

**PRESS RELEASE:**

**4<sup>th</sup> February**

**FTTH COUNCIL EUROPE ANNOUNCES FURTHER DETAILS OF  
EUROPE'S LARGEST EVER FIBRE-TO-THE-HOME EVENT**

**French Minister and European Commission Amongst Those Confirmed to  
Address Delegates at Annual Conference in Paris**

The FTTH Council Europe today announces further details of its annual conference to take place at the Palais des Congrès in Paris on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

Following highly successful events in Amsterdam (2005) Vienna (2006) and Barcelona (2007) this year is anticipated to attract a record 1,500 delegates from the world of fibre technology, deployment, finance, analysis, regulation and business development. Ken Ducatel of the European Commission and Christine Lagarde, French Minister for Economy, Finance and Employment are amongst keynote speakers already confirmed to participate at the landmark Fibre to the Home conference.

Under the theme 'Crossing the Chasm to Mass Market Fibre,' the conference will also hear keynote presentations and case studies from senior representatives of Ofcom, Orange, Telecom Italia and Amsterdam Citynet amongst other high profile influencers including a number of speakers from the investment community such as Merrill Lynch and ING.

"Our choice of theme for this annual conference 'Crossing the Chasm to Mass Market Fibre' is indicative of the rapidly changing market environment in Europe," comments Joeri Van Bogaert, President of the FTTH Council Europe. "Paris promises to be our most successful conference ever as we are confident that Europe is on the brink of realising the FTTH opportunity as we now focus on taking fibre to the next level."

The conference will also see the long awaited announcement of the 'FTTH Global Ranking' issued jointly by the FTTH Councils of Asia-Pacific, Europe and North America, revealing the FTTH leaders in a worldwide league table.

In addition to a strong focus on international fibre deployment case studies, the conference will cover the most important advances in the high-bandwidth content and services that are driving fibre subscriber uptake. Crucially, there will also be a comprehensive set of sessions delving into issues around EU fibre regulation, and technical topics such as architecture and infrastructure.

Alongside the conference itself will be a dedicated exhibition showcasing the latest products and service offerings from leading fibre companies and systems manufacturers. The exhibition is a great opportunity to experience first-hand the new fibre developments that promise to impact the market landscape during 2008 and beyond.

- Further Details -

Registrations are now open, and more details concerning the event can be found online at <http://paris.europeftthcouncil.com>. The event has been extremely popular in the past, and the Council encourages interested delegates to register as early as possible in order to secure places.

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#### **About the Fibre to the Home (FTTH) Council Europe**

The FTTH Council Europe [www.ftthcouncil.eu](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu) is a market development organisation with a mission to accelerate the availability of fibre-based, broadband access networks to consumers and businesses. With few exceptions, Europe lags well behind the US and Asian tiger economies in the availability of high-speed broadband services (100 Mbps and upwards). The Council believes that the development of fibre-based access networks is fundamental to the deployment of such services, and hence to reaping their benefits for European citizens and businesses.

The Council's charter is to work with European governments, policy-makers and opinion leaders qualify and quantify the benefits to be gained from fibre-based broadband access networks, and to identify and help to erode the barriers to their development. Council members are drawn from the telecoms (vendors), broadband content and academic sectors.

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