

FIBRE HORIZONS

A newsletter of the FTTH Council Europe

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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?

"As when complementing the private sector in setting up full access to electricity and roads, governments need to take an active role in shaping the opportunity space and in equalizing access to the determinant infrastructure of our time."

Professor Carlota Perez, renowned consultant and keynote speaker at the FTTH Conference 2011 in Milan.

[Read our interview with Prof. Perez >](#)

In the Spotlight:

A Broadband Strategy for Europe

It's one thing to set a target and another to achieve it. So earlier this month, the European Commission published a Communication on broadband, which sets out the measures it will take to push Europe towards the goals described in the Digital Agenda: 30Mbps broadband available to all of Europe's citizens by 2020; at least 50% of subscriptions should be 100Mbps or more.

The FTTH Council Europe is pleased to see that the Commission also highlights the increasing importance of upstream bandwidth and the need for low latency to support new services such as smart meters in the electricity grid, cloud-based applications and video-consultations between hospital and patient. FTTH can meet these requirements, while other technologies struggle.

Achieving the targets will require substantial investment. One way to encourage investment is to provide a stable regulatory environment, so that operators can draw up long-term business plans. The Commission's new Recommendation on regulated access to next-generation access (NGA) is intended to provide that stability. Although the Recommendation is not legally binding, National Regulators must 'take utmost account' of the Recommendation when deciding what remedies or obligations to put in place.

Now the hard work must happen at national level. The Commission expects all Member States in Europe to formulate an operational strategy to achieve the Digital Agenda goals in their Member State, which will be reviewed by the Commission in 2011. For its part the Commission will

streamline and simplify European funds for network investment and work with the European Investment Bank to make loans available to those that want to build NGA networks.

[Read the FTTH Council Europe press release >](#)
[Find out more about Europe's broadband strategy >](#)

Join Our Webinar on Fibre Economic Stimulus Packages

Date: 7 October 2010

Time: 11:00-12:00 CET

In this Webinar we will present the results of a study conducted by the FTTH Council Europe on both past and current fibre stimulus packages, their character and success in meeting an array of objectives.

Next generation broadband networks are increasingly recognised as a key factor for economic and social development. These benefits are the main driver for governments at all levels to announce stimulus investments on broadband infrastructure that will meet the objectives for socio-economic growth.

Space is limited! Reserve your Webinar seat now on:
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/115262195>

Reporting from the FTTH North America Conference in Las Vegas

The FTTH Conference in Las Vegas, the event run by the Council's sister organisation in North America, took place earlier this month. Here are some highlights from RVA Research's annual FTTH survey, which was unveiled at the show:

- 1.) FTTH networks have grown 100-fold in North America since 2001, with nearly 20 million homes passed to date, representing 17.4% of American households. Take-up is 32%.
 - 2.) Public awareness of FTTH is also increasing. 41% of survey respondents said they understood what was meant by FTTH compared to just 28% in 2009.
 - 3.) FTTH users are satisfied customers. Subscribers rated FTTH more highly than cable TV for reliability, speed, ease of installation, consistency and customer support.
 - 4.) 11% of FTTH subscriber with a home business said their business would not be possible without FTTH and 64% said it is more efficient because of FTTH.
 - 5.) Fibre is having a positive impact on communities. 42% of local operators reported that large businesses expanded into an area after a fibre network was built.
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FTTH Conference 2011 Milan: Last Call for Papers and Innovation Award

The European FTTH Conference is the largest Fibre-to-the-Home event in the world. Its last edition attracted an unprecedented 2600 visitors from 65 countries, including 86 speakers, 77 sponsors, 100 exhibitors and 120 journalists!

Submit a Paper:

To become a speaker at this prestigious event, submit your abstract online on www.ftthconference.eu. **Deadline: extended to 15 October 2010.**

Innovation Award:

The FTTH Council Europe invites you to submit to the FTTH Council Innovation Award 2011.

The award is open to all FTTH stakeholders and submissions can be done in three categories:

- Innovation on Technology, Deployment and Operation
- Innovation on Sustainability, Energy Consumption and Environmental Protection
- Innovation on Marketing of FTTH Networks, Financing and Business Plan

The winners in each category will be announced at the FTTH Conference 2011, in Milan on 9 and 10 February. All will receive a special crystal trophy and prize money of EUR 3,000.

For further information and submissions, please go to: www.ftthconference.eu.

Deadline: 15 November 2010.

Newsbeat

[Global broadband subscribers top 500m](#)

[Chattanooga goes for 1 Gbps FTTH](#)

[NBN survives Australia's election](#)

[Swiss city of Basel to get FTTH network \(in German\)](#)

Upcoming FTTH Council Europe Events

FTTH Middle East Conference 2010

30 November—1 December 2010, Beirut, Lebanon, under the patronage of HE Eng. Charbel Nahhas, Minister of Post and Telecommunications of the Republic of Lebanon. Register online now: <http://www.conference.ftthcouncilme.org>.

FTTH Conference 2011

SAVE THE DATE 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

[Next Generation Telecommunications Conference 2010](#) 12—13 October, Brussels, Belgium

[EEBC 2010/expoTEL 2010](#) 20–22 October, Kiev, Ukraine

[North Africa Com](#) 26–27 October, Cairo, Egypt

[Broadband Worldforum 2010](#), 26–28 October, Paris, France

[Convergence to Casablanca 2010](#) 27—28 October, Casablanca, Morocco

[FTTH Forum 2010](#) 9—10 November, Budapest, Hungary

[DigiWorld Summit 2010](#) 17—18 November, Montpellier, France

[TEN Next Generation Broadband Summit](#), 18 November, London, UK

[Broadband Services Forum](#) 23—24 November, Warsaw, Poland

[ECTA Regulatory Conference 2010](#) 29 November—1 December, Brussels, Belgium

[IQPC 2010 FTTx Conference](#) 13–15 December, Berlin, Germany



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 140 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.

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FTTH Council Europe ASBL, Excelsiorlaan 91, 1939 Zaventem, Belgium
Tel: + 32 699 19081622, Fax +32 2855 71142