

# News Release

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## **TYCO SUBMARINE SYSTEMS LTD. SIGNS US DOLLARS 51 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE BLACK SEA FIBER OPTIC CABLE SYSTEM (BSFOCS)**

Morristown, New Jersey - Tyco Submarine Systems Ltd. (TSSL) and Alcatel Submarine Networks, announced today the signing of a supply contract for the Black Sea Fiber Optic Cable System (BSFOCS) valued at dlr\$ 51 million. This undersea cable system will utilize the most advanced technology and will result in providing significant economic advantages to the Black Sea countries and Caucasus. BSFOCS, has been designed to incorporate TSSL's advanced fiber optic technology and the capability of upgrading via Wave Division Multiplexing (WDM).

The BSFOCS is scheduled for completion the second quarter of 2000, this 1,300km, 2-fiber pair, undersea system will directly connect Bulgaria, Ukraine and Russia with 2.5 Gb/s of submarine cable transport capacity upgradable to at least 10 Gb/s. The BSFOCS use of WDM, optical amplification and Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH) transmission in a collapsed ring configuration, will provide traffic protection on the system. The system uses state-of-the art WDM products designed by TSSL Laboratories located in Eatontown, New Jersey. This advanced technology is currently being utilized and deployed in various other TSSL contracted projects around the world. "Telecommunications is playing an ever increasing role in the whole world and is a strong element in supporting the growth of regional economics. We are pleased to supply the undersea telecom super highway which will link BSFOCS network to the global communication network," stated Thierry Scuiller, Managing Director of the European Region for TSSL. As an independent and fully integrated provider of undersea fiber optic networks, TSSL is uniquely positioned to supply, upgrade, and maintain undersea systems similar to BSFOCS.

The agreement for the Construction and Maintenance of the BSFOCS was signed by the Telecom Authorities of Armenia (ARMENTEL), Bulgaria (BTC), Cyprus (CYTA), Greece (OTE), Slovenia (TELECOM SLOVENIA), Ukraine (UKRTELECOM) and Russia (Westelcom). Also in the project the following companies are participating and have signed the agreement through representatives: AT&T from USA, DTAG from Germany, HT from Croatia and KDD from Japan.

Tyco Submarine Systems Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Tyco International Ltd. (NYSE: TYC), an independent supplier of undersea communications systems and services. TSSL owns and operates a fleet of world class cable ships for the installation and maintenance of undersea communication network systems. Leading edge fiber optic technology is provided by the internationally distinguished TSSL Labs located in Eatontown, New Jersey. The completely integrated manufacturing capabilities of TSSL are highlighted by cable, repeater and transmission equipment manufacturing facilities located in New Hampshire, New Jersey and Virginia. TSSL has combined these capabilities to successfully complete 85 undersea fiber optic networks, in excess of 350,000 kilometers of fiber optic cable connecting over 100 countries. For more information on TSSL or Tyco International please visit the website listed below.