

## FIBRE HORIZONS - A newsletter of the FTTH Council Europe

### Vol. 5, Issue 1 - 31 January 2014

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?



*"It is truly amazing how creative people developing new services are - whether in the gaming, real estate or e-health industries - and they tend to take fibre connectivity for granted, especially in Sweden. They don't seem to realise that the availability of fibre actually played a key role in enabling those services in the first place."*

*Nadia Babaali, Communications Director, FTTH Council Europe*

### In the Spotlight

#### The Disconnected Home?

There's been plenty of chatter about the connected home in the news recently - especially from the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas - but what does "connected home" really mean? When you stop to think about it, the vast majority of homes in Europe have been connected to broadband for some time. Our homes are already "connected" - to the Internet.

What has changed is that we expect to be able to do much more with our broadband connection. The consumer electronics industry has been putting considerable time and effort into creating new cloud-connected appliances and devices that will assist us in our everyday lives, from toothbrushes to thermostats to 4K ultra-high definition TV.

Unfortunately, the connectivity demands of these new devices may mean that people start to feel increasingly disconnected from the world around them - because their broadband connections don't provide a high-quality experience that allows them to take advantage of such technologies.

In a survey of Swedish broadband users recently carried out for the FTTH Council Europe, we found that the type of broadband connection matters. The survey showed that households with fibre (including both fibre to the home and fibre to the building) are massively more satisfied with their broadband than DSL customers and are much more open to adopting new service concepts, such as home healthcare monitoring and other "connected home" devices.

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

[The complete results of the Swedish user survey will be revealed at the FTTH Conference 2014 in Stockholm on 18 - 20 February.]

### Last chance to register for the FTTH Conference in Stockholm

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

The complete conference programme is now available online, under the conference banner "showcasing a brighter future". We have high-level speakers from the Nordic region speaking on FTTH-enabled innovation, services and applications from gaming to e-health.

Wherever you are based in Europe - or elsewhere on the planet - this is a unique opportunity to get a feeling for what can be achieved with fibre. Bring your customers and partners to this grand event and showcase.

Check out the online programme [here](#).

Elsewhere during the event, you can get hands-on experience in the "World of Applications" dome, see demos of new consumer electronic applications, such 3D printing, and much more!

The conference workshops on 18 February are for those who want to dive deeper into topics - including technology, where innovation never sleeps.

The FTTH Conference 2014 takes place on 18 - 20 February 2014 at the Stockholmsmässan in Stockholm, Sweden. Have you booked your place?



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](mailto:info@ftthcouncil.eu) for details.

Already registered? Use the online practical information or our mobile app [www.ftth2014app.eu](http://www.ftth2014app.eu) to plan your visit to Stockholm and work out how to make the most of your time at the conference.

We look forward to seeing you in February!

## Facebook competition winners announced

Broadband is wonderful - when it works. We invited our Facebook fans to post a photo or video illustrating what they like most or least about what they can do with their broadband connection. The winners were judged according to the number of "likes" received.

Congratulations to Marc Dufix and Espen Schiager for their winning photo and video! 2014.

To see the winning entries, visit our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/pages/I-want-fibre/174248502650699](https://www.facebook.com/pages/I-want-fibre/174248502650699)

## CEO Interview: Axel Sihm, WISI

Our most recent CEO Interview is with Axel Sihm, managing director of WISI Communications GmbH & Co. KG (WISI), a telecommunications equipment company. Sihm talked about differences in the FTTH market in Central and Eastern Europe, how cable companies are pushing fibre deeper into their networks, and the convergence of broadband and broadcast services.

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

## Nordic Case Studies updated

The In the run up to the FTTH Conference in Stockholm, we have taken the opportunity to update some of the case studies from the Nordic region, including:

[\\*Altibox - Update \(Norway\)](#) (PDF) >

[\\*Wao! - Update \(Denmark\)](#) (PDF) >

[\\*Ostrobothnia - Update \(Finland\)](#) (PDF) >

[\\*Case Studies Collection](#) (PDF) >

All case studies can be accessed through the "Resources" section of our website: [www.ftthcouncil.eu/resources?category\\_id=2&location=&topic=](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu/resources?category_id=2&location=&topic=)

## Newsbeat

[Why Comcast and other cable ISPs aren't selling you gigabit Internet](#)

CityFibre raises £16.5m after floating on LSE

[Vodafone Spain launching FTTH in April; Orange Spain launches new FTTH bundles](#)

[Gigabit project in Seattle reportedly dead, leaves trail of unpaid bills](#)

## Upcoming events

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

4 February: [Terminsstart Telekom](#) in Stockholm, Sweden

4 February: [ZVEI Kompetenztreff Kommunikationsinfrastruktur](#) in Berlin, Germany

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

5 - 6 March: [11th Annual SEE Telecoms Forum 2014](#) in Belgrade Serbia

19 - 20 March: [Transport Networks and Carrier Cloud Russia 2014](#) in Moscow, Russia

## 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 over 4000 members in our LinkedIn Group, nearly 2000 followers on Twitter and 1039 "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](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu)

For general matters, please contact our Secretariat on [info@ftthcouncil.eu](mailto: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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