

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?



"We completely rely on online distribution for the production of the content and we increasingly rely on online distribution for the delivery of the content but we are spoiled because we take it [good Internet connectivity] for granted."

Per Stromback spokesperson for the Swedish Games Industry, speaking at the FTTH Conference 2014 in Stockholm

In the Spotlight

Game On for Fibre to the Home

The executive team of the FTTH Council Europe has heard a lot about the Polish games industry over the past six months as we make preparations to take our annual conference to Warsaw next year. Gaming is more than just a bit of fun; the international gaming industry is also big business, with annual revenues more than double those of the film industry.

Poland is making a name for itself as one of the major players in the international gaming industry, both as a creator and as a consumer of video games. The digital games industry in Poland has come to represent the country's transformation into a fast-growing European free market - symbolised by the fact that when U.S. President Barack Obama visited Poland in 2011, the country's Prime Minister Donald Tusk gave him a copy of popular role-playing game The Witcher 2.

We've also had interesting conversations about how the worlds of gaming and broadband are becoming increasingly intertwined. Digital distribution and downloadable content are changing business models, allowing online gaming to expand in new directions; but as a result, the gaming experience has become more tightly tied to the quality of the consumer's broadband connection.

[Read the Opinion article in Fibre Systems >](#)

Broadband infrastructure, a strategic investment for the European Commission

The FTTH Council Europe welcomes the fact that broadband infrastructure is seen as an important element in President Jean-Claude Juncker's Investment Plan initiative. "The Investment Plan could be an important step to accelerate fibre to the home deployments in Europe," says Karin Ahl, President of the FTTH Council Europe. "Well-designed fibre infrastructure projects offer a low-risk, long-term investment perspective with a good return compared to other infrastructures. The FTTH Council Europe will actively support the European Commission to implement the broadband focus of the European Fund for Strategic Investment. Our Investor Project is ideally suited to provide advice and input to the Commission. We will continue to create awareness and facilitate structures that also allow regional FTTH projects to get access to the fund."

[Find out more about the EU Investment Plan >](#)

Asia-Pacific Reaches 100M FTTH Subscribers

FTTH Council APAC proudly announced that it has reached a milestone in FTTH adoption. There are more than 100 million FTTH subscribers in Asia-Pacific region, according to the latest statistics from consultancy Ovum. Ever-increasing demand for content, including support for e-Health and e-Education in rural regions, has helped to boost take-up of high-speed FTTH-based services, says the analyst firm. The FTTH Council APAC has also played a key role - the sharing of accurate and unbiased information about regulatory policies, standards and best practice is credited as contributing to the successful take up of FTTH services in the region.

[Read the press release >](#)

Nominate Your FTTH Champions!

Every year, the FTTH Council Europe likes to recognize an individual and an organisation that have made an outstanding contribution to the adoption of FTTH in Europe over the past year.

Anyone can make a nomination, just explain clearly why you believe the nominee deserves the award. The deadline for nominations is close of business on 14 December 2014, and winners will be announced at the FTTH Conference 2015 in Warsaw on 10 - 12 February 2015.

[How to make a nomination >](#)

Visit Join us in Warsaw for the conference and awards ceremony. With the theme "Creating a Connected Continent", the event also includes workshops, an exhibition and unparalleled opportunities to learn from the experts and network with your peers in the digital communication industries.

This year we have launched a new and improved registration form, which should make the registration process easier to complete. Visit our new website www.ftthconference.eu to register.



Where Were You on Gimme Fibre Day?

Now in its second year, this annual celebration highlights how fibre access networks have positively impacted communities across the world. More organisations took part in Gimme Fibre Day in 2014, organizing activities on the day as a way to raise awareness of the importance of fibre to the home.

For example, in France, employees at fibre-optic manufacturer and distributor FOLAN celebrated Gimme Fibre Day by releasing balloons printed with an "I Want Fibre!" message. In Finland LPOnet offered a free tablet to every new fibre to the home subscriber on Gimme Fibre Day - with the observation that "if you want a good Wi-Fi connection at home for your smartphones and tablets, you need a good wired connection at home to support it."

Visit www.gimmefibre.eu to see what activities took place near you!

And it's not over yet! Launched on Gimme Fibre Day, the #run4fibre competition continues to generate enthusiasm with runners across Europe posting their performance on Facebook. Over the

three-month period to 4 February 2015, we invite people to post their runs (tracked with any running app) on their Facebook page with the hashtag #run4fibre. Prizes include a Polar V800 or the new Apple Watch. Whoever runs the furthest over the three months, wins!

Find out more at www.facebook.com/iwantfibre

Webinar Replay: Structural Separation

In this webinar, consultancy firm Diffraction Analysis examined structural separation from a financial perspective and considered how an incumbent split between a long-term infrastructure business and a short-term service business would be better suited to invest in fibre to the home. Structural separation would create value for shareholders, and at the same time free-up cash for real NGA investment, the consultants argue.

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

[Watch the webinar replay on Vimeo](#) >

CEO Interview: Richard Toper of Setics

This month's CEO Interview is with Richard Toper of Setics, an independent consulting firm based in France that advises public authorities on digital infrastructure projects. We posed some tough questions: what are the main success factors when planning and executing a FTTH network roll out, what's your opinion of the national plan for high-speed networks in France, and is open access a successful business strategy?

[Read the interview with Richard Toper \(PDF\)](#) >

Newsbeat

[Werner Hoyer: Why We Need High-Speed Broadband NOW!](#)

[EU's Juncker Launches Infrastructure Investment Plan](#)

[Swedish Internet subscribers choose FTTH](#)

[KPN to pay €610 million for remainder of Reggefiber](#)

[Telefonica to replace Spanish ADSL network with FTTH by 2020](#)

[Has BT shut down its DSL management system?](#)

Upcoming events

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

9 - 10 Dec: [Kommunikationskabelnetze 2014](#) in Cologne, Germany

27 - 28 Jan 2015: [Glasfasernetze fuer Stadtwerke und EVU](#) in Duesseldorf, Germany

10 - 12 Feb 2015: [FTTH Conference 2015](#) in Warsaw, Poland

[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. Right now we have 5,115 members in our LinkedIn Group, 2,471 followers on Twitter and 1,465 "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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