

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?



"A recent survey by the Boston Consulting Group showed that 58% of people would rather give up wine for a week than lose their Internet connection... a further 9% would rather go unwashed for a week than lose their Internet connectivity."

Magdalena Gaj, President of UKE, the Office of Electronic Communications in Poland, speaking at the opening ceremony of the FTTH Conference 2015 in Warsaw

In the Spotlight

Fibre makes a real difference!

Just because a user has 100Mbps of bandwidth doesn't mean they don't want more, claims Benoit Felten, Chief Research Officer with Diffraction Analysis. And he should know because he recently completed a ground-breaking survey of user attitudes towards fibre to the home (FTTH) on behalf of the FTTH Council Europe.

The initial survey, reported last year, showed that FTTH users in Sweden were significantly happier with their broadband service than DSL users. But the survey raised new questions. Were the FTTH subscribers happier because fibre is faster, or because Swedish fibre operators look after their customers better? To see if the result could be replicated in other markets in Europe, Diffraction Analysis surveyed broadband users in France and Portugal, where FTTH services are less well established.

The results, presented at the FTTH Conference in Warsaw, showed that across all three countries, fibre users rated their broadband more highly than the service they had before they had fibre. Satisfaction was highest in Sweden, where FTTH has been available for longest and is priced similarly to DSL, and lowest in France, where FTTH subscriptions typically cost about 25% more than DSL. But even in France, at least 75% of users consider their fibre broadband service to be better or much better than their previous non-fibre service.

[Download the study presentation](#) >

Thank you for joining us in Warsaw

The FTTH Conference 2015, held in Warsaw on 10 - 12 February, remains the biggest FTTH-focused event in the world with close to 3,000 delegates from 85 countries and nearly 100 exhibitors.

The event kicked off with an incredible live performance involving break dancers, jump rope champions and a light show with the theme "Fibre makes me feel like I'm a part of the game!" [Check out the video!](#)

The conference was officially opened by distinguished speakers from Poland including Andrzej Halicki, Minister of Administration and Digitization, Iwona Wendel, Undersecretary of State of Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, and Magdalena Gaj, President of UKE, Office of Electronic Communications. During this opening session, Professor Fátima Barros, Chairman of BEREC, and Karin Ahl, President of FTTH Council Europe, also took the floor.

After these inspiring speakers, Anna Herold, Member of Cabinet of European Commissioner Oettinger, gave a keynote speech about the European Commission's point of view on broadband in Europe. You can watch the videos of their speeches and more here: www.ftthconference.eu/news-media/conference-videos.

This Opening Ceremony was also the opportunity to announce the winners of the FTTH Council Europe Awards 2015. Portuguese operator DStelecom and Dutch investor Dik Wessels received this year's FTTH Operators Award and Individual Award, respectively, in recognition of their outstanding efforts to accelerate the adoption of FTTH in Europe.

And of course, the event would not be complete without the annual update to the FTTH Ranking. Adoption of FTTH has accelerated, to reach nearly 15 million subscribers in Europe - from Iceland to Turkey but not including Russia and the CIS countries - by year-end 2014.

[Read the press release >](#)

Save the date for the FTTH Conference 2016

There's no time to rest! Planning is already underway for the next edition of the FTTH Conference, which will take place from 16 to 18 February 2016 in Luxembourg. We hope to see you there.

Webinar: FTTH Market in Europe - Status and Analysis

Tuesday, 24 March, 11 am - 12 pm CET.

In this webinar, Roland Montagne and Valérie Chaillou of IDATE will provide a detailed update on the FTTH/B market in Europe. This includes the EU28 member states as well as all other European economies including Turkey, Russia and Ukraine. The webinar discusses the development of FTTH roll outs in 2014 and will have a special focus on the different drivers of and obstacles to fibre deployment in the European markets. Other topics covered are the players involved, the technologies used and the different developments of take up rates on FTTH/B in Europe. The presentation will also include the latest update of the European FTTH Ranking that reflects the status of fibre adoption in Europe.

Register now for this webinar to ensure you get a full update of the FTTH/B market situation in Europe!

REGISTER NOW

'Women in Fibre' group wants to close the digital gender divide

Intelligent women are increasingly at the forefront of the evolution to next-generation broadband based on fibre. At the lively networking lunch held during the FTTH Conference in Warsaw, women made and renewed connections with like-minded women who share the same determination to make a difference to society through their work in the Fibre to the Home industry.

The attendees included Magdalena Gaj, president of the Polish telecommunications regulator UKE, responsible for Poland's broadband strategy, who spoke at the opening ceremony of the FTTH Conference. Indeed, four out of five of the opening speeches at the event were given by women.

[Read the press release >](#)

The Light Age - February 2015 - is published

The sixth edition of The Light Age magazine published by the FTTH Council Europe takes a look at the roll out of FTTH in Central and Eastern Europe, and in Poland in particular, and provides a critical analysis of the digital policy in Brussels. There is also a special section of the magazine, prepared by the FTTH Council APAC, focused on FTTH in Asia Pacific, which is a region of extreme contrasts. While FTTH deployment is just beginning in countries like Indonesia, Japan is talking

about FTTH 2.0 - Japanese telecom operators are exploring new ways to monetise their fibre networks now that almost everyone in the country has FTTH.

[Download the magazine >](#)

New publications, read them today

FTTH Case Study: Oberwallis, Switzerland

[Download the case study >](#)

White Paper: Operational Efficiency in FTTH Networks

[Download the White Paper >](#)

FTTH Smart Guide Updated for 2015

[Download the FTTH Smart Guide 2015 >](#)

Newsbeat

[How digital is your country? New figures reveal progress needed towards a digital Europe](#)

[Orange Poland Chairman highlights FTTH challenge, talks up European consolidation](#)

[Europe's FTTH Subs to Double by 2019](#)

[Hong Kong Telecom: I'll see your gigabit and raise you 10G](#)

[UK parliament calls for Internet to be classified as a public utility](#)

[Le prÃ©-raccordement fibre optique obligatoire pour tous les logements neufs en juillet 2016](#) (Optical fibre connection mandatory in all new homes from July 2016)

[Governor Garcia Padilla Announces a Gigabit Island Plan for Puerto Rico](#)

[Google Fiber is coming to Atlanta, Charlotte, Nashville and Raleigh-Durham](#)

Upcoming events

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

11 - 13 March: [Smart Cities Exhibition & Conference for South-East Europe](#), Sofia, Bulgaria



17 - 18 March: [IIC's Telecom & Media Forum](#), Brussels, Belgium

17 - 20 March: [2015 FTTH LATAM Conference](#), Santiago, Chile

26 - 27 March: [Transport Networks Russia](#), Moscow, Russia



Join our social media communities

Our Facebook Page [I Want Fibre](#) has just reached 1,000 followers! If you want to show the world how much YOU want fibre, then come and join us.

You can also find us on Twitter @FTTHCouncilEU, on Facebook or at our LinkedIn Group.



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

For press matters, contact pr@ftthcouncil.eu

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