



Press release

Nexans: contract for a submarine cable in Alaska

OTC Houston, May 2, 2005 – Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded a contract of approximately 7.5 million USD, by Alaska Electric Light and Power (AEL&P), for the supply and installation of a 3 core 69 kV XLPE solid dielectric submarine cable.

This 15 km transmission line, extending across Stephens Passage from North Douglas to Young Bay in Alaska, will be part of the South East Alaska Intertie project which aims to provide lower cost hydro electric generation to local communities (see note). The cables will be laid at a depth of 250 feet, with currents of approximately 2 knots.

Nexans is contracted for the design, manufacture, transport, marine and land installation, and site testing of the cable. This cable will be designed, manufactured and tested in Nexans' Halden plant in Norway.

The project is scheduled for completion in September 2005.

A long-term relationship

Nexans has a long standing relationship with major utilities in Alaska, having supplied and installed cables for Chugach Electric in the 138 kV Cook Inlet in 1976 and 1990. Nexans also supplied and installed the 138 kV Snettisham submarine link in for Alaska Electric Power & Light, in 1999.

Note: About the Southeast Alaska Intertie Project

Southeast Intertie is a concept that aims to build a network of power transmission lines connecting most of the communities in the region of Southeast Alaska to an electric transmission grid. This concept was proposed 15 years ago and a study was commissioned in 1997 to explore it and flesh out some details. This action was successful in obtaining federal legislation authorizing up to \$384 million in federal funds to construct a regional intertie. It was also recommended to establish a means for coordinating regional power supply and transmission planning efforts, pursuing joint development with telecommunications providers.

About Alaska Electric Light and Power (AEL&P)

Located in Juneau, Alaska, AEL&P serves 14,500 customers who consume more than 293 million kilowatt-hours of electrical energy each year. AEL&P is the largest investor-owned, or privately owned and financed electrical utility in Alaska, and the sixth largest utility in the state. AEL&P supports Juneau and the surrounding communities with four hydroelectric generation facilities.

About Nexans

Nexans is the worldwide leader in the cable industry. The Group brings an extensive range of advanced copper and optical fiber cable solutions to the infrastructure, industry and building markets. Nexans cables and cabling systems can be found in every area of people's lives, from telecommunications and energy networks, to aeronautics, aerospace, automobile, railways, building, petrochemical, medical applications, etc. With an industrial presence in 29 countries and commercial activities in 65 countries, Nexans employs 20,000 people and had sales in 2004 of euros 4.9 billion. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange. More information on www.nexans.com

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