KVH Industries Introduces Elliptical Core Polarization Maintaining Fiber; E-Core PM Fiber Now Available for Delivery for Fiber Splicing and Pigtailing Applications

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MIDDLETOWN, R.I.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--March 19, 2001--KVH Industries (Nasdaq: KVHI) introduced its E-Core(R) polarization maintaining fiber today at the Optical Fiber Communications (OFC) Conference in Anaheim, California. E-Core fiber offers a number of advantages, including high polarization maintaining ability (greater than 40 dB-m) and low sensitivity to stress and temperature. These features make E-Core fiber ideal for fiber splicing and "pigtailing" to other optical components in applications where preserving the state of light polarization is critical to the operation of the device.

"The geometrical birefringence created by the elliptical core is the key to the E-Core fiber's outstanding polarization-maintaining abilities," explained Sid Bennett, KVH's vice president of fiber optic business development. "Because of its design, it is able to maintain its polarization and low-loss characteristics when exposed to physical stresses and temperature-induced changes far better than PM fiber created using stress-induced birefringence. It is the E-Core fiber's stability that makes it an excellent choice for pigtailing optical components."

The elliptically shaped core region within an E-Core fiber has a significantly higher index than the surrounding cladding, creating the geometrical birefringence necessary to maintain the polarization of the light within the fiber. The E-Core fibers are manufactured using high-grade silica materials and various high-purity dopants. A dual UV-cured acrylate coating is applied to standard fibers, thereby preventing moisture from penetrating the fiber, preserving its strength, and improving its handling characteristics.

With more than 20 years of fiber optic experience and 70+ patents, KVH Industries, Inc. is one of the few companies to make its own fiber as well as manufacture components and systems. Using its E-Core(R) polarization maintaining fiber, KVH manufactures an array of fiber optic products, including fiber optic gyros, high-voltage current sensors, and optical networking components. KVH is also a leading provider of innovative high-bandwidth mobile satellite communications products and navigation systems. An ISO 9001-registered company, KVH has headquarters in Middletown, Rhode Island, with a fiber optic manufacturing facility in Tinley Park, Illinois, and a European sales, marketing and support office in Hoersholm, Denmark.

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