

## **FTTH Council Europe will further address the urgent need for FTTH with new initiatives**

*Chris Holden, re-elected President of the FTTH Council Europe, will lead the Council's new initiatives supporting "Why fibre?" and "How fibre?" for the European consumers*

**BRUSSELS, 1 APRIL 2011** – At the General Assembly of the FTTH Council Europe the members have reaffirmed their commitment to continue the mission of the FTTH Council Europe to urge Europe to move to FTTH. With more detailed "Why Fibre & How Fibre" initiatives, the organisation will provide the necessary arguments and data to the broadband stakeholders to build Fibre to the Home networks.

With Chris Holden as re-elected president and four newly elected board members, the FTTH Council Europe is ready to specifically focus on the main questions raised about fibre networks in Europe. The "WHY fibre?" initiative includes end user benefits of fibre connections, including new content and applications. The "HOW fibre?" proposal looks at both public and private financing options, and aims at better understanding the regulatory and policy frameworks.

"During the past years the Council has become an accepted industry body on FTTH topics in Europe," said Holden. "With our well established network to the European Commission, the regulators and the operators organisations, the FTTH Council Europe is in a perfect position to provide supporting data that will accelerate FTTH adoption in Europe."

The General Assembly was also the occasion to announce the renewed mandate of the contracted executive team, Hartwig Tauber, Director General, and Nadia Babaali, Communications Director, for the next two years.

"A strong board of directors, a broad support from our 150 industry members and continuity in the person of the President will enable the FTTH Council Europe to implement a compelling working plan in 2011", adds Hartwig Tauber, Director General, "and we can already promise that the FTTH Conference in Munich on 14-16 February 2012 will include the presentation of several studies with high impact on the fibre market."

The new Board of Directors consists of the following 9 members:

- Chris Holden, Corning Ltd, UK – **President of the Board**
- Karin Ahl, Rala Infratech, Sweden - **Treasurer**
- Eric Festraets, Alcatel-Lucent, Belgium
- Pastora Valero, Cisco Systems, Belgium
- Rolf Johansson, Ericsson, Sweden

- Paul Schwartz, ICOTERA, Denmark
- Sophie Pautonnier, Mitsubishi Electric, France
- Jouni Heinonen, Plumettaz, Switzerland
- Albert Grooten, Prysmian Cables and Systems, The Netherlands

The new Working Committee Chairs are:

- Paolo Sebben, Switzerland, Chair of the Business Committee
- Wolfgang Fischer, Germany, Chair of the Content and Applications Committee
- Cristina Deac, Romania, Chair of the Deployment & Operations Committee
- Jan Schindler, The Netherlands, Chair of the Market Intelligence Committee
- Hartwig Tauber, Austria, Chair of the Policy & Regulation Experts Group

Companies and organisations that develop FTTH-enabled services and applications for businesses and end users, such as eHealth, online gaming, interactive TV etc. are welcome to participate in the work of the Content and Applications Committee, even if they are not members of the FTTH Council Europe. Contact us by sending an email to: [info@ftthcouncil.eu](mailto:info@ftthcouncil.eu).

-ends-

**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 150 member companies.  
[www.ftthcouncil.eu](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu)

Media Contact:

Nadia Babaali

Communications Director

FTTH Council Europe

+33 (0) 6 20 88 72 38

[nadia.babaali@ftthcouncil.eu](mailto:nadia.babaali@ftthcouncil.eu)