



For Immediate Release

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New SLiC Fiber Aerial Closures from 3M Expedite Installation of Fiber Access Networks

AUSTIN, Texas – October 4, 2005 -- The new SLiC fiber aerial closures 533 and 733 from 3M are easily installed in new construction or maintenance applications. Quick-release latches make installation and re-entry easy without tools. Because of preassembly of subcomponents, speed and accuracy of installations are enhanced. These aerial closures are members of the full 3M family of innovative products for fiber optic OSP deployment.

3M SLiC closures are built with technology utilized by 3M for 20-plus years for closures in the copper environment. They enable service providers to deploy aerial fiber networks in the access network (FTTN, HFC and FTTP) cost effectively.

These fiber aerial closures are free breathing, weather resistant and constructed in a single piece, allowing splice access after placement and without removal of the closure from the cable. They are designed for strand-mount, in-line, butt or taut-sheath single or ribbon fiber applications.

The durable, double-walled, blow-molded body resists cracking or breaking even in harsh environments, providing ongoing protection for fibers and splices. 3M SLiC fiber aerial closures are tested to Bellcore GR-771-CORE mechanical and environmental requirements for free-breathing closures.

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The maximum splice capacity of the 533 closure is 144 single and 432 mass fusion splices. The 733 closure can accommodate up to 288 single and 864 mass fusion splices.

3M Telecommunications

3M telecommunications products, technologies and services allow the world's service providers to offer high bandwidth connectivity from the central office into the customer premises with complete network solutions. The company's focus consists of technologies and services in telecom access and enterprise networks.

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Every day, 3M people find new ways to make amazing things happen. Wherever they are, whatever they do, the company's customers know they can rely on 3M to help make their lives better. 3M's brands include Scotch, Post-it, Scotchgard, Thinsulate, Scotch-Brite, Filtrete, Command and Vikuiti. Serving customers in more than 200 countries around the world, the company's 67,000 people use their expertise, technologies and global strength to lead in major markets including consumer and office; display and graphics; electronics and telecommunications; safety, security and protection services; health care; industrial and transportation. For more information, including the latest product and technology news, visit www.3M.com.

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