

Verrillon Breaks Ground on New Facility

Headquarters and Advanced Technology Development Center Slated to Open in 2002

North Grafton, MA — October 18, 2001 — Verrillon, a leading provider of innovative specialty optical fiber and fiber-based solutions for the Photonics industry, today officially broke ground on its new multi million-dollar fiber development and production facility in North Grafton, Massachusetts. The facility is slated for completion by mid-2002 and will be designed for rapid product development as well as flexible, high-volume manufacturing. The facility will also serve as Verrillon's headquarters.

Manufacturers of optical components such as amplifiers, couplers, and multiplexers use specialty optical fiber to manage the light passing through such components. Specialty fiber, unlike standard transmission fiber, can help component and module manufacturers achieve greater functionality while minimizing cost. William 'Bill' Beck, co-founder, CEO and President of Verrillon, noted how the new facility will play a vital role in the build-out of the All-Optical Network (AON): "Tomorrow's networks will require optical components that deliver additional functionality, but at reduced costs. Our world-class facility, which has been part of Verrillon's vision since the Company's inception, will allow us to design and manufacture fibers that will benefit our customers both technically and economically."

Verrillon's new facility will feature multiple glass fabrication systems and 'draw towers' for flexible, large-scale production of varying fiber types. The new facility will also include clean-room capabilities. Dr. Abdel Soufiane, founder of Verrillon and the Company's Chief Technical Officer, talked about the need for a world-class facility: "As an emerging, independent supplier of specialty optical fiber, our objective is to develop and foster tightly coupled technical relationships with our customers to help them achieve the functional and cost requirements that their customers are demanding."

CenTech Park, adjacent to the Grafton commuter rail station, will be the home of Verrillon's new facility. As the first company to build in this new technology park, Verrillon is helping to bring new jobs to the Worcester and central Massachusetts region. Craig Blais, Executive Vice President of the Worcester Business Development Corporation (WBDC), remarked on Verrillon's choice to build its new facility in Grafton: "Verrillon's vision to locate their headquarters here at CenTech Park has paved the way for other corporations that are following them. I would like to thank Grafton and Shrewsbury for their patience in developing this park, and today's groundbreaking with Verrillon represents the beginning phase of what will be a landmark development for this area. Verrillon Technologies also represents tax base expansion and job creation for the region."

David T. Slatery, Senior Executive Vice President, MassDevelopment, also noted the significance of Verrillon's decision to locate its headquarters in Grafton: "Verrillon's groundbreaking is great news for CenTech Park, and the addition of 75 high-tech jobs is a shot in the arm for the Massachusetts economy," said Slatery. "MassDevelopment worked with WBDC to prepare the park for development and stepped up with \$1.5 million in financing to help get Verrillon off to a solid start in Grafton." MassDevelopment, the state's economic development authority, directed investments totaling more than \$1.3 billion for 460 projects across Massachusetts last year.

About Verrillon

Verrillon develops, manufactures, and markets innovative specialty optical fiber and fiber-based solutions for the Photonics industry. The Company, co-founded in 2000 by industry veterans Dr. Abdel Soufiane and William 'Bill' Beck, was previously known as IntelCore Technologies, Inc. The change to Verrillon, Inc. was made in July 2002 in conjunction with the Company's move to its new headquarters in North Grafton, Massachusetts.

Verrillon's business model focuses on technology innovation and on providing growing component and module manufacturers with rapid product development and flexible, high-volume manufacturing. Verrillon's next-generation specialty optical fiber enables improved component performance, increased manufacturing yields, new network functionality and manufacturing process automation.