

Continuous Growth of FTTH Networks in First Half of 2010

The latest update of the FTTH Councils' global ranking shows a steady growth of all-fibre networks all over the world.

Brussels, 26 October 2010 – The first six months of 2010 show a continuous global growth of all-fibre networks, with Asia still the leading region on FTTH/B but the United States and Russia continuing to expand their fibre coverage. New Member States from the Eastern part of Europe are implementing an increasing number of fibre networks and becoming drivers of the European market.

The ranking includes 24 economies worldwide that have at least one percent of their households connected to FTTH/B¹. Looking at the G-20 states, the picture remains unchanged compared to the last survey at the end of 2009, with seven of the G-20 states appearing in ranking: South Korea, Japan, the United States, China, Russia, Italy and France. South Korea remains the global leader in FTTH/B market penetration with more than 50 percent of broadband subscribers connected to all-fibre networks, while Japan has more than 35 percent of households actively using FTTH/B connections. Meanwhile, a number of Eastern European economies, notably Lithuania, Slovenia, Estonia and Bulgaria, continue to show strong market penetration for FTTH as deployments expand in those countries.

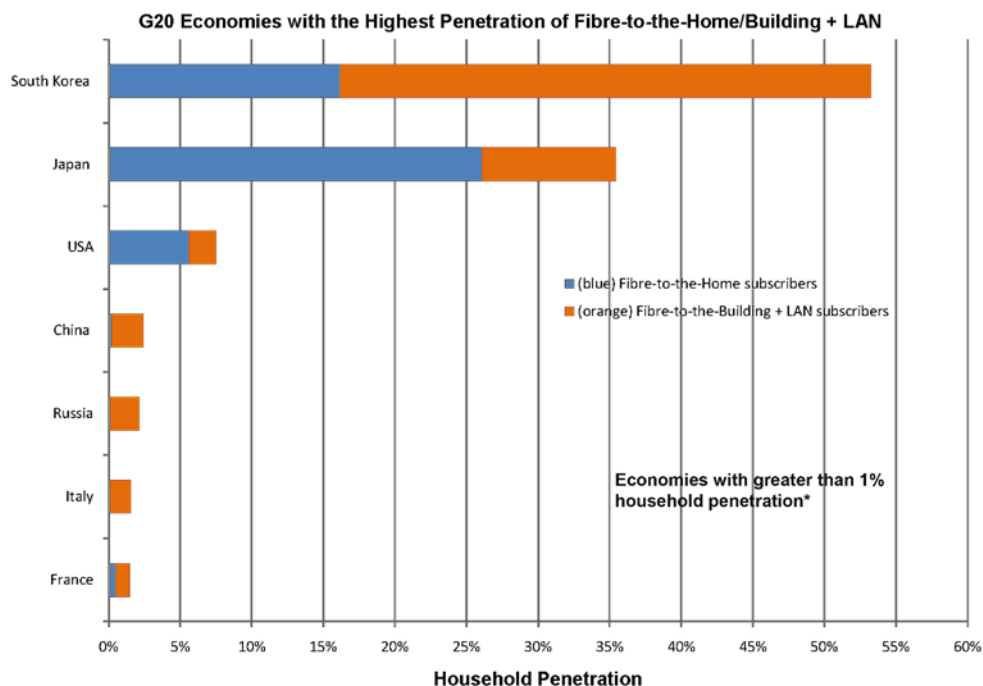
"While North America's largest FTTH provider, Verizon, is nearing the end of its massive deployment, it appears that more than 750 smaller telecoms across North America, including a growing number in Canada, are picking up the slack and setting the stage for continued expansion of all-fibre networks," said Joe Savage, President of the FTTH Council North America. "The industry buzz here is that every company delivering telecommunications services to household subscribers needs to be thinking how they are going to upgrade to end-to-end fibre, so we anticipate further robust growth over the next few years."

"With six nations represented in the FTTH Ranking, Europe's New Member States are leading the drive for fibre in Europe", comments Chris Holden, President of the FTTH Council Europe, "if we include Russia, today the majority of FTTH/B connections are in Eastern Europe. Looking at the G-20 states, Germany and UK are still missing in the ranking. However, over the last six months there have been promising announcements and plans which should help to accelerate fibre in Europe combined with much more positive messaging from the Commission in its European Digital Agenda."

¹The FTTH Global Ranking is based on the FTTH Councils' definition of FTTH/B: it includes both Fibre to the Home (FTTH), where the fibre connection reaches direct to the household, and Fibre to the Building (FTTB), where fibre terminates inside the boundary of a multi-tenant building. The Ranking covers all countries with at least 200,000 households where the penetration of FTTH/B has reached 1% of the total number of homes.

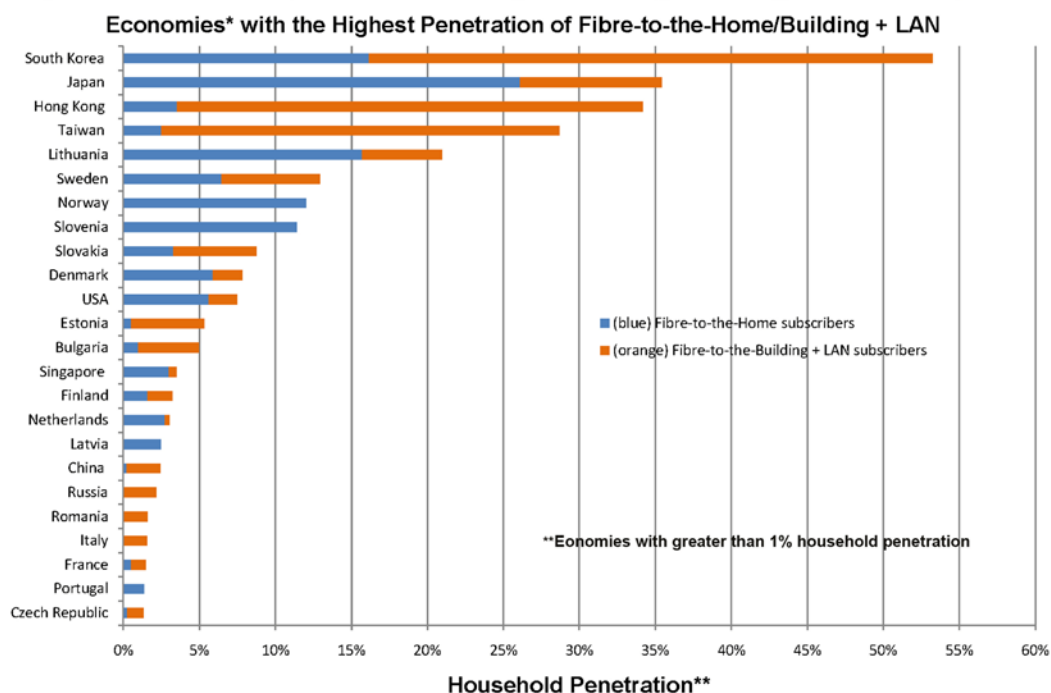
“More APAC countries are adopting this technology in various degrees and are coming on board the FTTH technology curve. This could be initiated by governments or service providers themselves. They now have a much better understanding of the various jigsaw ecosystem components that is needed for a successful deployment”, concludes Y.K. Loke, President of the FTTH Council Asia Pacific. "Another interesting new development is property developers’ involvement in high rise buildings (especially in MDUs and MTUs) and industrial and technology parks. Some countries are even exploring the possibility of FTTV (Fibre to the Village). There is the debate of Urban versus Rural deployment. Thus the theme of our forthcoming APAC Conference in India entitled – Fibre bridging the socio-economic divide.”

The next update of the FTTH Global Ranking will be presented at the FTTH Council Europe’s annual conference in Milan, on 9&10 February 2011. Visit <http://ftthconference.eu> for more information.



June 2010 Ranking
Source:
Fibre-to-the-Home Council
September 2010

*Economies with at least 200,000 households



June 2010 Ranking

Source:

Fibre-to-the-Home Council

October 2010

*Economies with at least
200,000 households

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About the FTTH Council North America:

Now in its eighth year, the Fiber-to-the-Home Council is a non-profit organization established to help its members plan, market, implement and manage FTTH solutions. Council membership includes municipalities, utilities, developers, and traditional and non-traditional service providers, creating a cohesive group to share knowledge and build industry consensus on key issues surrounding fiber to the home. Communities and organizations interested in exploring FTTH options may find information on the FTTH Council web site at www.ftthcouncil.org.

About the FTTH Council Asia-Pacific:

The FTTH Council Asia-Pacific is a non-profit organization established in 2005. The organization is building on the success of its sister organizations in the US and Europe to educate the industry and the general public on the opportunities and benefits of FTTH solutions. FTTH Council Asia-Pacific members represent all areas of broadband industries, including telecommunications, computing, networking, system integration, engineering and content-provider companies, as well as traditional telecommunications service providers, utilities and municipalities. www.ftthcouncilap.org

About the FTTH Council Europe:

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 145 member companies. www.ftthcouncil.eu

Media Contact:

Nadia Babaali

Communications Director, FTTH Council Europe

+33 (0) 6 20 88 72 38

nadia.babaali@ftthcouncil.eu