

FIBRE HORIZONS

A newsletter of the FTTH Council Europe

Vol 1, Issue 6 - Friday, 3 December 2010

FIBRE HORIZONS is a monthly newsletter published by the FTTH Council Europe and distributed to readers interested in fibre to the home networks and the activities of the Council.



Did You Hear?

"The local community is one of the most important aspects to take into consideration when planning and building an FTTH network."

Karin Ahl, Chair of the Business Committee, FTTH Council Europe.

In the Spotlight:

FTTH in the Middle East

The Middle East is a relatively new market for fibre-to-the-home, but it is developing rapidly as a result of massive construction projects in the region. And the first Middle East country to enter the Global Ranking has just been announced – the United Arab Emirates.

To join the FTTH Global Ranking, more than 1% of households in the country must subscribe to broadband over a fibre connection direct to their home or building. The Emirates rocketed past this threshold, recording a FTTH/B penetration rate of 30.7% at the end of September 2010. Globally, only Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong have higher FTTH/B penetration rates. Construction companies favour fibre because it adds value to new housing developments.

Incumbent operator Etisalat wants to make Abu Dhabi the first city in the world to be wholly covered by FTTH before the end of 2010. Meanwhile, alternative operator Du has been connecting major new residential areas in Dubai.

Although the majority (96%) of FTTH/B subscribers in the Middle East are located in the United Arab Emirates, other countries don't want to be left behind. In total around 30 FTTH projects are planned or already underway across the Gulf region.

As a result of this activity, the FTTH Middle East Conference gathered close to 300 delegates in Beirut a few days ago, and the Middle East Working Group of the FTTH Council Europe has decided that it is time to form a new FTTH Council that can respond to the specific needs of stakeholders in the Middle East region.

The FTTH Council Middle East & North Africa will start operations in January 2011.

[Read more about FTTH in the Middle East >](#)

Top Five Downloads

Here are the most popular downloads about FTTH from our website:

- 1. FTTH Business Guide:** Read about how to set up a profitable FTTH network
 - 2. FTTH Handbook 2010:** Learn all about FTTH technology
 - 3. Annual Report 2009-2010:**
Check out what the FTTH Council Europe achieved in the past year
 - 4. FTTH Conference 2011 Programme:**
Get a first view on the programme of the FTTH Conference 2011 in Milan
 - 5. FTTH Innovation Award Compendium:** Find out about innovative FTTH solutions
-

Newsbeat

[Italian providers plan a nationwide FTTH network](#)

[Deutsche Telekom launches FTTH pilot in Hennigsdorf](#) (in German)

[NTT won't be forced to divest fibre assets](#)

[Telefonica to bring FTTH to Murcia](#) (in Spanish)

Upcoming FTTH Council Europe Events

FTTH Conference 2011 Preparations are well underway for the 8th edition of the world's largest FTTH event, due to take place on 9–10 February 2011 in Milan, Italy. Registration is now open. More details at: <http://www.ftthconference.eu>

Upcoming Industry Events

[5th International Next Generation Access Forum](#), 13–15 December, Berlin, Germany

[HONET 10 7th International Symposium on High capacity Optical Networks and Enabling Technologies](#), 19–21 December, Cairo, Egypt.

[European Telecoms Investment Forum](#), 27–28 January 2011, Vienna, Austria

About Us

The FTTH Council Europe is an industry organisation with a mission to accelerate the availability of fibre-based, ultra-



high-speed access networks to consumers and businesses.

The Council promotes this technology because it will deliver a flow of new services that enhances the quality of life, contributes to a better environment and increased economic competitiveness. The FTTH Council Europe consists of more than 150 members.

<http://www.ftthcouncil.eu>



For general matters, please contact our Secretariat on info@ftthcouncil.eu.

The press contact is Nadia Babaali, Communications Director,
nadia.babaali@ftthcouncil.eu.

To become a member [click here](#)

This newsletter is sent to subscribers who have registered on our web site and to our members. Feel free to forward to colleagues and friends.

To subscribe please [click here](#).

To unsubscribe please send an email to info@ftthcouncil.eu

FTTH Council Europe ASBL, Excelsiorlaan 91, 1939 Zaventem, Belgium
Tel: + 43 699 19081622, Fax +43 2855 71142