Submarine Technology
Submarine Cables, Umbilicals and Services
Holden:
- Offshore submarine cables/umbilicals
- HV laboratory

Rognan:
- Special communication cables
- Limited production of copper cables

Langhus:
- Installation cables
- Nexans comfort cables
- Logistic center

Namsos:
- XLPE land cables: 12-145 kV

Karmøy:
- Aluminum conductor and line

Tokyo Bay:
- High Voltage Submarine Cables
Since its foundation in 1915, Nexans Norway has been the main supplier of underground and submarine cables in Norway. We produce and install power cables and advanced umbilicals for the transmission of power, signals and fluids for the management and control of production wells on the seabed. Our product range also covers special purpose cables for direct heating of flowlines, seismic surveys and for the control of remotely operated vehicles (ROV).

Nexans Norway is part of the Nexans group, one of the world’s leading cable manufacturers with an industrial presence in 39 countries and commercial activities world wide. Nexans is listed on the Paris stock exchange.
Nexans’ Halden Plant - a competence centre for submarine technology

The Halden Plant is Nexans’ competence centre for submarine power cables as well as interplatform cables and umbilicals for the offshore industry.
The Halden plant is the largest manufacturing facility of Nexans Norway. It is the competence centre for high-voltage submarine power cables and umbilicals within the Nexans Group. At this plant, research and development are carried out on a comprehensive range of submarine power cables and umbilicals.

Important R&D activities are:

- Dynamic and static umbilicals and power umbilicals for deep waters.
- Insulation systems for HVDC and HVAC submarine cables, paper lapped and extruded polymeric.

The plant, located by the Oslofjord, was built in order to produce the 120 km 350 kV Skagerrak cables in the early 1970’s. Since its erection, it has continuously been enlarged and upgraded in order to accommodate developments in the field of paper insulated high-voltage AC and DC cables, paper insulated high-voltage XLPE (crosslinked polyethylene)-insulated cables, composite cables, pipeline heating cables and umbilicals for the offshore industry.

In fact, it has supplied cables to a number of projects representing milestones in submarine cable technology, among them:

- the first 250 kV DC cables across the Skagerrak Sea;
- the first 525 kV AC cables between Vancouver Island and mainland British Columbia, Canada;
- the first 400 kV DC cables;
- the first steel tube umbilicals;
- the first 420 kV XLPE AC Submarine cable system for Ormen Lange;
- the first direct electrical heating systems for offshore pipelines;
- 400 kV AC cable at a maximum water depth of 830 m.

The factory is equipped with modern facilities for the manufacturing of steel tube umbilicals and composite cables for the offshore market, including two vertical lay-up machines able to accommodate a large number of drums and baskets. A special feature of the plant is the turntables used for the storage of semi-finished products between processes and the large turntables located outside the factory used for the storage of finished cables. From this self-powered outdoor turntables – with diameters of 30 metres and a storage capacity 35,000 tons – an entire cable length can be transferred directly to a laying vessel equipped with a similar turntable. From this factory we have supplied cables in continuous lengths of up to 145 km, at a weight of 6,300 tons.

**Paper-insulated cables**

The Halden plant has originally been designed for producing long paper-insulated and heavy submarine power cables, and is equipped especially for this purpose. The plant is currently able to produce cables with conductors up to 2,500 mm², for voltages up to 765 kV.

**XLPE-insulated cables**

In 1995, a new unit for the production of XLPE cables was put into operation. The technology applied was based upon experience accumulated since 1969, when the company introduced its first vertical production line for XLPE cables in Oslo.

The present extrusion line has been installed in a tower over 100 metres high. The extrusion of the conductor screen, insulation and insulation screen is performed in a single operation utilising three extruders connected to one extruder head. The super clean raw material is fed into the extruder through a completely closed system for submarine cables up to 420 kV.

In this tower Nexans is able to manufacture continuous lengths of XLPE cables of factory joints. Applying controlled factory joints on the phases, the maximum length is only limited by the storage and laying vessel capacity.

**DEH cables**

Nexans Norway has pioneered the development of DEH technology in partnership with Norwegian operators and research organisations. The world’s first installation of a DEH system took place in 2000 for Statoil’s Åsgard oil and gas field on the Norwegian continental shelf, where it is used to heat the flowlines in order to prevent hydrate formation. Since Åsgard, Nexans has delivered more than 200 km of DEH cables.

**Umbilicals**

Nexans introduced the first steel tube umbilical in 1993, and the first dynamic steel tube umbilical in 1995. The company has supplied more than 2400 km of umbilical altogether such as umbilicals for 2,300 m waterdepth for Shell’s NaKika project. The umbilical delivered for Statoil’s Snøhvit field includes the 145 km long main umbilical from land to submarine and represents a record-breaking length. Nexans has a totally integrated umbilical operation, covering everything from engineering and steeltube welding to qualification testing and hook-up.
It is Nexans Norway’s philosophy to focus on customers’ future needs. Development of products and services is an inseparable part of the company’s goals and objectives, as well as a part of its daily work.

The Nexans group is one of the largest cable manufacturers in the world. The different experts in the group are part of global research and development network ensuring that different competences are available across the borders. In the Nexans group, Nexans Norway has the worldwide research and development responsibility for submarine high voltage cables and umbilicals (competence centre).

Testing is an important part of all product development work. Nexans have therefore focused on developing extensive in-house test facilities for small and full scale testing of virtually any type of component for power transmission and umbilical systems.

High-voltage laboratory
The high voltage laboratory – unique in its size and level of technology – is equipped with state of the art equipment for the electrical testing of high-voltage components in accordance with international standards for rated voltages up to 765 kV AC and 800 kV DC. Flexible use of floor space is ensured by equipment being moved with the help of air cushions.

The laboratory plays a key role in making the Halden plant an important centre in the field of high-voltage technology.

Materials research centre
This centre brings together the disciplines of metallurgy, instrumental and chemical analysis as well as the electro-technical testing of materials, models and polymeric technology. Besides serving high voltage and umbilical cable production in Halden, the centre acts as a service unit for all divisions in Nexans Norway and is a coordinating link to Nexans’ plants as regards special materials analysis. Being a part of the competence centre for submarine high voltage cables and umbilicals within Nexans, the centre is also responsible for research and development within these product ranges. It is continuously involved in the study of electrical and mechanical properties of materials used for special cables produced today, as well as for future products.

The centre operates four different units:
• Chemical laboratory
• Electro-technical laboratory
• Materials and extrusion technical laboratory
• Metallurgical laboratory
Mechanical test centre
Mechanical, tensile, bending and torsion testing is performed on full-scale prototype cable samples in a test plant which simulates laying and service conditions. Tension is applied from a hydraulic piston to a maximum of 150 tons, and the cable is bent around different sheaves - with diameters of 1.5 to 10 metres - in order to simulate stress induced around the nose wheel of the cable-laying vessel.

Our manufacturing plant in Halden is also equipped with special advanced full scale test rigs for dynamic cables and umbilicals, which have been absolute requirements in the development of these products. Test programmes have been established that subject test specimens to the fatigue loads to which they will be exposed during their defined life cycle. In our opinion our knowledge of all aspects of umbilical design, manufacture, installation and protection is unrivalled at present. These advanced laboratories form the basis for Nexans Norway’s engineering research and product development and offer power utilities and the offshore industry top-notch testing facilities needed during all stages of a project. Decades of experience lie behind our development of cables and umbilicals. Every product manufactured undergoes advanced test procedures to simulate real operating conditions before installation.

Innovation through experience
Decades of experience with cable production and turnkey installations form a good basis to meet our customers’ needs. We have today a highly skilled engineering staff working in the development, manufacturing and installation departments.
Submarine cables, umbilicals and their related components must withstand great mechanical stresses and strains during laying and operation – especially in ultra deep waters. Cable and umbilical systems have limited access for maintenance after the installation is completed. To minimize the risk of costly recovery and repair operations, our engineers apply their profound understanding of how the cable and components operate as a “system”.

The design of submarine cables and umbilicals necessitates a detailed system knowledge and understanding, spanning a vast number of disciplines. These include:

- industry standards
- metallurgy and corrosion
- cross-section component design and manufacturability (tubes, electrical and fibre optic cables, power conductors, insulation systems, etc.)
- cable/umbilical cross-section design and manufacturability
- cross-section mechanical capacity calculations including installation capacities
- dynamic configuration design and analysis
- bend stiffener and buoyancy system design and analysis
- hang-off/pull-in equipment design and analysis
- submarine termination design and analysis, including our field-proven ultra deep, pressure compensated electrical termination unit
- cable and accessories testing
- interface management
- project management
- hook-up and installation services and support.

Nexans Norway has in-house capabilities in all aspects related to cable and umbilical system design. Our competent staff covers all aspects of the project, and key personnel follow the process from research and development, via the bid phase, through engineering, manufacturing, testing and installation.

**Engineering/R&D**

Nexans has an integrated suite of computer based design tools. These tools are continuously being validated through full-scale test activities in our advanced mechanical-, hydraulic-, material testing-, and electrical laboratories.
Nexans spends a significant effort in R&D activities every year. One of the projects included use of UFLEX; an FE-based, non-linear stress analysis tool for the analysis of complex umbilical cross-sections. UFLEX is validated by third party through extensive full-scale testing, and is unique in the industry. Our engineers have possessed knowledge and capabilities to assess the global, dynamic behavior of a cable system for more than a decade. With UFLEX, we now also have the ability to assess how this global behavior translates into local stresses and strains in all cross-section components, including the effect of internal friction. UFLEX is now a standard, integrated tool in Nexans’ design organization.

Nexans also participate in selected Joint Industry Projects to bring the industry further in areas found to have improving potential in ways that affect the performance of our products.

Thanks to Nexans Norway’s dedicated technology focus and technological achievements, we have gained the status as “Competence Center” for offshore products and submarine cables within the Nexans group, and we have several examples of being approached by end users for participating in technology development efforts.

Nexans Norway developed and supplied an extruded submarine cable at 420 kV to the Ormen Lange terminal. A development programme for extra high voltage DC extruded insulation is ongoing. We consider extruded insulation to have an increasing role in future submarine cable systems, also for the highest voltages.

Nexans Norway delivered power umbilicals to BP’s King Submarine Pump Project in the Gulf of Mexico. The umbilical will feed power to two submarine pumps at 1500 m water depth, as well as supply the control functions of a regular steel tube umbilical.
Submarine cables are used to link islands, between platforms, submarine installations, across fjords and over the sea for hundreds of kilometres. High quality and reliability are extremely important design criteria for Nexans submarine cables and umbilicals.

**Nexans Norway offers a complete range of submarine power cables, from 6 to 525 kV.**

The insulation system is for each implementation adapted to the customers’ needs, providing solutions for both AC and DC, by paper/oil or extruded polymer insulation systems. With our factory especially designed for manufacturing long lengths the limitations are more of a physical or geographical nature than manufacturing capacity.

**Nexans Norway combines different elements in one cable.**

To suit a range of different needs a combination of other elements than the power phases can be incorporated in one cable. We have for example supplied a HVDC cable with an integrated return conductor and a fibre optic element. Our multiple core cables can contain power phases, optical fibre steel tubes and high pressure steel tubes for fluids to become what we denominate a power umbilical, or any combination of these elements.

**Nexans Norway can connect over long distances and to deep water.**

During the years we have developed cable systems operating at AC or DC for very long distance connections. DC cables are now applied for over 500 km while 3-core AC cables for over 100 km are being designed. Higher voltages are sought after also for submarine applications in deep water.

Nexans Norway offers customised and cost-effective solutions for linking electrical and optical systems. From the company’s earliest days in 1915 we have supplied systems to connect islands with mainland, crossing of fjords and seas. At the emergence of the offshore oil and gas industry we contributed by interconnecting platforms. In this period of rapid development we also have provided cables supplying power and communication to offshore installations from energy sources onshore. A result of this is smaller sized platforms, reduced manpower and lower CO2 emission. The first offshore field utilising this concept was the Troll field in
the North Sea in 1995. The required 18 MW platform power supply is provided through a 67 km long, 52 kV XLPE insulated composite power and fibre optic cable. Nexans Norway was awarded an EPC contract that included design, engineering, manufacture, installation, protection. Later this concept has been developed to cover higher transmission capacities, longer distances and deeper waters.

The focus on offshore windmill farms has brought to our customers’ attention our vast experience with composite 3-core XLPE and fibre optic submarine cables.

Onshore wind energy has grown enormously lately and generates today more than 10 % of the electric power production in Denmark and Schleswig-Holstein in Germany and is increasing all over the world. In order to avoid use of land and to reduce noise and visual pollution there is today a trend to move offshore. Several large-scale offshore windmill farms have now been built. The transport of power from the windmill farm to the grid on land requires the use of submarine power cables. As a major supplier to the international market including the offshore market of long AC and DC submarine power cables, Nexans Norway is well prepared to bring forward high quality and cost-efficient solutions.

The voltage for offshore windmill farms is typically 36 kV AC for the link between the individual turbines in the farm and typically 132-245 kV AC for the transmission of the power from the offshore substation to the onshore grid. This means that our 3-core XLPE cables are very well suited for the purpose.
Nexans Norway has cable design and manufacturing traditions reaching as far back as 1915. This vast experience lies behind the development of Nexans’ cable- and umbilical technology.

Nexans is a world leader in the manufacturing of subsea umbilical systems. We provide umbilical systems with all necessary steps reaching from design, engineering, and manufacturing, through testing, installation and commissioning.

Nexans Norway has a tradition of being a technology driver in the offshore umbilical industry. Nexans introduced the super-duplex steel tube umbilical to the market in 1993 with Statoil’s Statfjord and Sleipner projects. Nexans also introduced the dynamic super-duplex steel tube umbilical in 1995 with Shell US’s Mars project in the Gulf of Mexico. Nexans continues to be a trendsetter and has a strategic goal of staying technology-oriented.

Nexans manufacturing capabilities have traditionally been oriented towards very long, intercontinental submarine power cables. This means that Nexans’ staff and manufacturing equipment can handle long umbilical lengths and large weights and volumes – all traits of a subsea to shore umbilical, the latest trend in the offshore industry. Nexans has already supplied umbilicals with a continuous length of 145 km to Statoil’s Snøhvit (Snow White) project in 2005. Other historic key numbers include a total delivery weight of 4000 tons, a max. unit weight of 135 kg/m, and an outer diameter of 213 mm.

Nexans umbilicals are used in all types of applications; connecting subsea installations; subsea installations and fixed- and floating platforms (semis) and FPSOs; as well as subsea to shore systems.

Nexans’ umbilicals are used worldwide, from both the Norwegian and UK sectors of the North Sea, to the Gulf of Mexico, offshore Brazil, offshore North- and West Africa, as well as in the Far East.

Serving the offshore industry all over the world, Nexans Norway puts its entire experience and qualified staff at the customer’s disposal. Nexans Norway has in-house capabilities in all aspects related to umbilical system design. Our competent staff covers all aspects of an umbilical project, and key personnel follow the process from the bid phase, through engineering, manufacturing, testing and installation.

There are two continuing trends in the offshore umbilical industry:

1. Oil production in deeper and deeper waters
2. The desire to perform subsea processing
Both these trends affect the umbilical design:

1. The weaker cross-section components must be able to withstand the larger forces and elongations
2. The cross-section must include high voltage power elements

Nexans Norway is well positioned to meet these challenges for three reasons:

1. We have in-house design capabilities and manufacture our own electrical- and fiber optic elements
2. We have in-house design capabilities and manufacture our own power elements and power cables
3. We have in-house design capabilities giving our engineers a profound understanding of how cross-section forces translate into stresses and fatigue through our UFLEX software

“Systems thinking” is a winning mindset in the offshore industry – a mindset Nexans has implemented.

**Umbilicals in deep waters**

Offshore oil and gas production continues to move into deeper and deeper waters. This puts higher and higher demands on the umbilical systems to ensure operational integrity throughout the lifetime of the fields. In order to handle this risk increase, Nexans’ engineering experts need to have a profound understanding of which issues that govern the umbilical and accessories design.

The need for feeding of electrical power to subsea equipment, such as subsea pumps, is on the rise. Nexans Norway’s Power Umbilical serves this need, as well as the functions catered for by traditional electro/hydraulic umbilicals.

Nexans has a strategic goal of being technology-driven. One outcome of this is the UFLEX software – a state of the art FE-based, non-linear calculation program for stress analysis of complex umbilical cross-sections. Extensively validated through full-scale tests. The UFLEX tool is an invaluable tool for ultra deepwater umbilical engineering. Together with our full-scale dynamic flex test facility, Nexans has in-house capabilities to validate the advanced tools and sophisticated design methodologies.

Nexans has delivered dynamic and static umbilicals to several deepwater projects all over the world:

- Shell Nakika, 2300 m water depth
- Petrobras Tambau & Urugua, 1500 m water depth
- BP Thunder Horse, 1890 m water depth
- BP Atlantis, 2150 m water depth
- Total Akpo, 1500 m water depth

**Umbilical Accessories**

Umbilical accessories form part of an umbilical system supply and comprise platform hang-off systems, dynamic and static bend stiffeners and restrictors, Jtube or Hube centralisers or seals, and protection, repair splices, subsea terminations and buoyancy elements. Nexans’ subsea terminations include field proven pressure compensated electric and fibre optic splice boxes that have an excellent track record. The terminations have been pressure-tested for 3000 metre service.

For project details please ask for our reference lists.
Electrical heating of flowlines

DEH Riser cable as power umbilical

Coaxial DEH Riser Cable

Piggyback cable strapped to flowline

Piggyback cable

Piggyback cable

Piggyback cable and mechanical protection system
Direct electrical heating (DEH) system offers an attractive method for flow assurance with the potential of reducing OPEX. The system gives the possibility for active hydrate and wax control by controlling thermal conditions inside the flowline.

The principle behind a DEH system is to pass an electrical current through the pipe wall. By controlling the current, the pipeline inner wall will at all times be kept above the wax and hydrate formation temperature. As a result, problem free and reliable transportation will be achieved. Traditional methods for flow assurance, by use of chemical treatments and pressure evacuations, have considerable operational costs with long down time and may present a risk to the environment.

Norwegian oil companies have since 1987 been investigating different electrical heating methods for flow assurance. Nexans has been involved in development of the alternative methods. As a result of this work, direct electrical heating has at the time of writing been installed at seven different fields, and field number eight will be installed in 2010. Nexans has supplied the cables and subsea components for all eight projects.

The experience from the installations is that the systems are working according to expectations. At the time of writing, similar systems are planned for other projects around the world.

Delivery to Åsgard, Huldra, Kristin, Udr, Tyrihans, Alve, Morvin for Statoil, and Skrav for BP. Altogether 17 flowlines are instelled with Nexans DEH systems. Delivery lengths between 6 and 44 km per flowline.
Submarine Fibre Optic Cables Systems

Decades of worldwide experience and knowledge
With more than 90 years’ experience of submarine cables and more than 30 years’ experience of fibre optic submarine cables. Our fibre optical submarine cables are designed for both unrepeated and repeatered systems and have almost unlimited capacity over extremely long distances. Nexans has a solid technology base, gained from completing more than one hundred projects worldwide and provided totally more than 24 000 km of cable.

Fibre optic design philosophy
All our cable designs with fibre optics are based on Fibre In Metal Tube (FIMT) technology. Our experience shows that FIMT gives our cables the best performance in dynamic as well as static applications.

Fibre optic submarine cables
Our unrepeatered and repeatered cable families (URC-1, ROC-1 and ROC-2) contain a wide range of mechanical design options for various water depths and operational conditions. Our Unrepeatered cable No. 1, URC-1, is used for systems with lengths up to 500 km. ROC-1 is used for systems up to 2500 km in length and 4500 meters water depth. For transatlantic/pacific ranges with lengths up to 10 000 km and at 8000 meters depth, we have developed the new ROC-2. The ROC-2 cable can also be applied for combined power and signal feeding to submarine installations and for scientific sensors, seismic arrays etc.

Accessories: Nexans also provides a full range of accessories for our cables both onshore and offshore.
Submarine Communication and Control Cables

Seismic and oceanographic cables
We are an established supplier of underwater cables for the marine seismic and oceanographic markets. We have products for towed and for permanent, ocean bottom systems as well as electromagnetic based systems. We supply the leading actors in the industry with air-guns, lead-ins, sensor, tow, riser and fiber optic bottom laid systems.

Our experience includes delivery of complete systems as well as cable alone. We have delivered a fiber optic riser cable for a bottom laid permanent systems with a world record breaking 768 fibers. In addition we have experience with supplying air guns and lead-ins with fairings and terminations.

Special cables for offshore and submarine installations
For this segment we offer a number if cables products which cover applications such as instrumentation, monitoring and control. Hybrid cables with combinations of hydraulic houses, copper conductors, optical fibres are other types of special cables which cover a large range of applications for the marine and offshore industry.

Cables for Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV)
Nexans Norway is an established supplier of underwater cables to the international ROV market. Our cables are known for their robustness and are tested day in and day out in some of the harshest working environments known to man. Our cables are highly dynamic, torque balanced and compact and are known for their reliability and robustness.

We supply umbilicals and tethers for the special underwater observation and work class vehicles + trencher and plows. Electrical power cores, signal pair/quads and fibre optic are laid up in special configuration to form the main configurations of the umbilicals/tethers for deep water applications rated down to 6000 m.

Topside cables
Supply of power and control cables of halogen free design, low smoke density, mud resistance, low corrosivity, fire retardant and/or fire resistant topside cable with fibre optics which satisfies the most stringent fire requirements (IEC 331 and 332).

Other areas for fire resistant cables
This cable can be used in tunnels and in other areas in which functionality in fire situations is of importance. All our composite cables with fibre optics are based on Fibre In Metal Tube (FIMT) technology. Our experience shows that FIMT gives our cables the best performance in dynamic as well as static applications.
Being critical elements in any submarine transmission system, it is extremely important that cables and umbilicals are installed properly. Through 90 years of experience with more than 1,500 submarine installations, Nexans has the knowledge and equipment to optimise safe installation and protection services. Developments in the laying of long and heavy submarine cables at greater depths, have made it necessary to employ larger and more specialised transport and laying vessels built especially for that purpose. Special navigation equipment, dynamic positioning and sophisticated cable-laying machinery have been developed to secure accurate positioning of laying objects and proper handling during laying operations. Nexans Norway has greatly contributed to this development and possesses the experience needed for the entire installation operation including surveys, laying methods and equipment protection, site erection, electrical installation and commissioning. Based on world-wide experience, our engineering staff will choose, together with the customer, the optimal solution utilising the most updated technology and equipment available.

**C/S Nexans Skagerrak**

One of the world’s most advanced laying vessels, C/S Nexans Skagerrak, capable of loading 7,000 tons of cable on one turntable, is available for laying and repair operations all over the world. The vessel is purpose-built to install large-size cables and umbilicals, both in respect of total weight and length.

With its purpose built large diameter (29 m OD) turntable and its unique cable capstan system, it can offer an efficient tool for demanding projects.

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**Transport and installation**

**C/S Nexans Skagerrak** was the first purpose-built vessel for transport and laying of large submarine power cables. She has a unique service record covering installation of cables and umbilicals including some of the world’s largest power cables.

The transport of flow line heating cables for Statoil’s Kristin project

Cable pull-in to shore

Offshore laying
The vessel is equipped with a fully redundant state of the art DP system for accurate cable laying and is normally equipped with one ROV for cable touch down monitoring. The vessel is classed by Det norske Veritas, class DnV + 1A1 CABELSHIP Mv EO DYNPOS. AUTR., for unrestricted trade.

The vessel has installed cables and umbilicals world-wide, including Vancouver, Canada, Gulf of Mexico, Strait of Gibraltar, Gulf of Aquaba, Philippines, New Zealand, the Irish Sea, the North Sea, and of course Norwegian and Scandinavian waters.

Some of her previous operations include some of the worlds largest (size and length) power cables.

C/S Nexans Skagerrak is owned and operated by Nexans Norway for cable and umbilical laying.

**Other vessels and tools**
Nexans Norway can provide additional vessels to cover particular project requirements. These can be equipped with required tools to enable cable and umbilical transport, installation and repairs.

Nexans Norway has an equipment pool consisting of various turntables, tensioners and various cable handling equipment to provide complete laying spreads. This enables Nexans’ experienced engineering and operational staff to provide customers with both flexible and efficient solutions.
Nexans’ Capjet system trenches cables and umbilicals by fluidising the seabed materials.

The risk of damage to submarine cables and pipelines by ship anchors or fishing gear has increased considerably with the growing use of heavier and deeper-reaching trawls in the fishing industry, as well as with increased marine traffic. Also the oil industry has discovered the great potential of thermal insulation of flowlines by means of trenching and also using the trenching spreads for pipeline free span correction. This requires trenching capabilities also in deep and ultra deep waters. Based on our long experience with cable installation and protection, Nexans Norway saw the need for a more efficient and safe tool for cable trenching. This led to the development of the Capjet range of trenching vehicles.

The Capjet system

Nexans Norway’s water-jetting based systems, in use since 1976, has proven to be an efficient alternative to heavier equipment. The trenching system has buried more than 4000 km of cables, umbilicals and pipelines since it was first introduced. Originally developed for power cable trenching in shallow water, the Capjet system has been continuously developed to bury cables, steel and flexible flowlines and large diameter oil and gas transport pipelines at water depths down to 1000 m. The Capjet system is based on the principle of fluidising seabottom materials, and uses water jetting for both trenching and propulsion. It presents no risk of damage to the submarine lines or structures. The vehicle docks on the cable or pipeline, follows these objects and can start and...
stop trenching operations at any point along the route. Simultaneous back-fill with the fluidised materials is achieved during the trenching operation. The back-fill material is the means of insulation of the lines, and is becoming increasingly important for projects for oil exploration in deep water. The Capjet system is the preferred alternative to heavier equipment that can cause damage to cables, umbilicals and submarine installations. No forces are applied to the cable, umbilical or pipeline during the operation as the damage proves. The Capjet system is capable of trenching in most clay and sandy soil conditions. For harder seabed materials, the system can be adjusted to increase its performance by adding pumping capacity and propulsion forces. Today, Nexans Norway offers two basic versions of the system: the Capjet Trencher systems and the Capjet SPIDER dredger system. All versions come in alternative designs, the pumping and power capacities which can be adjusted to fit specific project requirements.

All trenching units can be supplied with purpose built Launch And Recovery Systems (LARS) for safe and efficient operation from vessels of opportunity. The state of the art LARS features electrical umbilical winches with heave compensation and constant tension features.
Accessories and electrical installation

For all cable installations, Nexans Norway will offer purpose-designed accessories, manufactured and tested in accordance with the same international standards as the cable itself, in most cases IEC standards.

Joints and terminations for oil-filled and XLPE-insulated cables are always designed as an integrated part of the cable system. Also transition joints between oil-filled and XLPE-insulated cables are included in our cable accessories program.

For oil-filled cable systems, Nexans Norway supplies oil pressure systems tailor-made for specific project conditions including stop joints, oil pressure tanks or pumping plants and relevant alarm and monitoring equipment.

Nexans Norway has developed and supplied to the market a new pumping plant, module designed with an automatic PLC monitoring system. One important design criterion for the plant has been to ease supervision and reduce maintenance of the pumping plant, thus increasing the reliability of the cable system and minimising outage time.
NEXANS NORWAY AS reserve the right to implement product changes without prior notice, as our products are being continuously developed.