



**Press release**

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## **Nexans launches HYPRON®, a new environmentally friendly alternative to lead-sheathed cables for onshore oil and gas installations**

**Paris, May 4, 2010** – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has developed its new HYPRON® range to provide an environmentally friendly alternative to lead-sheathed cables for onshore power, control and instrumentation applications in the oil and gas industry. The HYPRON® design offers exactly the same protection against aggressive petrochemicals as traditional lead-sheathed cables, with the added advantage of improved ease of handling and installation thanks to its lower weight and smaller cross-section.

All types of cables used in the onshore oil and gas industry require protection against chemicals – acids, bases, aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons – that can penetrate towards the conductors. Traditionally, a lead sheath has provided this protection. However, in response to the growing market demand for more environmentally friendly cables, Nexans undertook a five-year programme to develop a new lead-free chemical barrier in the form of HYPRON®.

### **Co-extruded construction elements**

In general, HYPRON® complies with IEC 60228 and also meets other international standards such as IEC 60502-1 for Low Voltage and BS EN 50288-7 for instrumentation cables.

HYPRON® comprises three co-extruded construction elements: AluPE, an HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) sheath and a PA (Polyamide) sheath. The AluPE layer is an aluminium coated tape, applied longitudinally, that provides a watertight seal. The HDPE sheath provides the resistance to inorganic chemical such as chlorine, and the PA sheath provides resistance to organic materials such as benzene.

HYPRON® has been fully tested to prove its suitability for a wide variety of applications - including MV (medium voltage) and LV (low voltage) power as well as control and instrumentation – when exposed to aggressive chemicals as well as temperatures ranging from -20°C to +60°C.

## **Fire resistance**

Where a higher level of fire resistance is required, an improved HYPRON® version is available, based on HFFR polyamide. It complies with IEC 60332-1 on flame propagation, IEC 60332-3 for fire propagation as well as IEC 60331 and BS 6387 for fire resistance applications.

## **Installation benefits**

Elimination of lead results in a smaller overall cable cross-section. This in turn makes the cables easier to manipulate during installation thanks to a reduced bending radius (typically 10 percent smaller than lead-sheathed cables). Furthermore, a longer length of cable can be spooled onto a drum, so fewer cable joints are required for long installation lengths.

Because HYPRON® cable is significantly lighter than lead-sheathed cables – over 40 percent lighter in the case of an LV cable with 12 copper cores – it is easier to transport, handle and pull into cable ducts.

## **Cost savings**

A further advantage of HYPRON® cables are that they are very cost-effective, offering total cost savings of some 10 to 25 percent due to the continually rising costs of lead.

HYPRON® cables are already being installed in a number of onshore installations, especially in regions such as the Middle-East where there is a growing emphasis on environmentally-friendly products.

## **About Nexans**

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation.

Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future.

With an industrial presence in 39 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 22,700 people and had sales in 2009 of 5 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A. For more information, please consult [www.nexans.com](http://www.nexans.com)

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