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Verrillon Introduces its VHM5000 Series of New Harsh Environment Optical Fibers for Extreme Well Conditions

Verrillon brings the ultimate fiber reliability solution to the O&G and Geothermal industries

November 17, 2010 - North Grafton, MA —Verrillon, Inc., *a wholly-owned subsidiary of AFL* and the leading supplier of specialty optical fiber for harsh environment applications, today announced the introduction of its VHM5000 Series. This new family of optimized glass, graded-index, multimode optical fibers is ideally used in high temperature, hydrogen-rich and corrosive environments.

These new, ultra-high performance optical fibers are designed to withstand high temperature and hydrogen-rich environments. The unique characteristics of these fibers make them the ultimate solution for extreme downhole conditions in applications such as steam-injected and geothermal wells, where heat and hydrogen presence drastically affect the optical performance and long-term reliability of standard fibers. The availability of VHM5000 from Verrillon, and its cabled solutions from AFL, will now allow fiberoptic sensor users to reliably deploy a wealth of sensing systems with more data accuracy and without the risk of optical degradation due to hydrogen ingression.

"The VHM5000 Series fibers exhibit extreme resistance to hydrogen darkening in a wide spectral range, allowing the adoption of various sensing technologies and ample choice of wavelengths, with virtually no attenuation increase due to hydrogen ingression" said Dr. Abdel Soufiane, Founder and Managing Director of Verrillon. "The improved hydrogen performance at elevated temperatures, up to 300˚C, is a result of extensive research and development on glass, coatings and waveguide designs undertaken by Verrillon".

In addition to their hydrogen-insensitive glass chemistry, the VHM5000 Series fibers are also compatible with previous generations of Verrillon's hydrogen resistant fibers widely deployed in sensing technologies worldwide. By increasing the lifetime of these fibers in hostile environments, Verrillon customers can now greatly reduce the overall costs of downhole sensors and increase the accuracy of the generated data in the most stringent well monitoring applications.

"The introduction of the VHM5000 series reinforces Verrillon's commitment to the harsh environment measurement industries. The combination of our leadership in fiber design and that of AFL's industry-leading cabled solutions confirms our dedication to these markets and our position as the leading solution provider for challenging fiberoptic applications" added Gary Churchill, VP of Sales and Marketing at Verrillon.

The VHM5000 fibers, with Verrillon's harsh environment coatings from cryogenic temperatures to 300ºC, and cabled solutions from AFL are 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.