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Verrillon Announces a Series of New Harsh Environment Optical Fibers for Heavy Oil Thermal Recovery

Verrillon breaks the performance barrier in SAGD monitoring...

North Grafton, MA – May 1, 2008—Verrillon, Inc., the leading supplier of specialty optical fiber for harsh environment applications, today announced the introduction of its VHM3000 Series, a new family of graded index multimode optical fibers to be used in Distributed Temperature Sensors (DTS) for downhole, high temperature well monitoring.

These new, high performance optical fibers primarily target the high temperature Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD) and Cyclic Steam Stimulation (CSS) heavy oil wells, where the extreme environmental conditions drastically affect the optical performance and long term reliability of standard fibers. With the introduction of the VHM3000 Series, oil field service providers can now confidently deploy Raman-based DTS systems that use multimode fibers in SAGD and CSS applications without risk of fiber darkening due to hydrogen ingress. The use of multimode fibers in a Raman-based DTS system provides faster and more accurate temperature measurements at longer distances as compared with single mode fibers.

According to Dr. Abdel Soufiane, CTO of Verrillon, “The VHM3000 Series fibers exhibit vastly superior resistance to hydrogen darkening when compared to other currently available harsh environment fibers”. The improved hydrogen performance at elevated temperatures (up to 300°C) is a result of ongoing extensive research and development on glass and waveguide designs undertaken by Verrillon. The VHM3000 Series fibers are drop-in replacements for previous generations of Verrillon’s hydrogen resistant fibers. The high numerical aperture, graded index design of these fibers allow distributed temperature measurements to be performed with high spatial and temporal resolution at distances as great as 5-6km, typical of deep wells. By increasing the lifetime of these fibers, Verrillon customers can now greatly reduce the overall life cycle costs of DTS deployments in the most stringent applications.

The VHM3000 Series, with a 50/125 0.2 NA waveguide design, and Polyimide or Carbon/Polyimide coatings is available for immediate delivery.

About Verrillon – www.verrillon.com

Verrillon Inc. develops, manufactures and markets innovative specialty optical fiber and cable solutions for the Oil & Gas, Industrial and Military markets. Verrillon’s product range includes Harsh Environment Fibers, Polarization-Maintaining Fibers and Rare-earth Doped Fibers. Verrillon is focused on providing optical fiber and cable users with high quality, cost effective, and technically advanced fiber-based solutions.