



**Press release**

**Nexans is to supply 130 kilometres of URC-1\* cable containing 96 fibres, to Emerald Bridge Fibre Ltd, for its Anglesey-Dublin connection**

*More capacity to customers in Ireland and the UK*

**Paris, October 25, 2011** – Nexans, a worldwide leading expert in the cable industry, has been awarded a contract to supply 130 kilometres of URC-1 cable to Emerald Bridge Fibres Ltd. (Emerald Bridge). Emerald Bridge is a joint venture between UK fibre network provider Geo Networks Ltd. (Geo) and Ireland's leading telecom provider ESB Telecoms Ltd, to lay the most recent submarine optical fibre between Ireland and the UK.

The URC-1 cable will be supplied in two separate designs; both single and double-armoured, to ensure the highest level of reliability. By using the latest technology, the cable will be made up of 96 fibres, the highest capacity available for UJ qualification. This will allow for plenty of flexibility to grow beyond current capacity requirements. The cable is currently being manufactured at Nexans' Rognan factory in Norway and will be ready for delivery to Emerald Bridge in time for the marine installation.

*"We've been working on this project since 2009 and it's satisfying to be able to sign the contract and gain yet another reference client for this area. Emerald Bridge expressed its confidence in us due to our ability to supply reliable products at the right price"* said Tom Birkeland, Nexans VP Submarine Business Development.

Emerald Bridge was particularly impressed with Nexans' global expertise and history of delivering large-scale installations of this type. *"We selected Nexans as our preferred supplier as they were ideally suited to meet our stringent cable specification requirements and were professional and easy to work with"*, said Joe Barrett, Project Director, Emerald Bridge.

The cable will be used to deliver virtually unlimited dark fibre capacity between the UK and the Republic of Ireland to some of the largest data users in the ISP, Mobile, Carrier and System Integrator areas.

*"Customers will benefit from the most direct, low latency route across the Irish Sea, as well as access to over 4,000km of UK and Irish national fibre networks"* said Tom Bambury, General Manager, ESB Telecoms Ltd.

The project will be executed in close cooperation between the two companies, Emerald Bridge Fibres Ltd and Nexans.

(\*) Unrepeated Cables

**About Nexans:**

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, worldwide leading expert in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation. Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future. With an industrial presence in 40 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 23,700 people and had sales in 2010 of more than 6 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A. For more information, please consult [www.nexans.com](http://www.nexans.com) or <http://www.nexans.mobi>

**About Emerald Bridge Fibre Ltd.:**

A new joint venture company between Geo Networks Ltd., the UK's leading dedicated fibre provider and ESB Telecoms Ltd., a leading Irish infrastructure and bandwidth supplier. Emerald Bridge was formed to proceed with the construction and operation of the shortest highest quality and most modern subsea cable system linking Wales, in the UK to Dublin in the Republic of Ireland. With over 20 years of collective experience in the design and planning of telecommunications networks and solutions, Emerald Bridge will benefit greatly from the expertise and support of both of its shareholding partners. The new cable system named Emerald Bridge 1 (EB1) is expected to be commissioned at the beginning of 2012 whilst commitments to purchase dark fibre on the new system have already been received from two major anchor customers. Visit [www.geo-uk.net](http://www.geo-uk.net) or [www.esbtelecoms.ie](http://www.esbtelecoms.ie) for more information.

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