–Press Release–
November 10, 2006

ITU-T approved a new standard: Rec. G.657 on Bend Insensitive Single Mode Fibre for the access network.

Today ITU-T study group 15 approved the new Recommendation G.657 "Characteristics of a Bending Loss Insensitive Single Mode Optical Fibres and Cables for the Access Network". Applying the G.657 recommended fibres significantly reduces costs for operators rolling out fibre to the home (FTTH).

The bending specification of this new fibre has been tightened severely, offering fibre optic cable to be installed in a more flexible way, e.g. by installation around tight corners in buildings (like copper wires). Furthermore the installation costs can be reduced by employing less-skilled labor as well by a reduction of re-work. In addition the splice closures for fibres can be half the present size, important where space is at a premium for example in apartment buildings but also in telecom offices.

The new standard has been realized almost one year earlier than was expected as a result of a strong push from Operators planning the introduction of FTTH in their networks as well as from the industry.

Draka Comteq is proud to have participated in this process in which its Dr. Piet Matthijsse played an important role as editor of the draft standard. With this development Draka Comteq proudly informs its customers that the newly launched BendBright-XS fibre not only entirely fulfils Class A (tighter bending spec compared to G.652) but also performs within the Class B limits of G.657 (even more tight bending spec).