

For Immediate Release:

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Sumitomo Electric Lightwave Showcasing New Splice-On Connector, Ribbon Solutions, and Next Generation Fusion Splicers at NxtComm

Research Triangle Park, NC, June 18, 2007 — Sumitomo Electric Lightwave, a leader in fiber optic product manufacturing, is unveiling its new cross-compatible Lynx CustomFit Splice-On Connector, featuring built-in single-mode fiber enabling customized field FTTH/FTTP and outside plant terminations. The Lynx CustomFit Splice-On Connector, Sumitomo's peelable ribbon cable solutions, and next generation fusion splicers provide lower cost deployment solutions in the FTTx network.

The new method of termination provided by Sumitomo's Lynx CustomFit connector eliminates the guess work in predetermining the length of preterminated jumpers required for a given application, allowing the field technician to customize the termination in the field, ensuring quick, accurate, and permanent connectorizations. Moreover, the use of the Lynx CustomFit connector eliminates the necessity and associated costs of maintaining an inventory of splice trays, matching gels, and varying lengths of preterminated jumpers.

"New innovations, such as the Lynx CustomFit Splice-On Connector, increased utilization of optical fiber ribbon when applicable, and faster, more cost-efficient fusion splicers, offer service providers with solutions that achieve faster deployments, quicker service turn-up, and lower overall project costs necessary for achieving competitiveness and profitability," comments Tony Squires, Sumitomo's product manager for communication networks.

Although Sumitomo manufactures both loose-tube and ribbon optic cable, feedback from recent deployments show that Sumitomo's 100% gel-free ribbon cable product line, featuring an exclusive Easy Split & Peel ribbon technology, can facilitate increased productivity and faster network field deployments when accompanied by more affordable and faster mass fusion splicing equipment. In a rural ILEC example, network deployment requiring 7,000 splices using a 12-fiber mass fusion splicer, generates a cost savings of over \$170,000 even when inflating the mass fusion splicing labor rate by four times the rate for a single splice.

Along with the Lynx CustomFit™ Splice-on Connector and broad fiber optic cable product line, Sumitomo is showcasing its latest mass fusion splicer, the TuffCat™ Type-66, the industry's first and only dual-heater multi-fiber splicer, yielding 70% increased productivity in the field .

About Sumitomo Electric Lightwave: Sumitomo Electric Lightwave (SEL), located in Research Triangle Park, NC, is dedicated to tailoring the fiber optic networks of major telecommunications companies through the manufacturing of optical fiber cable, ribbon-configured network solutions, fusion splicers, FTTH products, and its FutureFlex® Air-blown Fiber® System. SEL is a subsidiary of Sumitomo Electric Industries, which has been cited by Cabling Industry Analyst's recent report as the world's largest cable manufacturer measured in sales. For more information, please call 800-358-7378, email us at info@sumitomoelectric.com, or visit us at www.sumitomoelectric.com.