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## Charleston Southern University Completes New Campus-Wide Technology Infrastructure

*Charleston Southern University, the first school in South Carolina to adopt FutureFlex® Air-blown Fiber and a campus-wide wireless infrastructure, is one of the most technologically advanced educational institutions in the state.*

Charleston, SC, February 17, 2004 — Charleston Southern University announced today the completion of its advanced technology infrastructure, which consists of an air-blown fiber® backbone for its new 50,000 square foot science building and a campus-wide wireless network. The university developed the high-tech infrastructure within a budget of \$300,000.

Seeking an advanced fiber optic cabling system for its new science building currently under construction, the University chose Sumitomo Electric Lightwave's FutureFLEX system because of its significant advantages over a conventional fiber optic cable infrastructure. With air-blown fiber, the university eliminated the costs of laying dark, unused fiber. Having installed 5, 19-tube cables, which maximize conduit and network capacity, the university was able to plan for future network expansion well into the next 75 years by blowing in any type of fiber when and where the university needs it. Once the tube cables were installed by Net Unlimited Cabling Solutions, LLC of North Carolina, the installers blew 12 strands of fiber 2,000 feet in 15 minutes. Had a conventional fiber optic infrastructure been in place, the fiber installation would have taken up to ten times longer and would have cost up to ten times that of the FutureFLEX Air-Blown Fiber system.

Rusty Bruns, chief information officer at the university, comments, "I have a responsibility to ensure that the education received at Charleston Southern University benefits by the latest in technology. With FutureFLEX, I am ensured that project turnaround times are minimized to better service the needs of students, that our network will not suffer obsolescence since we can blow in the latest fiber types technology has to offer, and that we are ready for future expansion at the least possible cost. Also, the IT staff no longer has to forecast future network growth and changes in technology, so we can budget for projects as they occur, saving us time in planning and giving us control of our budget dollars."

The air-blown fiber infrastructure compliments the completed installation of wireless technology throughout the university's 22 buildings, which offers students 4 times the speed of dial-up access facilitating high-speed research and downloads. The wireless technology has been expanded to mobile laptop carts, library facilities, residence halls, and student network cards. Faculty have the ability to log onto the network quickly and easily and use wireless teaching tools through their laptop computers, thereby minimizing unnecessary classroom time and heightening the educational experience for students.

**About Charleston Southern University:** Charleston Southern University, located near historic Charleston and the beautiful beaches of South Carolina is celebrating its 40'th year anniversary as one of South Carolina's largest accredited, independent universities enrolling approximately 3,000 students. Named to the John Templeton Foundation's Honor Roll of Character Building Colleges, the university has gained national attention as an institution dedicated to the intellectual, social, cultural and spiritual development of students. For more information, call 800-947-7474 or visit [www.csuniv.edu](http://www.csuniv.edu).

### **About Sumitomo Electric Lightwave and FutureFLEX® Air-Blown Fiber® System**

Sumitomo Electric Lightwave, located in Research Triangle Park, NC, is dedicated to the development and manufacturing of optical fiber cable, interconnect assemblies, fusion splicers, and FTTP solutions. Its FutureFlex system is the most advanced infrastructure for the enterprise network and has been adopted by ESPN, CNN/Sony, John Hopkins University, Pentagon, McCarran International Airport – Las Vegas, Starbucks Coffee, University of California-Berkley, Nissan and other organizations spanning many vertical industries. For more information, please call 877-356-3539, email us at [fflex@sumitomoelectric.com](mailto:fflex@sumitomoelectric.com), or visit us at [www.sumitomoelectric.com](http://www.sumitomoelectric.com) and [www.futureflex.com](http://www.futureflex.com).