

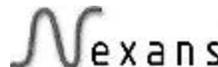
OVERVIEW

December 29, 2003
Volume 7, Issue 8

Global information for wire and cable manufacturing

Nexans & Pirelli Awarded Major Energy Sector Contract

A consortium formed by **Nexans**, Pairs, France, and **Pirelli & Co. SpA**, Milan, Italy, has been awarded a contract worth €115 million by Moroccan power company **L'Office National de l'Electricité** and **Spanish Red Electrica de España** for a turnkey high-voltage submarine link that will interconnect Spanish and Moroccan power grids across the

 **Nexans** Gibraltar Strait. The contract, described by both companies as the most important project for the submarine power industry in 2003, involves a doubling of the existing submarine power transmission link (produced by the same consortium in 1997) with an overall 90 km (56 miles) of new high-voltage cables.

The contract calls for the manufacture and laying of three oil-filled paper submarine power cables, which along with the existing system, will transmit 1400 MW at a voltage of 400 kV. The project will also include two telecommunications fiber optic cables, each 30 km (19 miles) long, for system control and broadband data transmission.

Nexans will manufacture and install one submarine power cable and one telecommunications cable as well as deliver the associated terrestrial equipment for the project. The Nexans

 cables will be produced at its Halden, Norway facility. Pirelli will manufacture and install two submarine power cables and one telecommunications cable. These cables will be manufactured at Pirelli's Arco Felice (Naples), Italy plant. The Pirelli share of the contract is estimated at approximately €60 million. The consortium says that the project is scheduled to be completed by the second half of 2005. www.nexans.com / www.pirelli.com ■

General Cable Announces Marion Plant Rationalization

Copper, aluminum and fiber optic wire and cable manufacturer, **General Cable Corporation**, Highland, Heights, KY, USA, has announced its decision to significantly reduce operations at its Marion, IN, USA manufacturing facility. Also, most of the product lines currently manufactured at the Marion plant will be moved to other General Cable facilities. The plant, which will remain open and employ some 65 people, will

 become a highly focused operation specializing mainly in the production of mining and other specialty cables. Local reports indicate the plant will lay off some 100 employees. The decision affecting the Marion plant stems from the feasibility study announced in October 2003. The company also says that it continues to review the operations at its South Hadley, MA, USA facility for possible rationalization. According to General Cable, the decision allows the Marion facility to achieve a cost and quality leadership position in mining and specialty cables. The company will incur a charge related to the rationalization of the Marion plant estimated at US\$16 million as well as an impairment charge in the Q4 of 2003 of US\$2 million related to its operations in South Hadley. www.generalcable.com ■

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Wire & Cable International

OVERVIEW

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WIRE & CABLE STOCK INDEXES

		% CHANGE since last issue	% CHANGE YTD 2003
OVERVIEW 30	870	+1.5	+49.3
OVERVIEW Communications	365	-4.9	+58.8
OVERVIEW Electrical	502	+4.3	+54.8
OVERVIEW Steel	142	+5.2	+11.8

• All data is from prices listed on the market on December 22, 2003.



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Notebook

NEMA EBCI: Growth in World Electroindustry Business

For the first time since the inception of the Electroindustry Business Confidence Index (EBCI) compiled by the **National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)**, Rosslyn, VA, USA, the current conditions indexes for all four regions covered have exceeded the growth threshold of 50 index points. Confidence in business conditions in Europe, which had not been above 50 since Apr. 2001, finally rose past the growth threshold with an index value of 56 in Nov. 2003. Index scores in North America (84) and Latin America (59) reflected a greater breadth of confidence compared to last month. And the index for Asia/Pacific held steady at 75 points.

The Nov. 2003 EBCI's future conditions predictions were also optimistic at well over 50 points for all four regions:

- North America: 85 points.
- Latin America: 83 points.
- Europe: 73 points.
- Asia/Pacific: 75 points.

With the exception of Europe, the Nov. 2003 EBCI numbers are record highs for all regions. For more information on the EBCI or on NEMA, visit the web site shown below.

www.nema.org



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USA demand for thermoplastic elastomers expected to grow

A new study, Thermoplastic Elastomers, from The Freedonia Group, Inc., Cleveland, OH, USA, says that USA demand for thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) will rise 6.0%/year to 1.4 billion lb (635 million kg) in 2007, with a market value of US\$2.7 billion. Gains will result from direct replacement of competing materials, soft-touch surface design trends and good outlooks for key end-use industries.

Volume gains in the USA TPE industry have consistently outpaced growth in the general economy, with most growth arising from the displacement of natural and synthetic rubber. Direct rubber replacement will continue through 2007, although it will slow from its historic pace.

	1997	2002	Annual Growth	
			2007	02/97% 07/02%
Total Demand	865	1063	1420	4.2% 6.0%
Motor Vehicles	226	302	400	6.0% 5.8%
Consumer Products	155	155	192	--- 4.4%
Construction	113	148	195	5.5% 5.7%
Adhesives & Sealants	104	140	187	6.1% 6.0%
Other	267	318	446	3.6% 7.0%

The Freedonia Group study, Thermoplastic Elastomers, can be obtained by visiting:

www.freedoniagroup.com

Early termination of CommScope's waiting period for Avaya acquisition

CommScope, Inc., Hickory, NC, USA, has received early termination of the waiting period (under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended) with respect to its acquisition of the Connectivity Solutions (ACS)

business of Avaya Inc. The acquisition is subject to other contractual closing conditions including other international regulatory approvals. The transaction is expected to close by early Feb. 2004, except with regard to certain Avaya international operations.

CommScope

ACS manufactures physical layer end-to-end structured cabling solutions for LAN applications as well as cabling solutions that support central offices of telecommunications service providers.

www.commscope.com

International Wire Group negotiates with Bondholders; Skips interest payment

International Wire Group, Inc., St. Louis, MO, USA, announced that an Ad Hoc Committee of Bondholders holding its 11-3/4% Senior Subordinated Notes and 14% Senior Subordinated Notes has been formed. The firm is in negotiations with the Committee regarding a recapitalization of its balance sheet. The Committee selected Stroock & Stroock & Lavan as its legal advisor and Houlihan Lokey Howard & Zukin as its financial advisor.

Also, International Wire Group decided to forego paying the interest due on Dec. 1, 2003, on the Senior Subordinated Notes. The company is currently in a 30-day grace period before an event of default occurs.

Alcatel receives four-year supplier contract from SBC; Contact from China Mobile

Communications solutions supplier, Alcatel, Paris, France, has entered a four-year primary supplier agreement with SBC Communications for SBC's fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) initiative.

Alcatel offers products to telecommunications carriers, Internet

service providers and enterprises for delivery of voice, data and video applications to their customers or employees. Alcatel operates in more than 130 countries.

Alcatel also announced that China Mobile, reportedly China's largest mobile service operator, has chosen Alcatel's Colorlock™ single-mode optical fiber for the construction of part of its national backbone network. Alcatel will supply approximately 60,000 km (37,300 miles) of Colorlock fiber for a backbone connecting the cities of Jinan, Qingdao and Yantai in China's Shandong Province.

www.alcatel.com

Eurocable Group plant opens in Croatia

On Dec. 3, 2003, Eurocable Group President/CEO Ernest Tolj, and Republic of Croatia President, Stjepan Mesic, opened the new EuroCable Group power cable factory in Jankomir, Zagreb, Croatia.

Visitors to the event, mainly customers and business partners of Eurocable, were able to see the factory's new cable manufacturing equipment for low-voltage power cables. Rosendahl Maschinen GmbH, Pischelsdorf, Austria, supplied two new extrusion lines for the facility. The new insulation line supplied by Rosendahl is capable of insulating round conductors up to 35 mm² (AWG 2) and sector conductors to 240 mm² (474 MCM), with insulation materials such as



Ernest Tolj, Eurocable President & Republic of Croatia President, Stjepan Mesic, at Eurocable plant opening in Zagreb.

dry silane (XLPE), Visico™ and PVC. Also, the sheathing line from Rosendahl can fill and sheath products up to 4 x 240 mm² (474 MCM) with PVC or PE.

With its new production facility for NYM, NYY and self-supporting cables, Eurocable has taken another step in its strategy to set new quality standards as a top cable producer in the European market.

www.rosendahlaustria.com

Republic sells assets; New company formed

The management of Republic Engineered Products, Inc., Fairlawn, OH, USA, has announced the formation of a new company. Republic Engineered Products, Inc., was established with the completion of the purchase by Perry Strategic Capital Inc., New York, NY, USA, of substantially all the assets of Republic Engineered Products LLC (REP). This transaction valued at US\$277.5 million was approved by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Akron, OH, USA on Dec. 16, 2003 and completed on Dec. 19, 2003.



"Republic is now very well positioned to succeed," said Joseph F. Lapinsky, President and Chief Executive Officer. "We retain the plants, workforce and customer base that have made Republic the leading name in special bar quality steel for a long time. As a result of the sale of assets out of Chapter 11, we now have a much-improved financial structure. We would again thank all those who supported our effort to preserve the business and contributed to our ability to complete this transaction in a timely fashion."

In addition to its Fairlawn headquarters, Republic Engineered Products, Inc., operates steelmaking centers in Canton and Lorain,

Notebook

Copper Seen as Competitive with FO Cable for LANs

Engineers at Penn State University, University Park, PA, USA, have developed and simulation-tested a copper wire transmission scheme for distributing a broadband signal over local area networks (LANs) with a lower average bit error rate than more costly fiber optic cable.

Per Dr. Mohsen Kavehrad, W. L. Weiss Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of the Center for Information & Communications Technology Research who led the study, "Our approach can improve the capability of existing local area networks and shows that copper is a competitor for new installations in the niche LAN market." Kavehrad shared his team's results at the IEEE GLOB-COM Conference, in San Francisco, CA, USA, Dec. 4, 2003.

The Penn State approach responds to the IEEE challenge for a copper Ethernet network capable of carrying broadband signals of 10 gigabits/sec. In existing copper gigabit systems each pair of wires carries 250 megabits/sec. For a 10 gigabit system, each pair would have to carry 2.5 gigabits/sec, and at such speeds, energy cross-talk takes place. The Penn State scheme involves a method that jointly codes and decodes the signal, and in decoding, corrects the crosstalk errors.

www.psu.edu



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Silica Nanowires Provide Low-Loss Connections for Optical Circuits

According to **IOP Publishing Limited's** online photonics resource, low-loss silica nanowires that can guide light around tight corners have been fabricated by a team from the USA, China and Japan. The researchers from **Harvard University, Zhejiang University** and **Tohoku University** say that their wires hold promise for the building of future micro-photon devices.

Eric Mazur's group at Harvard transforms silica optical fiber into a nanowire by a two-stage drawing method. First a flame-heated fiber is drawn into a 1 micron wide wire. This is then wound around a heated sapphire taper to create wires as small as 50 nm in diameters and up to several tens of millimeters long.

The nanowires produced using the above process are very smooth and offer an optical loss of less than 0.1dB/mm for either visible or infrared light. They are also very strong and flexible. As a result, these wires could be suitable for making low-loss tight bends on miniature optical circuits, and according to the team, could lead to smaller device sizes and higher performance.

www.optics.org



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Dow global business groups re-aligned

Andrew N. Liveris, President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, MI, USA, has announced a new organization with three global business portfolios and the appointment of Senior Vice Presidents who will lead them.

Dow's new Plastics Group, headed by Romeo Kreinberg, includes polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polystyrene, engineering thermoplastics (ETP), fabricated products, automotive wire and cable, and rubber and elastomers.

The Chemicals and Intermediates Group, headed by Michael R. Gambrell, includes organic intermediates, solvents and monomers (OISM), oxide derivatives, chlorovinyls, chlorinated organics, Cal/Mag, propylene oxide/propylene glycol (PO/PG) and acrylates.

The Performance Chemicals and Thermosets Group, headed by Phillip H. Cook, includes polyurethanes, polyurethane systems, epoxy, Dow latex (emulsion polymers/UCAR emulsion systems), industrial chemicals, specialty polymers (excluding acrylates), water-soluble polymers, custom and fine chemicals and licensing.

Each of the three new Senior Vice Presidents is responsible for his group's profitability and accountability, working with Liveris and the office of the CEO on allocating resources based on overall company needs and operating at

the corporate level on strategy and portfolio management.

In related assignments, Lee P. McMaster will work full-time on a special project assessing Dow's opportunities in China and the Middle East. He will report to Liveris. Theo Walthie, Business Group President, will retain his current responsibilities including hydrocarbons and energy, and ethylene oxide/ethylene glycol (EO/EG). He will also report to Liveris.

Effective Feb. 1, 2004, Jerome J. Peribere, will succeed A. Charles Fischer and serve as President and CEO of Dow AgroSciences, reporting to J. Pedro Reinhard, Dow Executive Vice President and CFO. Also, the Environmental Operations Business will report to Arnold A. Allemang, Executive Vice President, Operations.

The firm's global leaders will continue their current alignment, focusing on delivering optimal service across all business units at the lowest possible cost.

www.dow.com

Corning Cable Systems supplies OPGW in Panama

Corning Inc., Corning, NY, USA, announced that fiber optic cable and connectivity products from Corning Cable Systems are now being installed in Panama's 400 km (249 mile) national fiber optic backbone project. The multi-million dollar contract for these products was given to Corning Cable Systems by Consorcio Andino in Nov. 2002.

Corning Cable Systems provided over 400 km (249 miles) of optical ground wire (OPGW) cable using Corning® LEAF® optical fiber. Passive optical connectivity items included fiber optic hardware, fusion splicers, optical testing equipment and fiber optic splice closures.

www.corning.com

OFS & Tellabs lower DWDM costs for service providers

OFS, Norcross, GA, USA and Tellabs, Naperville, IL, USA, have successfully shown how the Tellabs® 7100 optical transport system's new feature package 2.0 and OFS' TrueWave® RS Fiber can help service providers extend their wavelength reach and reduce DWDM capital expenditures by up to 15%.



When tested together, TrueWave RS Fiber increased the reach capability (distance between add/drop of a wavelength on the Tellabs 7100 system) by up to 300%, or over 1200 km (746 miles). This extended reach was achieved with low-cost metro amplifiers instead of high-cost regional amplifiers and without the use of dispersion compensating fiber (DCF).

During the demo, the Tellabs 7100 system's 2.0 release and OFS' TrueWave RS Fiber provided the extended reach for a real-life, customer-designed network. The products eliminated all DCF fiber needed to carry high-speed 10G/OC-192 optical signals multiplexed on the Tellabs 7100 system. Also, over half the regional amplifiers were replaced for a 40% cost reduction.



www.ofsoptics.com

FEIS published on Phelps Dodge mining operation

Phelps Dodge Mining Co., a div. of Phelps Dodge Corp., Phoenix, AZ, USA, said the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has published the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for a proposed copper mining operation near Safford, AZ, USA. Publication of the FEIS, which analyzes environmental impact of the proposed project, is a needed step in acquiring permits for Phelps Dodge to develop the Dos Pobres and San Juan copper



ore bodies. Within several months, the BLM will publish its decisions about the project in a Record of Decision and Notice of Decision.

www.phelpsdodge.com

Withdrawal of Steel Tariffs: Pro & Con Reactions

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), Rosslyn, VA, USA, applauded the Bush Administration for its decision to withdraw Section 201 safeguard tariffs applied by the U.S. government on many types of imported steel products since Mar. 2002.

"NEMA opposed these tariffs from the beginning and has worked long and hard with many of our members as well as other steel-consuming industry groups to achieve their withdrawal," said NEMA President, Malcolm O'Hagan. "The administration made the right decision. The tariffs have caused a great deal of disruption for much of our industry. This action will help level the playing field for many companies and demonstrates that the USA is willing to abide by international trade rules."

NEMA is the USA trade association representing the interests of electro-industry manufacturers.

With an opposing view, stainless steel long product manufacturers (including Carpenter Technology Corp., Crucible Specialty Metals, Electralloy and Stalor Steels Corp.) expressed disappointment in the President's decision to terminate the Section 201 import relief program covering stainless steel bar, stainless steel wire rod and stainless steel wire.

"As we advised the Bush Administration, the 201 program has not yet produced significant benefits for stainless long product producers, in part because of softness in the market and also because the 201 tariffs for our products were

Notebook

DOC Imposes Anti-Dumping Duties on PC Wire Strand

The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) recently announced that it determined that imports of certain prestressed concrete (PC) steel wire strands from Brazil, India, Korea, Mexico and Thailand are sold in the USA at less than fair value, and result in material injury for the USA domestic steel industry. As a result, the DOC recently imposed anti-dumping duties on the imports of these steel wire materials from the five countries cited with the following margins: Brazil: 119%; India: 102%; Korea: 54%; Mexico: 77%; and Thailand: 13%.

The DOC also imposed countervailing duty on prestressed concrete wire strands imported from India with a 63% margin. On the condition that the International Trade Commission (ITC) determines that imports of these materials from the five countries injure USA industry, the duties will go into effect.

The DOC actions were made in response to an unfair trade petition filed on Jan. 31, 2003, by a small coalition that included American Spring Wire Corp., Bedford, Hts., OH, USA; Insteel Wire Products Co., Mt. Airy, NC, USA; and Sumiden Wire Products Corp., Stockton, CA, USA.



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BUSINESS & MARKET REPORT

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Notebook

Leggett Answers High Steel Costs With Price Increases

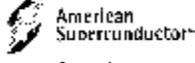
Diversified manufacturer **Leggett & Platt**, Carthage, MO, USA, will implement price increases of 4-6% on its wire and steel products early in 2004.



Leggett said this latest increase, which follows an increase announced earlier this quarter, is driven by rapidly rising steel costs as global demand for steel and steel scrap continues to quickly grow.

www.leggett.com

Honors to AMSC

Dr. Greg Yurek, President/CEO of **American Superconductor Corp. (AMSC)**, Westborough, MA, USA, was honored by the London, England-based **Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE)** with its 2003 Viscount Nuffield Silver Medal, and was also named a fellow of the IEE. The Viscount Nuffield Silver Medal is awarded for a most meritorious contribution to the  manufacturing profession.

Also, AMSC's SuperVAR™ synchronous condenser was named this year's "Most Promising Pre-commercial Technology" at the 5th Annual Platts Global Energy Awards ceremony, as presented by **Platts Global Energy**.

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modest. There were substantial product and country exclusions," explained Robert J. Torcolini, Chairman, President and CEO, Carpenter Technology Corporation. "We had hoped that the President would continue the program for its full term so, as the market improves, we would benefit."

"Nevertheless, we deeply appreciate the initiatives the President has taken, and will continue to our support for the remaining two legs of the President's program: the reduction of uneconomic steelmaking capacity globally and efforts among steel making nations to negotiate an agreement to end government subsidies. We urge the Administration

to cover all stainless steel products in the import licensing program," concluded Torcolini. ■

Obituary...

Robert Barthod, 67, Pres. of **BALLOFFET** in France, passed away Oct. 23, 2003, after a 16-month fight against cancer. Barthod was the 5th Chairman of **BALLOFFET Co.**, founded in 1873 by Claudius Balloffet. In 1960, Robert Barthod perfected a machine to increase quality and production of diamond dies under 150 μ in size. In 1964, he produced the first SS154 ultrasonic machine, still the basic tool for the production of all diamond dies. In the 1970s, he developed the first laser for the machining and piercing of diamonds.

Sales/Net Income Table

Company	Sales	% Δ	Net Income	% Δ
CDT	131	+0.8	2.7	+250

Latest Quarterly Sales/Net Income in US\$ millions. (% Δ is relative to 2002 quarterly data).

Quotables...

- **Valerio Battista**, Managing Director of **Pirelli Energy Cables and Systems**, Milan, Italy, commenting on Pirelli's receipt of a Moroccan power company contract worth some €115 million: "Pirelli was awarded this very significant contract in a particular market scenario. In fact, the slowing international economic environment has impacted the whole sector with the non-resumption of investments. On the other hand, there is a strong attention on power transmission grids due to recent black-outs all over the world. This project improves grids interconnection and allows for power transmission where needed according to demand peaks."
- **G rard Hauser**, Chairman/CEO of **Nexans**, Paris, France, on Nexans' energy sector contract: "This contract confirms Nexans' leadership and technological excellence in the energy cables and systems sector and is the most important for the submarine power industry in 2003."
- **General Cable**, Highland Hts., KY, USA, President/CEO, **Gregory B. Kenny**, on the company's announced plant rationalization: "Our decision today was taken in response to the prolonged and unprecedented decline in the North American industrial cable market. I am confident that it will allow us to continue on the path of becoming the low-cost producer in the industrial and specialty cables market while maintaining ample capacity for the improving demand we have recently begun to see." General Cable Spokeswoman, **Lisa Lawson**, on the lay off of 100 people at the firm's Marion, IN, USA, plant: "We're losing money in this business, and we need to do something to adjust."
- **Ed Breen**, Chief Executive at **Tyco International Ltd.**, Pembroke, Bermuda, on the company's focus on debt reduction: "We won't be doing any acquisitions in fiscal 2004. In 2005, we could be back to the point of doing selective acquisitions."
- **Fred Kuznik**, CEO, **Cable Design Technologies (CDT)**, Schaumburg, IL, USA, on Q1 2004 results: "This quarter's results in terms of profit, cash flow and costs show the benefits of our restructuring efforts. With restructuring taking hold, we believe we have established a solid foundation for the business. The improving economy has resulted in increased revenues, and we continue to look to grow revenue through product and market development."
- **Felix Wright**, Chairman/CEO, **Leggett & Platt**, Carthage, MO, USA, in response to higher steel costs, "We continue to see significant increases in steel costs, with steel scrap prices approaching record highs. Worldwide demand for steel has risen sharply over the past few months, driven to a large degree by industrial growth in China and a broadening recovery in U.S. manufacturing. The U.S. steel industry has reduced productive capacity over the past two years through plant closings and bankruptcies. These rationalizations, coupled with a weaker dollar (which makes foreign steel more expensive), have reduced the supply of steel available in the U.S. market."

Wire & Cable International



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Daniel Wilhoit to Sales Manager at Berk-Tek

Berk-Tek, New Holland, PA, USA, A Nexans Company, appointed Daniel Wilhoit Southeast Regional Sales Manager. He is responsible for setting and meeting Berk-Tek's sales goals and objectives in the south-east region of the USA, and will work



out of his Concord, NC, USA office.

Wilhoit's prior employers included Molex Premise Networks and AMP/Tyco Inc. Wilhoit has held a variety of sales positions from customer service to technical, regional and national roles.

www.berktek.com

FCC Chairman appoints Jon Cody as legal advisor

Michael Powell, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Washington, DC, USA, has appointed Jon Cody as his legal advisor handling media and broadband issues. Since coming to the FCC in 2001, Cody has been an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of Strategic Planning, serving as a Special Policy Advisor to the Chairman. Previously, Cody was an Associate at the law firm Mintz Levin Cohen Ferris Glovsky & Popeo in Washington, DC, USA.

www.fcc.gov

Avaya appoints Richard Wallman to Board of Directors

Avaya Inc., Basking Ridge, NJ, USA, named Richard Wallman to its Board of Directors. He is the former Senior VP/CFO of Honeywell International Inc. He also served as AlliedSignal's CFO from 1995 to 1999, before its merger with Honeywell. Wallman currently serves on the Boards of Ariba, Inc., Hayes-Lemmerz and Lear Corp.

Avaya Chairman/CEO, Don Pe-

terson said, "Richard Wallman's experience leading finance organizations for some of the world's largest firms will be an asset to Avaya's Board. Richard's proven management ability and strategic view of business operations is an excellent match for Avaya as we continue to help our customers migrate to IP telephony and use it to improve their businesses."

www.avaya.com

Leadership changes at Thomas & Betts

Thomas & Betts Corp., Memphis, TN, USA has elected Dominic J. Pileggi to succeed T. Kevin Dunnigan as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective Jan. 16, 2004. Dunnigan will continue to serve as a non-employee Chairman of the Board until Dec. 31, 2004. The Board also voted to increase the size of the Board to 11 Directors and elected Pileggi to fill the new seat, effective Jan. 16, 2004.

www.tnb.com

Pechiney Board Changes

Alcan Inc., Montreal, Ontario, Canada, has announced that the Pechiney Board of Directors was modified following Alcan's acquisition of control of Pechiney on Dec. 15, 2003.

Six new members were named: L. Yves Fortier, Alcan Board Chairman; Travis Engen, President/CEO; Geoffery Merszei, Exec. VP/CFO; Daniel Gagnier, Senior VP, Corporate/External Affairs; David MacAusland, Senior VP, Mergers/Acquisitions and CLO; and Christine Morin-Postel, Director.

Six existing Pechiney directors will remain: Jean-Paul Jacamon; Yves Mansion; H. Onno Ruding; Gerard Bouvier; Antione Nordberg; and Tony Zanello.

Engen was also named Chairman/CEO of Pechiney.

www.alcan.com

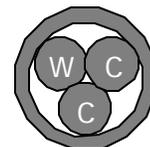
Notebook

New Magazine for Processors, Distributors & Users

In its March 2004 issue, Wire & Cable Technology International magazine will introduce a new editorial section, titled Wire & Cable Connector. This "magazine-in-a-magazine" feature will be directed specifically to wire and cable processors, distributors and users.

The new editorial section will feature coverage on electrical and communication wire and cable processing equipment and services; wire, cable and harness designs and applications; interconnect products; cable assembly and installation technology; marking equipment; regulations and standards; and more. Wire & Cable Connector will also cover the relevant industry events and associations that are important to wire and cable processing, distribution and use.

Wire & Cable Connector



In 2004, Wire & Cable Connector will appear in the March and September issues of Wire & Cable Technology International.

www.wiretech.com

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53rd IWCS/Focus Call for Papers

The **International Wire & Cable Symposium, Inc. (IWCS, Inc.)**, Eatontown, NJ, USA, invites the submission of abstracts for possible papers to be presented at the 53rd IWCS/Focus to be held Nov. 15-18, 2004 in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

Topics for consideration include conductors and fibers; materials for insulation and jacketing; cable design, manufacturing and performance; wire harnesses and processing; cable assembly technologies, connectivity, interconnect and installation; manufacturing efficiency and cost control; and end-use and applications.

The 53rd IWCS/Focus conference will present technologies and trends in manufacturing, materials and design for the communications, data, electronics and specialty cable industry segments. The Technical Program offers original, leading edge Technical Presentations and Interactive Poster sessions from cable makers and users as well as key materials suppliers and equipment manufacturers. It also hosts special marketing and panel sessions in cooperation with organizations like the **SAE Cable Task Force** and the **ECA** div. of **EIA/TIA**.

The 53rd IWCS/Focus will also offer Marketing Sessions that provide critical presentations of significant commercial interest to top executives on topics such as market drivers, industry research, the

e-business evolution, supply chain management, process efficiencies, novel system designs and operations and global standards.

To submit a paper for the 53rd IWCS/Focus conference, follow the abstract guidelines found at the web site below. Abstracts will be accepted after Jan. 15, 2004.

www.iwcs.org

wire 2004 promotional opportunities

Initial Publications, Inc., Stow, OH, USA, the publisher of the Wire & Cable International OVERVIEW, offers the following wire 2004 Previews in its magazine publications:

- Wire & Cable Technology International – March 2004 issue. Editorial closing date is Feb. 13, 2004. To submit editorial for this Preview, visit:

www.wiretech.com

**Wire & Cable
Technology**
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- Wire Forming Technology International – Winter 2004 issue. Editorial closing date is Feb. 2, 2004. To submit editorial for this Preview, visit:

www.wireformingtech.com

**Wire Forming
Technology**
International

- Fastener Technology International – February 2004 issue. Editorial closing date is Jan. 16, 2004. To submit editorial for this Preview, visit:

www.fastenertech.com

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Upcoming Quarterly Results Conference Call/Webcast...

- **Avaya Inc.**, Basking Ridge, NJ, USA, has scheduled a Q1 2004 Earnings Conference call for Jan. 27, 2004, at 5:00 PM, ET. To learn more visit: www.avaya.com

EVENTS

February 8 - 11, 2004:
AWPA Annual Meeting
Los Cabos, Mexico

February 22 - 27, 2004:
OFC:04
Los Angeles, CA, USA

March 29 - April 2, 2004:
wire 2004
Düsseldorf, Germany

May 19 - 20, 2004:
Electrical Wire Processing
Technology Expo
Milwaukee, WI, USA

June 12 - 13, 2004:
WireDrawing 101®
Cleveland, OH, USA

June 12 - 16, 2004:
Wire Expo 2004
Cleveland, OH, USA

September 21 - 23, 2004:
Electrical Manufacturing Expo '04
(EME 04)
Indianapolis, IN, USA

October 25 - 28, 2004:
wire China 2004
Shanghai, China

November 10 - 12, 2004:
Wire Asia 2004
Shanghai, China

November 15 - 18, 2004:
53rd IWCS/Focus Conference
organized by the International Wire &
Cable Symposium, Inc. (IWCS, Inc.)
Philadelphia, PA, USA

2005

April 5 - 8, 2005:
Wire & Cable Expo 2005
New Delhi, India

May 14 - 20, 2005:
Interwire 2005
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Autumn of 2005:
wire Singapore 2005
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Consultant Needed...

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