

Press Release

Nexans wins a major contract for submarine fibre optic cables under the Mediterranean Sea

Huawei Marine will use around 440 km of Nexans fibre optic cable to create the new Silphium communication link

Paris, January 13, 2011 – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded a major contract by the Chinese company Huawei Marine Networks Co Ltd ('Huawei Marine') to supply around 440 km of submarine fibre optic cable for the high profile communications project – the Libya Silphium link across the Mediterranean Sea.

For the Libya Silphium project, which will connect Libya and Greece, Nexans is supplying 440 km of fibre optic cable. Huawei Marine is constructing the link on behalf of the Libyan International Telecom Company (LITC). It will cross the Mediterranean Sea, connecting Damah, in Northern Libya with Chania, Greece and will have an initial capacity of 7 x 10 Gbps and a maximum theoretical capacity of 1.2 Tbps. The fibre optic cable will be installed at sea depths of down to 3,700 metres so will only require relatively light armouring.

The Silphium system will provide route protection for Libya's existing international communication channels and also offer bandwidth improvement designed to satisfy increasing demand for multi-national communications.

The cable is for unrepeatered fibre optic systems and will be manufactured at Nexans' factory in Rognan, Norway with delivery in spring 2011.

"This very significant submarine cable contract in the Mediterranean Sea is the result of almost a year's careful planning between Nexans and Huawei Marine" says Tom Birkeland, Nexans Vice President Telecom and Building cable division in Norway. "It reinforce the successful cooperation between the two companies developed over a number of high profile projects such as the Hannibal link between Tunisia and Italy and the T-E project connecting the coastal cities of Libya, Tobruk and Emasaed".

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

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