



Fibre to the Home
Council Europe

Creating a brighter future

FIBRE HORIZONS - A newsletter of the FTTH Council Europe Vol. 3, Issue 10 - 20 December 2012

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 younger generation, which has grown up in the online world and regards it as home, now also lives online and to enable it to do so even more is the way forward. There is no turning back."

Alexander Bard, Swedish philosopher and co-author of the internationally successful Futurica Trilogy books

In the Spotlight Alexander Bard, Swedish philosopher and sociologist

The technical and financial challenges of FTTH deployment have been hotly debated. But understanding the social and cultural impacts of ubiquitous high-speed broadband is arguably just as important. How will FTTH transform our society, politics, economy, culture and social power structures? These are the essential questions that will be addressed by our keynote speaker, Alexander Bard, at the annual FTTH Conference in London on 20 February, 2013.

"We are only at the beginning of the internet revolution, but we understand enough to know that we must act now to prepare for the future," says Bard. "We need to understand the nature of this change and the impact it will have on our society, if we are to prepare ourselves for this change." Sociologists, who developed many of their theories in the time of the industrial revolution, will need new models to help them understand the impact of the internet revolution.

Bard believes that countries and regions that prioritise broadband expansion and future economic growth over the next 20-30 years will enjoy payoffs like those Europe and North America enjoyed from 19th and 20th century railroad and highway investments. The greater the investment, the greater the reward, he says.

[More info about the keynote](#) >

[Read the written interview with Alexander Bard](#) (PDF) >

For more information on the FTTH Conference 2013, see articles below.

Join the webinar on "Market potential for high-speed broadband connections in Germany in the year 2025"

Tuesday 15 January 2013 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM CET

This webinar will highlight the main assumptions and project steps taken in order to estimate a market potential for high-speed broadband connections in Germany for the year 2025.

Please check www.ftthcouncil.eu for more information after the holidays.

New case studies: JT and Swisscom

You will find two new case studies in our resources section this month.

The "Digital Jersey" programme will see JT (formerly Jersey Telecom) roll out of FTTH to all premises on the island by the end of 2014. The plan includes removing copper cables altogether, which will put Jersey in a unique position as the first European jurisdiction to boast an "all fibre" network.

Having passed 420,000 homes with fibre in the last four years, Swisscom believes that its long-term viability as a telecoms operator depends on building out fibre access networks. But the Swiss incumbent is not acting alone. The operator is co-investing in FTTH networks with utility companies in fifteen major towns and cities across the country.

[Read the JT case study here](#) (PDF) >

[Read the Swisscom case study here](#) (PDF) >

High profile speakers confirmed for opening ceremony

The FTTH Council Europe is pleased to announce that Gunnar Hökmark, Member of the European Parliament, will be addressing the audience of the FTTH Conference 2013 in London during the official opening ceremony. MEP Hökmark wants Europe to push harder for the deployment of ultrafast broadband, which can deliver speeds of 1 Gbps to all European households. He told the Council: "The world will continue to change and develop. But with ambitious and concrete reform we can make sure that Europe is at the forefront of the digital revolution, turning our continent into a leading global hub in the future Internet economy."

The Digital Agenda is the overall programme for Europe for 2020. Anthony Whelan, Head of Cabinet of Vice-President Neelie Kroes will discuss the European Commission's point of view about FTTH and its role to reach the Digital Agenda targets. Will the European Commission really accept interim steps for broadband roll-out instead of focussing on future-proof solutions? And will this mean that Europe will lose its competitive role on the global market? We expect the answers in the opening statements of Mr. Whelan.

We also look forward to the presentation from our second confirmed speaker, Chinyelu Onwurah, a British Member of Parliament and Shadow Minister for Innovation, Science and Digital Infrastructure. Ms Onwurah has a unique appreciation of both the political and technical aspects of FTTH as she previously worked as Head of Telecoms Technology at the UK regulator Ofcom, focusing on the competitive and regulatory policy implications of next-generation access networks.

[See details of the official opening](#) >

Register NOW! FTTH Conference 2013 in London

The biggest FTTH event in the world is just a few weeks away!

The FTTH Conference 2013 will take place on 19 - 21 February 2013 at the ExCeL Exhibition Centre in London, UK. Have you booked your place? If not, then register today:

REGISTER NOW

Advance registration is discounted; higher rates apply on the door. FTTH Council Europe member employees also qualify for a promotional rate - contact info@ftthcouncil.eu for details. Already registered? You can use the online practical information or our mobile app

www.ftth2013app.eu to plan your visit to London, study the conference programme and work out how to make the most of your time at the event.

[Find out more about the conference venue >](#)

[Plan your journey with our travel guide >](#)

To follow the FTTH Conference 2013 on Twitter, use the hashtag #ftth2013.

We look forward to seeing you in February!

Last, but not least... Happy Holidays!

The board members and executive team at the FTTH Council Europe wish you a bright and prosperous 2013...



Join our social media communities

Be first to find out about the latest developments at the FTTH Council Europe by joining our active social media communities. We have more than 2,800 members in our LinkedIn Group, nearly 1220 followers on Twitter and over 500 "likes" on Facebook - so you'll be in great company!



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 enhance the quality of life, contribute to a better environment and increase economic competitiveness.

The FTTH Council Europe consists of more than 150 member companies. www.ftthcouncil.eu

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

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

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