

Glentel Brings Wireless Communications Solutions to Oil Sands Tradeshow & Conference 2008

Leading provider of innovative and reliable wireless communications solutions in Canada, will showcase its advanced and integrated wireless communications solutions at Oil Sands Tradeshow & Conference in Edmonton, Alberta.

Glentel's Business Division is focused on providing integrated real-time terrestrial and satellite voice and data communications to its customers. The division's growth can be attributed to the strength of the oil and gas industry in northern British Columbia and Alberta, the maturing of certain industry segment opportunities, and the increased points of presence through acquisitions.

Glentel will feature mobile satellite solutions along with its satellite network at the Oil Sands Tradeshow & Conference. Glentel solutions will be displayed at Booth 2119 on Tuesday, September 23, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday, September 24, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Glentel's Business Division, with 17 branches across Canada, provides complete wireless solutions and the service to ensure they are working all the time, every time. These solutions include designing and commissioning wireless networks for commercial applications in three core areas: terrestrial narrowband and broadband radio systems, and satellite network services. Besides being Motorola's largest Authorized Two Way Radio Dealer in Canada, Glentel is also a National Motorola Authorized Mobile Broadband Partner.

Glentel offers a full range of mobile satellite solutions using Mobile Satellite Ventures (MSV) MSAT satellite network. Whether an organization requires mobile satellite phones for vehicles, a satellite dispatch network, a man Workalone notification and monitor, or a low rate packet data communications system, Glentel supplies organizations with a turnkey solution.

Glentel has been providing reliable Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) services with its Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) satellite network since 1995. This robust network has been supporting large-scale distributed measurement and control systems for some of the largest oil and gas pipeline companies in North America, connecting hundreds of remote sites in the harshest of environments, where traditional terrestrial infrastructure does not exist. The company recently completed the installation of a new state-

Advanced technology solids transfer pump system stands alone . . . Recently transferring tar-laden sand-clay waste sludge from oil sand's settling lagoon.

Supavac® pumps have proven to effectively and reliably transfer tons of high density sludge, abrasive slurry, hydrocarbon waste and much more, excelling where many submersible, centrifugal and diaphragm pumps have experienced high maintenance and downtime or are not a viable option, advises Bob Spicer, president of Supavac Canada Inc.

New to Canada with an international track record of pumping the toughest oily sludge, abrasive slurry and bulk solids, the tarsands is a natural challenge,

comments Spicer, adding that one of our toughest achievements to date, transferring waste drill cuttings, has become one of our biggest markets, because as Forrest Gump says, "You never know what you're gonna get."

It is reported that a Supavac SV110V pump system was recently put to the test on a small scale at an extraction plant settling pond, successfully vacuum recovering and pressure discharging an extremely abrasive waste sludge comprised of sand and clay and laden with tar. More installations are planned.

Installations for these highly mobile pump systems are reported to include muck and slimes cleanup; tailings and process spills recovery; conveyor spills recovery and return to the belt; removal of heavy tank bottom sludge; cleanout upset sumps; underwater removal of sediment from pump inlets and structures; thickener and settling pond cleanout and bulk solids transfers.


Spicer advises that pumping is as much an art as a science. Most solids can be pumped with a Supavac as long as they will flow out of a bucket when turned upside down, albeit sometimes slowly, adding that even dry sand has been pumped. In the case of some sticky and awkward solids, the use of a high pressure spray may be all that is needed to start these solids moving towards the pickup nozzle and then drawn in with high suction force.

Supavac pumps move tons of solids with a minimum amount of flow and for many installations the addition of makeup water is not required at all. This can significantly reduce interim storage, handling and haulage, downstream treatment and disposal costs.

It is reported that these unique pumps can effectively perform many of the same onsite tasks as wet and dry vacuum trucks and at a much lower cost, transferring solids up to a kilometer away.

Supavac patented pump systems utilize advanced technology and proprietary pickup nozzle designs. Years of innovation and experience are transferred onsite during startup supervision and training, ensuring an effective and reliable operation.

Suction power of up to 25 inches of mercury is generated, effectively drawing sludge and slurry into the pickup nozzle and up through the suction hose into the pump. The entire contents are then pushed out of the pump and propelled through the discharge line with the force of 100 psi. Using no electricity, these pneumatic displacement pumps are considered intrinsically safe for use in most plant locations. Pumps operate automatically and only require minimum operator intervention. And with no rotating parts in use and no moving parts in direct contact with the harmful effects of the flow, high reliability is the experience.

International users include mining giants BHP Billiton, Xstrata and Rio Tinto; petroleum giants Shell, BP and Chevron; and Halliburton, with over fifty of the largest Supavac pumps in use worldwide including their North Sea operations. Recent Canadian installations include Vale Inco in Sudbury. 

Blasch Precision Ceramics Announces Engineering Assistance in Applying Silicon Carbide to High Wear Mining Applications


ALBANY, NY (date) – Blasch Precision Ceramics is now offering extensive engineering assistance in applying high-performance advanced silicon carbide materials to high wear applications in the mining industry.

Blasch reaction bonded silicon carbide parts are already widely applied in cyclones, pumps and valves, demonstrating more than 10 times the service life of metal. Recently Blasch engineers became aware that others in the mining industry would like to maximize uptime by using this material in additional high-wear applications, but aren't sure how to start.

"That's where our engineering assistance group can help," said Jeff Bolebruch, Senior Market Manager for Blasch. "Just give us a call and we can figure out whether a particular application makes sense for you and how to make it happen."


Blasch's reaction bonded SiSiC offers excellent wear, chemical, oxidation, thermal shock resistance, and high thermal conductivity up to its maximum use temperature of 1380°C. Currently available mining industry products include cyclones, pump parts and valve parts. New products are constantly under development, and custom shapes are also available upon request.

Founded in 1979, Blasch Precision Ceramics serves a variety of manufacturing and processing industries throughout the world, providing innovative, customized solutions for difficult chemical and high temperature applications.

For additional information about Blasch silicon carbide to high wear mining applications, contact Jeff Bolebruch. Call 1-800-550-5768 (or 518-436-1263) extension 42 write Blasch Precision Ceramics, 580 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204, FAX 518-436-0098, email jbolebruch@blaschceramics.com or visit www.blaschceramics.com. Top of Form 

BW Technologies by Honeywell announces the arrival of the GasAlertMax XT


BW Technologies by Honeywell announces the arrival of the GasAlertMax XT multi-detector for H₂S, CO, O₂ and combustible gases. Simplify remote sampling in confined spaces with the GasAlertMax XT's non-intrusive integrated sampling pump and SmartSample diaphragm pump technology. Compact and field tough, the GasAlertMax XT, with one-button operation and flexible user options, the GasAlertMax XT provides ease of use and simple compliance to industry safety standards.

GasAlertMax XT is ideally suited to a range of applications and customers including confined space entry, oil and gas, marine and shipping, utilities, wastewater treatment plants, power generation and municipal needs.  For more information on the GasAlertMax XT, visit www.gasmonitors.com.

Ceramic components for use in oil field applications at the Oil Sands Show in Canada

FRIATEC N.A. LLC will exhibit their broad range of ceramic components suitable for use in oil field applications where erosion, wear and corrosion are prevalent. FRIATEC is a world-recognized leader in the design and supply of high performance technical ceramic components for industry. Our products are manufactured from high purity ceramic materials: aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, silicon carbide and silicon nitride.

FRIALIT: DEGUSSIT ceramic components are known for high performance, reliability and longer lifetime owing to the following characteristics:

- High mechanical strength even at high temperatures
- Extremely resistant to wear and corrosion
- Excellent resistance to chemical attack
- Low specific gravity
- Excellent thermal and electrical resistance
- Stability at high temperatures up to 1950 °C 

INGRAIN INTRODUCES 3-D NanoXCT IMAGING SYSTEM: Revolutionary device will reveal internal structure of rock samples to aid exploitation

Ingrain, the Houston-based rock physics company, will provide geoscientists exquisite insight into the base properties of reservoir rock samples with its recent acquisition of a revolutionary NanoXCT imaging device.

The significance of Ingrain's new imaging technology is that it can reveal unprecedented, nano-scale three-dimensional resolution of reservoir rock's pore structures. Enhanced knowledge of these pore structures helps geoscientists determine how to best extract fluids from particular oil and gas formations.

Ingrain's new imaging device is especially ideal for studying complex, unconventional fields, such as tight gas sands and oil shales. Armed with new knowledge of this type of rock's inner structure and its expected behavior, geoscientists will be able to more efficiently exploit these vast resources—one of the newest frontiers in today's oil and gas industry.

The 3-D NanoXCT imaging device, which is the first of its kind to be used outside of the microchip industry and some of the synchrotron beams in the country, is capable of focusing an X-ray source onto an extremely small region of interest within a rock sample—as small as 20-60 microns. The best resolution of the new device is 0.05 microns (50 nanometers) or 1/1000th of the diameter of a strand of human hair.

"One of today's biggest challenges is that many producing fields are maturing and production is in decline," said Dr. Avrami Grader, Ingrain's chief scientist. "To help make up for it, the industry needs to go after more challenging formations, such as tight gas sands and oil shales.

"What makes the NanoXCT so exciting is its ability to focus

its X-rays on a very small region of interest in order to examine the most difficult, tight pore spaces found in these tight rocks. Until now, we had not been able to obtain the necessary enhanced resolutions of these rock samples in order to understand fluid transport and rock mechanics processes that lead to effective production," Dr. Grader explained.

The NanoXCT creates multiple views of a rock sample by focusing its X-ray source through a condensing lens on a particular region of interest. The X-rays exit the object and pass through a device that focuses the beam onto a detector to form each view.

These views are then combined to create a virtual, three-dimensional image of the rock. Dr. Grader explained that the NanoXCT is capable of producing images that have two to three orders of magnitude better resolution than the MicroXCT scanning devices commonly in use today.

Ingrain is dramatically improving the technology of simulating fluid flow measurement in oil and gas reservoir rocks, allowing exploration and production operators to better understand their assets and make smarter, more informed field management decisions.

The company's digital process uses near real-time patented numerical methods to measure both common and highly complex reservoir rock properties, enabling operators to reduce downtime and improve efficiency. Ingrain provides a new method for evaluating rock and fluid transport properties of cores and cuttings that adds significant value to traditional evaluation methods. **OGN**

Fiber Optic Distributed Strain and Temperature Sensors

OZ Optics now offers the Foresight^ä series of fiber optic distributed strain and temperature sensors. The new sensor system provides high resolution and accurate strain and temperature monitoring over very long distances. The sensor uses standard optical telecommunications fiber, thereby leveraging the enormous economies of scale from fiber optic communication networks. The new system is ideal for temperature and strain monitoring of oil & gas pipelines, bridges, dams, security fences and power lines. Brillouin sensors are excellent for detecting corrosion, buckling and micro cracks in large structures.

The new Fiber Optic Distributed Strain and Temperature Sensor (DSTS) uses Brillouin scattering in optical fibers to measure changes simultaneously in both temperature and strain along the length of a standard, low-cost optical fiber. By wrapping or embedding a fiber inside a structure such as an oil pipeline or dam, users can detect when the structure is being strained or heated/cooled and allow the problem to be corrected before failure occurs. Such monitoring capability is

invaluable in critical structures where failure could represent loss of lives or millions of dollars. The sensing fiber can also be used for telecommunications.

The sensing technology gives both temperature and strain readings along the length of the fiber, with spatial resolution as short as 5cm. Being able to monitor both temperature and strain changes is a key advantage, as it allows one to identify which changes in the strain on the fiber are temperature related, and which are caused by outside stresses. Depending on the configuration selected, the sensor range is up to 40km.

The system is fully compatible with the communications and monitoring solutions found in OZ Optics' Optical Network Safeguard™ (OZ-Guard) system. This provides wireless communication options for remote installations, automated monitoring, and real-time alerts with GPS coordinates via text message, email, instant message and the web. Escalating alarms, starting with the field engineer and rising to any level specified by the system operator, are a standard feature of the system. **OGN**

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