

FIBRE HORIZONS - A newsletter of the FTTH Council Europe

Vol. 4, Issue 6 - 27 June 2013

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?



"For mobile you need strong fibre infrastructure."

Murat Erkan, General Manager of Turkcell Superonline

In the Spotlight

FTTH: the solution for mobile backhaul?

As telecoms operators around the world undertake massive investments to upgrade both their fixed and mobile broadband networks, they have a special opportunity to make efficiency savings by combining those upgrade programmes. How real is this opportunity and will operators embrace it? The FTTH Councils in Europe and Asia Pacific asked telecoms analysts at IDATE to find out.

IDATE identified case studies in 10 different countries around the world, and interviewed 19 operators about their strategy for upgrading their mobile backhaul networks. They found a significant number of operators already using or planning to use optical fibre to connect 4G/LTE mobile base stations, but coordination of FTTH and mobile backhaul roll-outs was less common.

In Europe, Portugal Telecom provides an interesting example of a combined fixed-mobile strategy. When planning its FTTH network deployment, the operator included extra capacity for connecting mobile base stations. The result is that 92% of the operator's mobile backhaul sites are connected with optical fibre with transmission over GPON or Ethernet point-to-point connections. Portugal Telecom says that it only uses microwave connections in the remaining 8% of mobile sites, often in mountainous or very rural areas. This has accelerated the roll-out of 4G/LTE mobile networks in Portugal, which reached 90% of the population by the end of 2012.

IDATE's study into FTTH for mobile backhaul was the subject of our webinar on 6 June, which is available to replay here:

[Replay webinar >](#)

[Download the study presentation \(PDF\) >](#)

Previous webinars are available to replay:

*21 May: [European FTTH Forecast, 2012-2017 - Behind the Numbers](#) by Heavy Reading

*23 April: [The FTTH Cost model applied to Germany](#) by Comsof & al.

*18 April: [The positive effects of FTTH for real estate projects](#) by Diffraction Analysis

*14 March: [FTTH Market in Europe](#) by IDATE

Past webinars and presentations can be accessed through the "Resources" section of our website: www.ftthcouncil.eu/resources?category_id=10

The next webinar, focusing on the **FTTH technical handbook** will take place on **10 September**. Watch our website homepage for registration details.

Register now: Nordic FTTH Investors Day

Tuesday, 10 September 2013 - Kansallissali, Helsinki, Finland

Opening speech by Pia Viitanen, Finnish Minister for Housing and Communications

Following the success of the "Investors Day" workshop in London earlier this year, the FTTH Council Europe is holding a second investor-focused event in Helsinki, Finland.

What you will learn: The aim is to bring FTTH stakeholders and investors together, to learn about FTTH as an asset class and establish new sources of finance in the sector.

Who will attend: Investors, including representatives of pension and infrastructure funds, and private equity companies; FTTH project owners, national regulators and policy makers.

A detailed agenda will be published shortly. Further details and registration free of charge on: www.investors.ftthcouncil.eu

Register now: FTTH Conference 2014

Registration is now open for the FTTH Conference 2014, taking place 19 - 20 February 2014, with workshops on 18 February 2014, at the Stockholmsmässan in Stockholm, Sweden.

The special theme of the 2014 Stockholm event is "FTTH - Showcasing a Brighter Future", highlighting Nordic innovations in fibre access, FTTH-enabled services, business models, and more. Combining conference sessions with an exhibition, the "World of Applications" dome and unparalleled networking opportunities, the FTTH Conference is the largest FTTH-focused event in the world, gathering more than 3,000 participants during the previous edition in London in 2013.

REGISTER NOW

Opinion: Guiding Europe through the FTTH funding maze

We have heard the argument many times: "there isn't enough money to finance the roll-out of fibre to the home (FTTH) networks". Citing the seemingly insurmountable obstacles of shareholder demands, increasing competitive pressure and the economic downturn, operators and politicians claim that they simply cannot afford FTTH networks. But like the emperor's new clothes, their arguments do not stand up to closer scrutiny...

[Read the opinion article \(PDF\)](#) >

Opinion: Fibre to the TV - the only option for home entertainment

Today's audio-visual entertainment landscape is rapidly changing. Across Europe, triple play packages are widespread, video-on-demand (VOD) is increasingly regarded as a basic service and high definition (HD) is becoming the norm. Audiences want to watch their favourite shows whenever they want, in the best quality available. They have also become accustomed to a wider choice of viewing content, along with extra services and personalised information. Consumers expect broadband to support their entertainment requirements...

[Read the opinion article \(PDF\) >](#)

FTTH Case Study: AB Stokab

In the 2011 edition of its Cities of Opportunity study, PwC examined services in 26 large global cities. It identified Stockholm as having the best network for schools, the second best broadband quality, and the best digital economy. Several Stockholm-based tech companies, such as Skype, Spotify and Transmode, have gone on to become major players in their respective industries. Stockholm also boasts a municipal fibre access network that provides 90 % of all Stockholm's households and nearly 100 % of business with FTTH connections at speeds of up to 1 Gbps.

[Read the Stokab case study \(PDF\) >](#)

[Download the complete case studies collection \(4.3 MB PDF\) >](#)

CEO Interview: Urs Kaufmann, Huber+Suhner

Switzerland's Internet and broadband penetration rates are amongst Europe's highest. We asked Urs Kaufmann, CEO of Swiss connectivity specialist Huber+Suhner, to describe the unique characteristics of the FTTH market in Switzerland, how telecommunications compares to other major infrastructure markets like transport (where the company is also active), and the future of FTTH in Europe.

[Read the interview \(PDF\) >](#)

Newsbeat

[Arthur D. Little: Decisive National Fiber strategies needed to boost future economic growth](#)

[Stockholm fibre network adds billions to economy](#)

[Telecom Italia eyes network deal with regulator by early 2014](#)

[SFR lance la Fibre à 300 Mbit/s et démarre un pilote à 1 Gbit/s \(in French\)](#)

[Opex reduction justifies fibre investment in US, but Europe still not sure](#)

[Portuguese satisfied with fibre but not with mobile internet](#)

Upcoming events

The FTTH Council Europe will be speaking or exhibiting at the following events:

3-5 September: [23rd Economic Forum 2013](#) in Krynica, Poland

10 September: [Nordic FTTH Investors Day](#) in Helsinki, Finland

22-26 September: [ECOC 2013](#) in London, UK

30 September - 2 October: [FTTH 2013 Conference & Expo](#) in Tampa, Florida, USA

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 3,500 members in our LinkedIn Group, 1,600 followers on Twitter and 790 "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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