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Stratos Optical Technologies Introduces HMC Expanded Beam Fibre Optic Connector

- Available in 2 and 4-channel configurations, the miniaturized HMC offers the reliability benefits of Expanded Beam (EB) technology in compact format, ideal for studio and OB applications -

Untereisesheim (01.11.2009) --- Stratos Optical Technologies, a leader in fibre optic video transport solutions for the broadcast industry, announced the European debut of its HMC (hermaphroditic miniaturized connector) expanded beam fibre optic connector at IBC 2007. The HMC will be demonstrated at the Stratos Optical exhibit (Stand 3.154). Now available in 2 and 4-channel configurations, the HMC offers the reliability benefits of Expanded Beam (EB) technology in a more compact format - convenient for use on smaller, portable equipment as well as for high-density connector panels.

By incorporating the very latest design and manufacturing technologies, Stratos has produced a 2 or 4-channel expanded beam connector with a diameter of just over 3/4" (21mm). The HMC is small enough for use with state-of-the-art HD broadcast and cinema cameras, disk recorders, and other situations where space is limited.

The HMC is the latest innovation in Stratos' line of expanded beam fibre optic connectors for broadcast applications. Stratos' SMPTE-compliant Hx1080 fibre optic connector, introduced in 2005, has been embraced by broadcasters and system integrators throughout Europe and North America for both OB and studio applications.

The HMC provides manufacturers of broadcast equipment an option to incorporate a harsh environment deployable fibre connector on their products. Stratos' EB technology, combined with hermetic sealing, enables the HMC to withstand harsh environments of moisture and particulate contamination. This technology also features hermaphroditic connecting,

eliminating the fuss about male and female ends. With an impeccable pedigree of 20 years of military use, Stratos EB technology offers the most reliable optical connection technology for repetitious connect/disconnect activity, and provides a solid and practical connector solution for audio, video and general data applications.

The HMC offers many of the same benefits as the industry-standard HMA connectors - rugged design, hermaphroditic connection, resistance to contamination and a robust optical connection. Additionally, HMC bulkheads can be installed in standard 1RU panels configured for industry-standard D mounts. The HMC's full rubber body provides durability against everyday wear and tear.

As fibre penetration continues in live venue productions and installed transport networks, Stratos' expanded beam fibre optic connectors are proving a popular solution for their dependable performance and ease-of-use.

Sales and Support

The HMC bulkhead assembly is also available in an industry-standard D-Series mounting that enables installation in a 1RU space with the same pitch and density as the ubiquitous audio XLR connectors.

Stratos Optical Technologies has established a global network of qualified and approved support outlets for its expanded beam line of fibre optic connectors, providing immediate customer care and technical support for fast reaction, live broadcast applications.

.Expanded Beam Technology

An impressive characteristic of EB technology is that the optical fiber is fully enclosed and sealed behind a hard-coated beam expanding lens, enabling an enlarged dirt and contamination resistant optical interface and no-contact, no-wear connection. The hermaphroditic design allows simple and rapid rigging and repair because every

connection is identical. In live event broadcast, this solution delivers breakthrough performance results for applications commonly supported with interconnects that exhibit performance degradation after a few couplings. Expanded beam connectors are inherently resilient to environmental factors. The open connector face design allows the lens to be cleaned with a simple wipe of a cloth, then quickly reconnected for uninterrupted transmission.

About Stratos Optical Technologies and Emerson Network Power Connectivity Solutions

Stratos Optical Technologies, now a wholly owned subsidiary of Emerson Network Power Connectivity Solutions, has a rich history of optical interconnect and packaging expertise. Along the way, the company pioneered several optical technologies including media conversion and optical transport solutions with innovative form-factors and harsh environment capabilities, and now has a strong IP portfolio of more than 100 patents. Today, Stratos Optical Technologies offers connectivity products and subsystems for fiber transport of military/aerospace communications, broadcast video signals, and telecom/datacom provisioning.

Emerson Network Power Connectivity Solutions serve the needs of wireless communications, telephony and data networks, CATV, security systems, health care and industrial facilities with a full spectrum of broadband RF copper and fiber optic connectivity products. For more information, visit www.emersonnetworkpower.com/Connectivity.

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