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RSL Fiber Systems Receives Major Technology Innovation Award

Fast-Growing Connecticut Company Honored with 2010 North American Technology Innovation of the Year Award by Global Research Leader Frost & Sullivan

East Hartford, CT (Jan. 27, 2011) – RSL Fiber Systems, LLC, an East Hartford, Connecticut-based manufacturer of advanced lighting solutions and illumination systems for commercial and military applications, has earned its second major award in three months with its receipt of the 2010 North American Technology Innovation of the Year Award in Remote Source Lighting, presented by internationally-renowned research leader Frost & Sullivan.

The annual Frost & Sullivan “Best Practices” awards recognize companies in a wide variety of regional and global markets for demonstrating outstanding achievement and superior performance. Industry analysts compare market participants and measure performance through in-depth interviews, independent analysis and extensive secondary research. RSL will accept the award on February 9 at Frost & Sullivan’s 2011 Excellence in Best Practices Awards Banquet in New Orleans.

Just this past October, RSL was cited by the Connecticut Technology Council and Marcum LLP as Connecticut’s leading advanced technology manufacturer in revenue growth.

“We are truly at an exciting juncture in RSL’s evolution, and the sky is the limit as to the worldwide potential of our proprietary technology,” said Giovanni Tomasi, RSL’s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technology Officer. “We are humbled and honored that Frost & Sullivan has chosen to recognize our hard work and innovation.”

RSL was chosen for the award based upon an extensive and independent analysis by Frost & Sullivan researchers of today’s remote source lighting market. In general terms, remote source lighting refers to the method by which high-performance light is delivered to any number of hard-to-reach destinations, usually in a hazardous work environment, from a remotely located source. RSL Fiber Systems’ proprietary version of remote source lighting technology utilizing optical fiber was considered by Frost & Sullivan against the competition based upon five key criteria: uniqueness of the technology; impact on new products/applications; impact on functionality; impact on customer value; and relevance of innovation to industry.

In an extensive white paper analysis, Frost & Sullivan senior international technology research analyst Jakub Kwapisz notes that traditional remote source lighting systems based on plastic optical fiber often suffer from limited efficiency due to fiber transmission loss and light discolorization.

“RSL Fiber Systems has overcome these challenges with a unique remote source lighting system design that utilizes high-performance proprietary optical fiber cable combined

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with advanced light coupling technology to give effective light drive distances up to 15 times longer than traditional plastic optical fiber systems,” wrote Kwapisz.

Further, Kwapisz points out that while remote source lighting has been in existence for many years, “RSL Fiber Systems’ remote source lighting solution is unique in that it is not based on any single technology, but rather on its research and product development of the total illumination system design....RSL Fiber Systems has designed and developed a series of proprietary components, light coupling technologies and optical fiber designs, while also optimizing manufacturing processes in order to integrate and assemble these unique systems.”

In addition, noted Kwapisz, RSL’s fiber optic lighting systems:

- Are the most ideal solutions for hazardous or explosive environments as the cable and luminaire components are non-electrical, do not generate significant heat and do not emit electromagnetic and radio frequency interference (EMI/RFI);
- Eliminate the need for maintenance personnel to access remote lighting locations, significantly reducing maintenance costs and downtime;
- Allow for the placement of light fixtures in difficult or dangerous places to access locations and remain maintenance free for years.

The award is among several RSL has earned since its founding in 2001. In addition to the Frost & Sullivan and Connecticut Technology Council awards, the company has earned a Silver Connecticut Quality Improvement Award, awarded by the Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership, and has also been nominated for “Business of the Year” by the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

A division of Skyler Technologies Group, RSL Fiber Systems (www.rslfibersystems.com) provides advanced lighting solutions and integrated illumination systems for U.S. Navy ships including the LPD 17 class, the experimental craft “Sea Fighter,” and the Navy’s newest stealth destroyer, the DDG 1000, which is currently under construction. RSL is developing illumination systems and solutions for such diverse applications as mining, refineries, offshore oil exploration, first responders/homeland security, and renewable energy.

Frost & Sullivan, the Growth Partnership Company (www.frost.com), enables clients to accelerate growth and achieve best-in-class positions in growth, innovation and leadership. The company's Growth Partnership Service provides the CEO and the CEO's Growth Team with disciplined research and best-practice models to drive the generation, evaluation, and implementation of powerful growth strategies. Frost & Sullivan leverages 50 years of experience in partnering with Global 1000 companies, emerging businesses and the investment community from more than 40 offices on six continents.

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