

For immediate release

Turkey Joins Ranking of G20 Fibre Countries

The FTTH Councils' latest Global ranking shows continuous momentum on fibre deployments.

Milan, 10 February 2011 – With United Arab Emirates and Turkey as new entrants the latest update of the Global FTTH Ranking unveils some surprising new developments on the further deployment of FTTH/B networks. The ranking includes 26 economies worldwide that have at least one percent of their households connected to FTTH/B¹.

The new brand "Superonline," a subsidiary of the biggest Turkish mobile operator Turkcell, made it possible for Turkey to become the eighth G20 economy to enter the Global Ranking.

In the Middle East, the United Arab Emirates made a jump start into the Global FTTH Ranking. They are now ranked fourth among all economies in FTTH market penetration, positioned ahead of all European and Americas economies and behind only behind South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong.

There was also a big boost on FTTH/B connections in Russia, which now approaches the penetration of fibre-connected homes in the United States. Given the deployment rate in Russia those two countries may switch positions in the first half of 2011, although it should be recognised that fibre deployment in the U.S. is predominately FTTH, while in Russia it is FTTB.

"While there is a lot of dynamism in Eastern European countries, the pioneers in fibre networks show only a slow growth rate in Europe", comments Chris Holden, President of the FTTH Council Europe, "The Baltic Countries as well as Russia continue to focus on fibre networks. Portugal is a show case of a South European country moving forward very quickly on fibre roll outs, even leaving The Netherlands, Finland and France behind them. However, these positive examples can't fully compensate for the fact that countries like Germany, UK or Spain have yet to show real progress. Europe has still a long way to go."

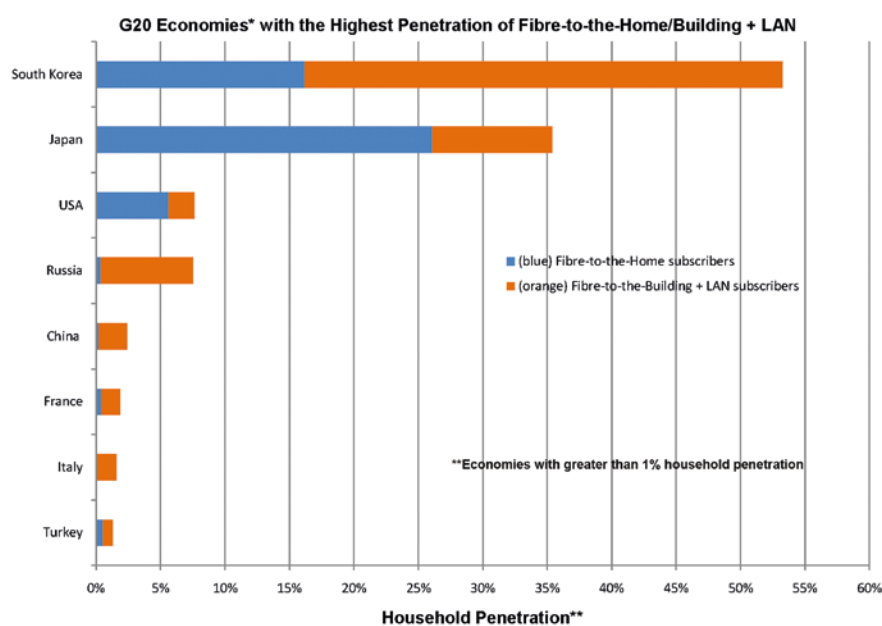
"Every region has its own challenges, its own economic situation, its own political issues." Frank Jaffer, President of the FTTH Council Asia Pacific declares. "But I think one thing is clear - the global consensus is that FTTH is the broadband technology for the future. It is good to see that Asia is still leading the ranking but it is time that new countries join from our region. With Australia moving on with the NBN-Plan we expect some new entrants very soon."

"In addition to the deployment activity that is now picking up in the wake of the government initiative to stimulate broadband expansion, we continue to see growing interest among U.S. telecoms and other broadband providers in upgrading to all-fiber networks in order to meet projected consumer bandwidth demand," said Daniel O'Connell, President of the FTTH Council North

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.

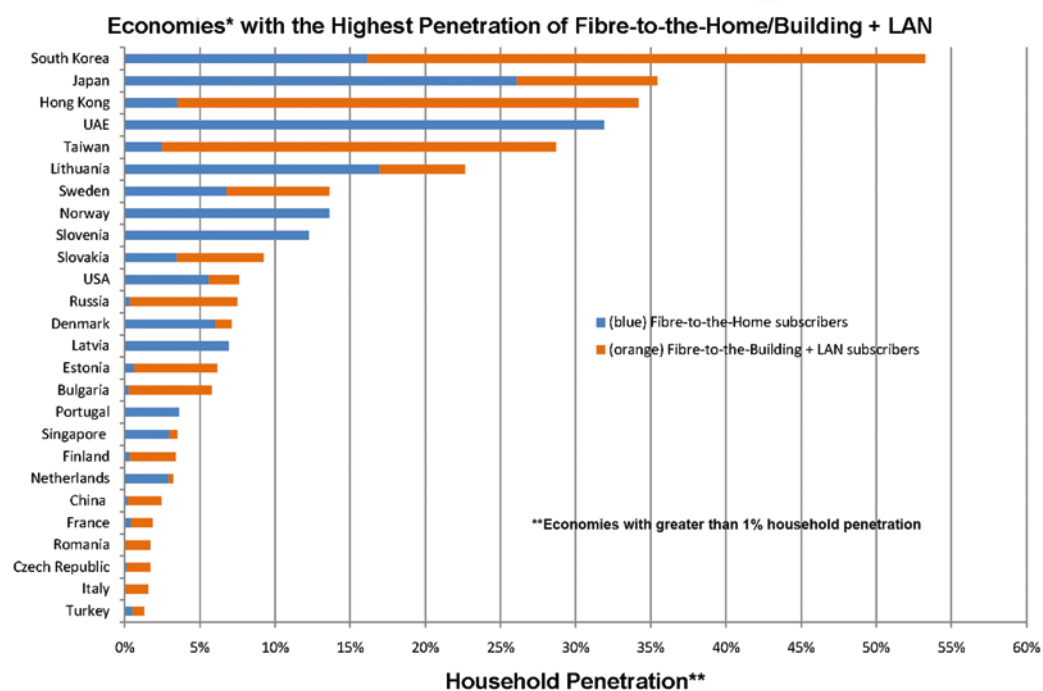
America. “With Canadian service providers now moving into FTTH, and Latin American efforts also gathering steam, it is clear that FTTH is becoming the access technology of choice across the entire hemisphere.”

The next interim update of the FTTH Global Ranking will be presented at the FTTH Council Asia Pacific’s annual conference in Delhi, India, on 25&26 May 2011.



December 2010 Ranking
Source:
Fibre-to-the-Home Council
February 2011

*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 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 enhances the quality of life, contributes to a better environment and increased competitiveness. The FTTH Council Europe consists of more than 130 member companies. Its members include leading telecommunications companies and many world leaders in the telecommunications industry.

www.ftthcouncil.eu

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

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