

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?



"Getting the national fibre model working well is crucial. Getting it wrong leads to underperforming investments and institutional economic issues."

Andrea Faggiano, Principal, Head of Strategic Advisory Services for Competition and Regulation, Arthur D. Little

In the Spotlight

National Fibre Strategies

In Europe, a regulatory stance focused on maximising competition is hampering fibre deployment, according to a recent study by consultancy firm Arthur D. Little.

The firm recently concluded a survey of fibre strategies in nearly 50 countries around the world. Despite the diversity in local demographics, existing networks and competition, government targets and the regulatory environment, the analyst firm found that all countries could be classified using just two major variables - public investment and regulatory intensity. Within this simple but powerful framework, they identified five strategic models.

No model is better than another, says Andrea Faggiano, who presented the results of the study in a FTTH Council Europe webinar. Different models will suit different country situations; indeed different models may be applicable in different parts of the same country. Government actions will determine the course for each individual country. "Regulation will set the balance of the willingness to invest in fibre if you are an operator and your expectation of fibre investment if you are the government," he explained.

When governments get it right, it generates industry value and strengthens the national economy. "We think the best performing countries [economically] have the best fibre investments," said Faggiano. However, it can be difficult to find a balanced approach. Heavy regulation without considerable public investment inhibits fibre growth whilst lack of public involvement thwarts the goal of national coverage. Countries with high levels of regulation combined with low levels of public investment - such as Germany, the UK and the US - have been the slowest to deploy FTTH.

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

Webinar: Mind the Gap, Please! Full Transparency on Real Broadband Speeds

Tuesday, 17 December 2013 - 11:00 to 12:00 CET

Consumers need clear information on broadband speed and quality. Christian Berg, Senior Advisor at the Danish Energy Association (DEA), will give an introduction to the new agreement on broadband marketing in Denmark, including clear information on minimum speeds, upload speeds and bandwidth consumption for IPTV. He will also discuss how operators implement the new agreement and the broadband marketing landscape. The DEA represents the interests of the Danish utility companies, which have a combined FTTH footprint of more than 800,000 homes passed.

REGISTER NOW

Previous webinars are available to replay on Vimeo:

*12 November: [National Fibre Strategies](#) by Arthur D. Little

*10 September: [FTTH Basics - Architecture, Topology and Technology](#) by D&O Committee

*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.

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

Live Talk Show: Building the Brain-Trust - Investing in Skills for the Digital Future

Monday, 2 December 2013 - 15:00 CET

The European ICT industry is facing a skills crisis. Fibre deployment is expected to create many thousands of direct jobs, but where is the workforce with the necessary skills to carry out this task? What is the solution? How can the skills challenge be turned into an opportunity for Europe?

We have an impressive panel line-up to talk about skills for the digital future, with a focus on the female perspective. Panellists include our very own Karin Ahl, President of the FTTH Council Europe; and Marianne Treschow, consultant and former Director of the Swedish Post and Telecommunication Authority (PTS). Cheryl D Miller, founder of Women 2020 and Zen Digital Europe, will moderate the panel.

You can watch the Live Talk Show on our website www.tv.ftthcouncil.eu at the scheduled time.

Want to pose a question to our panel? Sign up on the website or use the Twitter hashtag #ftthtalk.

The Talk Shows provide a taste of what's coming up at the FTTH Conference 2014, to be held on 18 - 20 February 2014, at the Stockholmsmässan in Stockholm, Sweden. For more information, and to register for the FTTH Conference 2014, visit www.ftthconference.eu.

Opinion Article: Sweden Puts the 'Fibre' into Innovation

The implementation of technology is important. While something novel is often described as innovative, the act of invention or discovery isn't enough on its own. Innovation only really happens when new ideas are adopted by the market and used to enhance the quality of people's lives. Find out why Sweden punches above its weight when it comes to innovation, especially in fibre access networks and the advanced services delivered over them.

[Read the Opinion Article](#) (PDF) >

Deadline Nominations FTTH Award 2014 Extended

There is still time to propose the operator and the individual that have, in your opinion, done an outstanding job in accelerating FTTH in the last year! Nominations should be made online.

The deadline for nominations is extended to close of business on 3 December 2013.

Further details at www.stockholm.ftthcouncil.eu/award/about-the-award

New FTTH Case Study: Suupohja, Finland

The European Union population density average is 117 people per km², but in Finland's Suupohja County it is just 8.8. Such sparse population distribution presents serious obstacles to rolling out broadband networks; and in 2004 roughly half of homes in the region did not have broadband. Municipal authorities initially decided to connect local telephone exchanges with optical fibre, but in the end it made more sense for them to install fibre directly to customers' homes.

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

New CEO Interview: Jürgen Seidenberg, BKtel

Jürgen Seidenberg is General Manager of BKtel, a designer and manufacturer of hardware and services for FTTH, cable broadband networks and video distribution. He talked to us about the role of cable operators in the broadband market, how video distribution is expected to evolve over the next five years, and how social media is pushing consumers and networks towards symmetrical bandwidth usage.

[Read the Interview online \(PDF\)](#) >

New CEO Interview: Mats Victorin, Tilgin

Mats Victorin, CEO of Swedish broadband connectivity provider Tilgin, shares his views on how to save money in FTTH customer connections, the importance of separating the business case for infrastructure from the business model for services, and whether Europe is likely to meet Digital Agenda targets in 2020.

[Read the Interview online \(PDF\)](#) >

Prize-winning game on Facebook!

The FTTH Council Europe launched on Gimme Fibre Day, 4 November 2013, two contests on their I Want Fibre FaceBook page. You can participate until 7 January 2014 and maybe win a great prize.

To participate go to www.facebook.com/pages/I-want-fibre/174248502650699

Newsbeat

[Survey says: BT superfast broadband boosts Cornish businesses](#)

[Bigger than Google Fiber: LA plans citywide gigabit for homes and businesses](#)

[Swisscom offers ultra- fast browsing speed of 1 Gbps](#)

[CityFibre To Invest £30m In Peterborough Gigabit Fibre Network](#)

[100Mbps plan takes South Africa a step closer to universal broadband](#)

Upcoming events

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

26 - 28 November: [FTTH Council MENA Conference 2013](#) in Marrakech, Morocco

27 - 28 November: [Broadband Forum Russia 2013](#) in Moscow, Russia

2 December: [Building the Brain-Trust](#) - Live Talk Show

3 - 5 December: [ECTA Regulatory Conference 2013](#) in Brussels, Belgium

5 December: [iMinds The Conference](#) in Brussels, Belgium

17 December: Webinar - [Mind the Gap. Please! Full Transparency on Real Broadband Speeds](#)

18 - 20 February: [FTTH Conference 2014](#) in Stockholm, Sweden

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 nearly 3,900 members in our LinkedIn Group, over 1,850 followers on Twitter and 933 "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

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

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

FTTH Council Europe ASBL, Rue des Colonies, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.
Tel: + 32 2 517 6103, Fax +43 2855 71142

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