

# OTT Newsletter



www.ott.co.uk

## THALES invests in Certified Fibre Characterisation Engineers



Thales is the first UK company to invest in training their team of test engineers to meet the demanding standards required of the Certified Fibre Characterisation Engineer (CFCE) qualification. Four of their test engineers attended the 5-day CFCE training course at Optical Technology Training in June. Since the launch of this unique, world-leading training course last year, OTT have trained delegates from as far afield as Poland, Norway, South Africa and America on scheduled public courses, however Thales is the first to book an exclusive

company course. The training course provides delegates with the knowledge and skills they need to characterise optical fibre infrastructures to assess their ability to support modern high data applications such as 10 & 40 Gb/s operation and extended wavelength operation that may be required for next generation DWDM and CWDM systems. Test methods covered on the course include insertion loss measurements and spectral attenuation, advanced OTDR testing, as well as chromatic dispersion and polarisation mode dispersion (PMD). Specially constructed test systems include various types of G.652 and G.655 fibres, as well as systems constructed with WDMs and dispersion compensators. In addition to carrying out the tests and validating the data, the course covers the analysis and interpretation of results. This



allows CFCEs to report on infrastructure quality, such as grading fibre according to ITU fibre types G.652.A, B, C or D, as well as assessing the ability of a link to support 10Gb/s or 40Gb/s transmission in accordance with ITU, IEEE or transmission system vendors' requirements.

"This course really puts Thales at the leading edge of service provision to the UK's telecoms companies" said Tom Paterson, one of the Thales delegates, "a really worthwhile investment and the best course I have ever attended".



### Public course dates

#### CFCE course

11th- 15th Sept in Skipton

11th- 15th Dec in Skipton

#### City & Guilds 3666-03 External Fibre Cabling

4-8th Sept & 16-20th Oct in Skipton



#### Adv OTDR course

24th- 25th Oct in Dublin

#### CFCE course

4th- 8th Dec in Dublin



#### Next Gen Networks

23rd - 27th Oct in NJ

#### CFCE course

30th Oct - 3rd Nov in NJ

### Custom courses

OTT offers a wide range of training programmes and can customise courses to meet your specific needs. For example: an introduction to telecoms systems for new staff or sales teams or a management briefing on fibre characterisation for those responsible for purchasing dark fibre. We also run courses on more unusual applications such as subsea wetmate connectors, ROVs, avionics etc. Most of our courses can be run for groups of your staff on your own premises and we have run courses in many parts of the world. See [www.ott.co.uk/courses/company](http://www.ott.co.uk/courses/company) courses for some examples.



### Meet us at ECOC

The European Conference on Optical Communications is being held this year in Cannes in the South of France on September 24th-28th.

Richard Ednay, Technical Director of OTT will be attending the conference and associated exhibition. If you'd like to arrange to meet up with him there then please email [richard.ednay@ott.co.uk](mailto:richard.ednay@ott.co.uk) or call him directly on +44 7778 568598

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providing expertise in fibre optics and communications cabling since 1989

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# OTT Training comes to London Docklands

OTT now have a training venue in the London Docklands, just a stones throw away from Telehouse. The venue is equipped with a state-of-the-art classroom and practical skills development areas, so that the full range of OTT's courses in fibre optics and communications cabling can be delivered, including the popular City & Guilds 3666 Certificate courses.

This new venue is in partnership with Repsole, who are setting up a specialist 'trade counter' to service the needs of the telecoms and data centre community in the area. In addition to providing

immediate access to vital essentials such as fibre optic patch cords and copper cabling components, the trade counter will also be managing the inventory of several major clients in the area and act as a centre for services including equipment hire (BER testers, fusion splicers, OTDRs), installation and testing services.

Simon North, MD of Repsole said "We see training as another of the services that we can bring to our customer base in the Docklands. OTT is the natural choice of training partner, we have had a long association with them and

know that they can deliver the highest levels of technical knowledge and training professionalism that our customers demand". The training centre will be up and running in time for a specially designed Data Centre cabling company course in September.



## OTT boosts team

Optical Technology Training Ltd (OTT) have boosted the technical expertise of their team with the appointment of Lawrence Viljoen. Lawrence has recently completed his MSc in Physics at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, formerly the University of Port Elizabeth, in South Africa. The subject of Lawrence's MSc thesis was "Field and Laboratory measurements of Polarisation Mode Dispersion (PMD) in optical fibres". This work, and the department at the University, was sponsored by Corning, Aberdare Cables and Telkom.

During the research for his thesis Lawrence gained much experience in testing PMD of fibres on installed links and studying patterns of behaviour on installed aerial fibre optic cables as well as factory testing of PMD in fibres and cables.

These skills and his knowledge of PMD have found a natural home at OTT, the UK's fibre optic testing experts. Lawrence has already completed his Certified Fibre

Characterisation Engineer (CFCE) training at OTT and seen active service on some of OTT's fibre characterisation projects.



**OTT launch CFCE web**

**[www.cfce.web.com](http://www.cfce.web.com)**

**the home of professional fibre characterisation on the web**



## trains motorways team

Peek Traffic have invested in a series of customised training courses from Optical Technology Training Ltd to provide more of their engineers with the knowledge and skills that they need to operate, maintain and upgrade the fibre optic cabling alongside the motorway network in England that provides the National Roads Telecommunications Service (NRTS).

The courses are specially customised versions of the City & Guilds 3666-03 qualification 'Fibre optic cabling in an external environment' but focusing on the components, equipment, specifications and working practices used for Motorway Communications systems in England.

OTT are uniquely well qualified to train the Peek Traffic engineers on the legacy systems that they will have to maintain, as well as the new systems they will have to install in line with current Highways Agency



specifications. Peek Traffic's training manager, Mark Evans, commented "The team found the courses really helpful and I had good feedback from their trip to the OTT training centre in Skipton."

One of the delegates added " It really shows what a good course it was because after just the one week of training I am now confident to go out and work on real systems on the roads."

