Press release

Nexans’ innovative DuoTrack system receives German Federal Railway Authority type approval

All-in-one duplex solution combines copper and fibre-optic control and signalling functions within a single easy to install cable

Paris, January 29, 2007 – DuoTrack, the innovative duplex copper/fibre-optic lineside cabling solution for regional railways from Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has just received type approval from the German Federal Railway Authority (EBA). DB Deutsche Bahn AG (the German National Railways) will now use the cable for the first time in a pilot project for the modernization of the Odenwaldbahn line in Hesse, in central Germany.

All-in-one communication and control cable solution
Nexans has developed DuoTrack to provide an all-in-one solution that combines all the copper and fibre-optic lineside cable services required for regional railway communications and control functions within a single cable. Typically, these services include communication between electronic interlocks via fibre-optic cables or the control of signals and level crossings via copper cables, as well as the new ETCS (European Train Control System).

Fast and easy to install
DuoTrack’s high strength and durability makes it exceptionally easy to install, as the single cable can be clamped directly to the track. This method avoids time-consuming and costly civil engineering work compared to the traditional approach, in which several individual cables are laid in a concrete trough. Furthermore, DuoTrack is designed to offer significant reductions in TCO (Total Cost of Ownership), with anticipated savings of over 50 per cent. This makes DuoTrack an attractive option for equipping non-electrified regional lines with modern control and communication technology.

Figure of eight design
DuoTrack is designed to offer the optimum combination of stability, flexibility and functionality. It features the figure-eight cross-section that is well-proven in Nexans’ aerial cables, with the joint insulation of copper and fibre-optic cables, which are connected to each other via a strong web, facilitating low cost installation in a single step. The larger lower part accommodates a variable number of copper quads, while the upper part comprises a tiny high-grade steel pipe with single-mode fibres inside of it. Special Nexans hybrid joints allow for separate splicing of the DuoTrack copper and fibre-optic cable in a
waterproof joint, which is housed in a lockable high-grade steel housing and allows up to four cables to be used without additional cable cabinets.

**Special cable laying device**
Direct installation of the DuoTrack cable to the rail avoids time-consuming and costly civil works. This can be carried out using a special DuoTrack laying device developed by Contec in partnership with Nexans. It consists of a laying vehicle, cable chains with minimized tension and a laying arm which places the cable in the correct position. The system also includes a special tool for fastening the DuoTrack clamps which are individually tested at a bearing pressure of 200 N.

**High levels of protection**
The DuoTrack cable insulation and sheathing is designed to meet the high mechanical and thermal requirements of rail base installation, and both copper and fibre-optic elements have individual anti-rodent protection.

**Long term testing**
The DuoTrack system has already proven its capability in long-term tests and interference evaluation on a test track in Northern Germany, as well as in numerous laboratory tests. Nexans and Contec are now fitting the DuoTrack system to approximately 100 km of track as part of the "Odenwald railway modernization project" and this pilot project will promote the acceptance of this innovative technology for standard use by the German Railways network (DB Netz AG).

**About Nexans**
Nexans is the worldwide leader in the cable industry. The Group brings an extensive range of advanced copper, aluminum 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 aerospace, automotive, railways, building, petrochemical, medical applications, etc. With an industrial presence in more than 30 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 20,000 people and had sales in 2005 of 5.4 billion euros. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange, compartment A on the Eurolist of Euronext. More information on [http://www.nexans.com/](http://www.nexans.com/)

**Contacts:**

**Press**  
Céline Révillon  
Tel.: +33 (0)1 56 69 84 12  
Celine.revillon@nexans.com

**Investors Relations**  
Michel Gédéon  
Tel.: +33 (0)1 56 69 85 31  
Michel.gedeon@nexans.com