

# OTT Newsletter



www.ott.co.uk

## OTT trains the first **Certified Fibre Characterisation Engineers**



In November 2005 OTT launched a **unique new course** to equip test engineers with the knowledge & skills to characterise fibre infrastructures.

Fibre characterisation is increasingly important. When existing systems are upgraded or when dark fibre deals are done comprehensive characterisation should be performed by competent test engineers who can apply the

correct test methods, validate the results on-site and then analyse them, assess the capabilities of the infrastructure and present the conclusions in an easy-to-use format.

The course covers Chromatic Dispersion and Polarisation Mode Dispersion testing as well as extra tests needed to assure the satisfactory performance of DWDM and CWDM systems that may have channels operating at data rates up to 40Gb/s. It includes plenty of practical hands-on sessions on specially constructed test rigs, as well as analysis exercises drawn from OTT's extensive experience of real-world fibre characterisation.

The first course attracted delegates from Poland, South Africa, the USA and the UK and after a challenging end of course assessment delegates were awarded **Certified Fibre Characterisation Engineer, CFCE\*** status by OTT.

The course has been endorsed by test equipment manufacturers, including JDSU/Acterna, Agilent, Anritsu (NetTest), PE fiberoptics, Sunrise Telecom and KD optics, and looks set to define the standards for the industry.

The next public course at Skipton is in March. **International dates** are to be announced shortly. Contact us if you are interested.



## **Dark fibre management?**

Are you/your team responsible for managing dark fibre but not for carrying out the testing? Are you confident that you really understand the issues? If you'd like **a clear guide to when and why tests should be done and what tests are required** then you need our one-day management briefing on fibre characterisation. It provides an overview of the contractual issues surrounding dark fibre deals and an appreciation of what fibre optic tests are required in order to prove that advanced fibre infrastructures can support high data rate applications (10Gb/s, 40Gb/s) as well as extended wavelength operation for DWDM and CWDM systems. Contact sales@ott.co.uk for information.

### **CAFI course - for CFCE award**

27th- 31st March @ Skipton

### **City & Guilds 3666-03 External Fibre Installation**

27 Feb-3rd March @ Skipton



## **Train with OTT in Ireland**

OTT are starting 2006 with an Irish flavour with eight company courses already booked in Ireland. We'll also be running **a public Advanced OTDR testing course** in Ireland in association with Butler Technologies. If you are interested in attending this course or if you have other requirements for training in Ireland then please contact us.

## **Need to know about NGNs?**

The **Next Generation Network**, or NGN, as defined by the ITU is the future direction of telecoms. State of the art fibre optic communications systems have become much more complicated. Capable of transporting terabits of data over thousands of kilometres, their satisfactory operation now relies on complex interactions between active and passive components. Component decisions have serious financial implications. Ensure your team have the knowledge they need with OTT's up-to-date technical masterclass **Understanding Next Generation Networks** covering all the issues such as new fibre types, DWDM technology, modulation formats, amplifiers, dispersion management, optical switching, ROADMs etc. Contact sales@ott.co.uk.

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**providing expertise in fibre optics and communications cabling since 1989**

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ubiquitous networks,  
triple-play, quad-play,  
VoD, dvb-h, ip-tv,  
internet of things  
OTN, PON, GPON, Broadband  
x-DSL, NGN, FTTH, CWDM,  
DWDM...

Do you talk telecoms?

## Quad-play?

Are your team up-to-date with the latest developments and jargon in the telecoms industry? Can they talk sensibly and confidently to your customers? Do they understand why networks are developing as they are and how the elements fit together? Can they explain the requirements of future networks? If not, then our updated **Introduction to Telecoms Systems** course can easily bring them up-to-speed and also refresh their enthusiasm for an industry that is on the up again!

## Want to join OTT ?

We are recruiting for a test engineer/trainer, see website for full information

## Setting standards

OTT have always based their training on the relevant standards. This is important as it provides a vendor neutral framework for the training that supports OTT's position as an independent training company. OTT is very well known in the industry for its technical expertise and so it is appropriate that OTT should be involved in the setting of these standards.

### BSI GEL 86/3

In 2005 Richard Ednay, Technical Director of OTT, was co-opted onto the British Standards Institution GEL 86/3 subcommittee that deals with Fibre Optic Systems and Active Devices. Through his work on the standards related to PMD (Polarisation Mode Dispersion) testing of installed fibre links he was also put forward as the UK's Principal Expert to represent the UK on the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) SC86C Working Group 1 on Fibre Optics Communications Systems and sub-systems.

### IEC SC86C Fibre Optic Systems and ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 Working Group 3

Due to Richard's broad base of expertise in fibre optics that embraces multimode and singlemode, datacoms and telecoms; he was also appointed to act as liaison between two standards groups: IEC SC86C that deals with Fibre Optic Systems and ISO/IEC JTC1 SC25 Working Group 3 that deals with Interconnection of Information Technology Equipment – customer premises cabling. This latter working group is the one responsible for the well known ISO/IEC 11801 Generic Cabling standard. They are also working on standards for cabling in Data Centres and there is a special task group for Industrial Premises cabling. This International liaison position also involves liaison at a UK level, so Richard is now also on BSI TCT7/-/1 on Generic Cabling.



## BAE Systems Chairman's Award

As part of the team behind the design of the fibre optic cabling system for the UK's new aircraft carriers, **Richard Ednay, Technical Director of OTT has received a BAE Systems Chairman's award for innovation.**

The two new aircraft carriers will have ubiquitous fibre infrastructures based on OM3 laser-enhanced multimode fibre installed in blown fibre microduct. By adopting OTT's design recommendations, there are projected cost savings in the order of £1 Million per ship on datacomms equipment, and the material cost of the cabling infrastructure is half that of previous comparable systems. As well as design of the fibre optic cabling infrastructure, OTT's technical support contract included a technical vendor appraisal process to identify a "lead

candidate supplier" to work with the Aircraft Carrier Alliance to mature and refine the cabling system design. Julian Squire of CVF Mission Systems commented "Richard Ednay's in-depth technical knowledge of the latest developments in fibre optics and his professional, independent expertise have been invaluable in helping us to design this state-of-the-art network. We're very pleased that the excellent outcomes of the design phase have now been recognised by this Chairman's Award for Innovation."

