



**Press release**

## **Nexans wins a 73 million Euro contract in the United States for Long Island Replacement Cable project**

*The largest XLPE cables ever manufactured by Nexans for a high voltage submarine transmission link*

**Paris, September 4, 2006** - Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, has been awarded a contract worth over 73 million Euro to design, manufacture, deliver and install a 138 kV high voltage submarine transmission link between Norwalk (Connecticut) and Northport on Long Island (New York) in the United States. This transmission link called Long Island Replacement Cable (LIRC) project was commissioned by the Northeast Utilities Service Company (NUSCO) on behalf of the Long Island Power Authority and Connecticut Light and Power.

*"This project bears out the excellent performance of the North American energy market which Nexans is already successfully active in. Moreover, this contract confirms the leading position of the Group in the high voltage submarine power cables market in North America"* underlines Frédéric Vincent, Chief Operating Officer & Executive Vice-President North America Area.

### **The largest cables ever manufactured at this voltage level**

For this project, Nexans will supply almost 60 km of 138 kV 3-core high voltage AC (Alternative Current) power cables, cross linked polyethylene insulated (XLPE), for 3 circuits in total. Each 19 km length per circuit will also include a 24 fibre optics elements. These cables are expected to be the largest and heaviest ever manufactured at this voltage level by Nexans. The cables will weigh more than 100 kg per meter with an outer diameter of 235 mm.

Designed to improve the region's power infrastructure, the three new cables will replace seven existing 30 year-old transmission cables and are capable of 150MW per circuit.

Power cables will be manufactured at Nexans' Halden plant in Norway. After the initial removal of the seven existing cables end of 2007, the new XLPE cables will be transported to the site by the Nexans cable laying vessel – C/S Skagerrak. The cables will be laid in the existing cable transmission corridor in water depths of up to 70 meters and, using water-jet technology, buried beneath the sea bed in order to avoid potential damage to the cables.

The installation work should be completed by the end of 2008.

*“The design, manufacture and installation of these XLPE submarine cables represent a challenging project well suited to Nexans. It will involve the latest cable design technology, environmental-friendly XLPE insulation and installation techniques which Nexans’ Norwegian operations, located in Halden, are renowned for in the industry.”, says Patrick Barth, Managing Director of Nexans’ High Voltage activity. He continued, “Nexans is very proud to be selected by Northeast Utilities and its partners, Long Island Power Authority and Connecticut Light and Power, for this project.”*

### **About Nexans**

Nexans is the worldwide leader in the cable industry. The Group brings an extensive range of advanced copper and optical fibre 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 aeronautics, aerospace, automobile, railways, building, petrochemical, medical applications, etc. With an industrial presence in 29 countries and commercial activities throughout the world, Nexans employs 20,000 people and had sales in 2005 of 5.4 billion euros. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange. More information available on [www.nexans.com](http://www.nexans.com)

### **About Northeast Utilities**

Northeast Utilities (NYSE: NU), a Fortune 500 diversified energy company based in Connecticut, operates New England's largest energy delivery system. NU is committed to safety, reliability and expanding consumers’ energy options for its more than 2 million electricity and natural gas customers. For more information on Northeast Utilities and our subsidiaries, visit the NU family of Web sites at [www.nu.com](http://www.nu.com).

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