

Clearfield Unveils the YOURx-Aerial Terminal; Sets New Benchmark for Faster FTTx Deployments

Unique Design Reduces Fiber Turn-up Time By Up To 50 Percent for Pre-Connectorized Aerial Deployments

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Clearfield, Inc. (NASDAQ:CLFD), the specialist in fiber management for communication service providers, today introduced the YOURx™-Aerial Terminal, an innovative enclosure for optical service aerial applications aimed at reducing service provider operational costs. Designed to terminate and distribute multiple fiber drops and express feeder fiber cables, the YOURx -Aerial Terminal sets the benchmark for aerial or strand mount fiber termination, providing service providers with the flexibility needed to manage fiber deployments with increased efficiency and profitability. With the YOURx-Aerial Terminal, Clearfield also introduces the ability to deploy all PON splitter topologies: distributed, centralized or hub and spoke – and manage other optical components like C/DWDM passives from a single platform.

The YOURx-Aerial Terminal is another critical element in the YOURx platform – a series of access products characterized by the YOURx FlexPort. The FlexPort is the key that enables the use of any type of media, whether ducted or brought directly into the terminal, providing complete flexibility on drop cable choice to best suit the network build desires. A 50 percent labor savings is achieved through plug-and-play connectivity for the distribution and access portions of the network while the feeder cables are fanned out and spliced inside the YOURx-Aerial Terminal. Service providers can now rely on less seasoned network technicians to reliably connect more homes and businesses to the network as opposed to the scarce resources of splice technicians. The YOURx-Aerial Terminal shortens the time installers spend in the bucket truck or on the pole by using the same fasteners common to all network installers, giving service providers the edge to speed fiber rollouts for any configuration regardless of the fiber serving area.

"Our approach for aerial fiber deployment has to be fast, flexible and cost-effective," said Joe Aresco, Frontier Communications AVP of OSP Engineering. "The innovative design of Clearfield's YOURx-Aerial Terminal provides much-needed options that we haven't seen in other solutions. Planning for the future is made easier with the Aerial Terminal's mid-span and drop capabilities. And because labor is such a big factor in the cost of fiber deployment and maintenance, we're pleased that a significant labor savings can be achieved utilizing the building block, plug-and-play connectivity."

The new YOURx-Aerial Terminal is a free-breathing, aerial interconnection point supporting up to 144 fiber feeds with a distribution capability of up to 24 individual service drops per site. It can mid-span a larger count fiber cable, allowing the service provider to deploy multiple terminal access points along the same cable run, thus maximizing their fiber investment. Another installation headache for both contractors and service providers is

excess fiber slack storage, and this has also been addressed by accommodating ample internal slack storage capability of ribbon or loose tube fibers.

Flexible Design, Multiple Drop Options for All Network Needs

The YOURx-Aerial Terminal gives network planners options to eradicate the traditional constraints of fiber drops for FTTx deployments with innovative FieldShield FlexConnectors and microduct, including:

- FieldShield D-ROP a cable-in-conduit (CIC) application in which the fiber is
 delivered from the factory to the job site with fiber already installed in the duct, allowing
 for a restorable one-pass connection eliminating the need for added labor cost to
 set the fiber in the duct.
- FieldShield FLATdrop the first connector assembly on the market to provide hardened environment performance without the added cost of expensive, bulky connectors.
- FieldShield StrongFiber a small, 900 µm Kevlar reinforced fiber cable ideal for use in FieldShield Microduct where all unused fiber is stored on craft-friendly deploy reels at the customer premise.
- *FieldShield FLEXdrop*™ ideal for shorter drops and aggressive route paths where more handling and tight slack storage is required.

"The YOURx-Aerial Terminal turns fiber assets into a strategic value driver for service providers," said Johnny Hill, chief operating officer and co-founder at Clearfield. "Outside plant network architecture continues to evolve as service requirements change and bandwidth demands increase. Service providers of all types want to deliver fiber and create new value from existing technology investments and skill sets. We have delivered the blueprint to bring *fiber to anywhere* —turning a concept into business reality, while, at the same time, driving down the costs of deployment."

The YOURx-Aerial Terminal is compliant with Telcordia GR-3125, making it one of the most durable products on the market. The YOURx-Aerial Terminal is commercially available as of March, 2018. View the introductory video here. Additional details on the YOURx-Aerial Terminal can be found in the associated data sheet and at http://www.seeclearfield.com.

About Clearfield, Inc.

Clearfield, Inc. (NASDAQ: CLFD) designs, manufactures and distributes fiber optic management, protection and delivery products for communications networks. Our "fiber to anywhere" platform serves the unique requirements of leading incumbent local exchange carriers (traditional carriers), competitive local exchange carriers (alternative carriers), and MSO/cable TV companies, while also catering to the broadband needs of the utility/municipality, enterprise, data center and military markets. Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN, Clearfield deploys more than a million fiber ports each year. For more information, visit www.SeeClearfield.com.

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Witz Communications for Clearfield, Inc. **Media & Analyst Contact:**Richard M. Williams, 919-435-9110
rmwilliams@witzcommunications.com

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