – Telco Systems (www.telco.com) announced significant enhancements to its EdgeGate product family of customer-premises equipment (CPE). The newest addition, the EdgeGate 483, is based on Active Ethernet fiber-to-the-home technology that is oriented for SIP-based voice and future-proofed for the high bandwidth requirements of IPTV.

As an Active Ethernet device, the EdgeGate 483 lets providers offer dedicated bandwidth based on the subscriber's individual requirements and offer differential services for residential and business customers in the same area. Active Ethernet also supports a pay-as-you-grow philosophy, allowing new subscribers to be added within a 100-kilometer service area at minimal cost.


The EdgeGate 483 offers eight Ethernet ports to support data and video services for computers and TVs, and two analog voice ports that can connect to separate telephone lines that are converted to VoIP. The design supports either 100 Mbps or 1 Gbps in the same product, thus allowing the service provider to start with a 100M network and upgrade to 1Gig without replacing the CPE. Design improvements also include the ability to separate technician access areas from subscriber access areas, as well as enhanced cable management.

The device is installed at the end-user premises, either inside or outside. It offers an integrated UPS+PSU power option that will retain power for the phone lines for at least four hours to provide continued service during a power failure.


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BAXL Introduces Wireless Internet Access Device for Wireless and Wired Connections

From BBP Wires

BETHEL, CT – BAXL Technologies (www.baxl.net) says it will soon introduce the Merlot Wireless LapJack, a remotely powered Internet access device to enable wired and wireless broadband access over any type of existing indoor wiring, even sub-Cat5 wiring. The LapJack is expected to be available for sale in the third quarter of 2007.

The Merlot Wireless LapJack inte-

grates Wireless Local Access Network technology licensed from Colubris Networks, and uses BAXL's Merlot Multimedia LapJack card. It provides secure and reliable performance for broadband-intensive applications such as VoIP, video on demand and IP-based video surveillance without modems or power outlets.

The LapJack allows separate configu-

ration and authentication of connections. The Wireless LapJack acts like an Internet hot spot and can be used by any organization with a multi-unit property, such as a hotel, hospital, university, apartment building or office building. The product also enables carriers and cable companies to provide service for properties where existing wiring has made new installations prohibitive.

Time Warner Cable and Cisco Launch HD Web Site

From BBP Wires

NEW YORK and SAN JOSE, CA - Time Warner Cable (www.timewarner-cable.com) and Cisco (www.cisco.com) have teamed up on the "HD Clear & Simple" Web site (www.twcinhd.com). The two companies are arming audiences with the information they need to find out how to receive HD programming.

"While many consumers are interested in HDTV, research shows many still don't understand that to receive true HD programming, there are actually three steps: Get the HD television; sign up for the HD service, which they can get with an HD digital

cable box; and then tune in to the HD channel tier," said Sam Howe, executive vice president and chief marketing officer, Time Warner Cable. "Through this consumer education site, we hope to make understanding the HDTV process easier for consumers while encouraging growth in HD and the advanced digital services being propelled by Cisco's innovative technology."

"Cisco's success in powering the connected home and the 'Connected Life' is fueled by accelerated consumer demand for advanced video applications we enable - such as broad-

cast and on-demand high-definition television," said Paul Bosco, vice president of marketing for cable and video initiatives, Cisco. "By working closely with Time Warner on the launch of the 'HD Clear & Simple' campaign, we are helping consumers join the digital high-definition television revolution."

The Time Warner Cable and Cisco "HD Clear & Simple" Web site launched on Aug. 20. Consumers can tune in online to discover the latest in HDTV entertainment and information.

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