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## Spain and Luxembourg join leading FTTH economies

### ***FTTH is making accelerated but insufficient progress across Europe with 16% subscriber increase***

BRUSSELS, 17 OCTOBER 2012 - The latest FTTH panorama update at end-June 2012 was just unveiled at a press conference held at Broadband World Forum in Amsterdam.

The update, prepared for the FTTH Council Europe by IDATE, ranks the 22 FTTH economies where more than 1% of the households are FTTH/B subscribers.

Europe (EU27+9<sup>1</sup>) reported a solid 16.4% increase in the number of FTTH/B subscribers during the first half of 2012 and FTTH/B coverage across Europe continued to grow rapidly (16%). By mid-2012, EU27+9 had some 5.95 million FTTH/B subscribers and 32 million homes passed.

Furthermore, Russia offers huge market potential, with 5.2 million FTTH/B subscribers and 15.8 million homes passed. Ukraine has over a million FTTH/B subscribers - an increase of more than 85% during the first semester of 2012. New players are expected to deploy FTTH/B in CIS countries soon.

In the ranking, the top three remains unaltered. Leader Lithuania has reached over 30% penetration, followed by Norway (18%) and Sweden (14.5%). However, some large EU economies, including the UK and Germany, are still conspicuously absent.

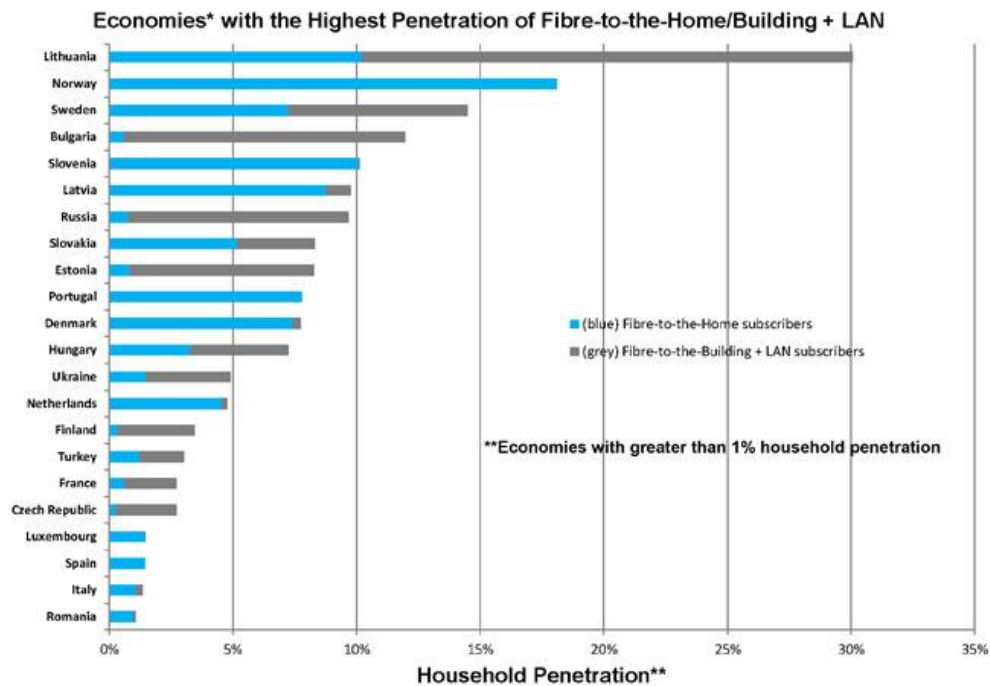
Spain entered the ranking at 20th position (1.42% penetration), following a 44% subscriber increase in first half of 2012. Despite the country's challenging economic situation, operator announcements (from Telefonica and Orange Spain, amongst others) suggest fibre is still considered a solid investment. FTTH from Telefonica and competition from cable operator Ono have clearly enhanced the Spanish market. Uniquely for southern Europe, Asturias' local government adopted a type of open access network usually found in Scandinavia, rolling out FTTH early on, instead of waiting for private investors.

Luxembourg (1.46% subscriber penetration) is another new entry. State-owned P&T Luxembourg appears set to realize ambitious government objectives: 80% of all households passed with 100Mbps by end 2013, and 100% at end 2015. Other FTTH players use P&T's infrastructure on a wholesale basis.

"Key countries absent from the ranking may miss out on their chance to build a sustainable future for their citizens", states Hartwig Tauber, Director General of FTTH Council Europe. "Additional efforts are required to ensure Europe reaches the Digital Agenda 2020 broadband targets. The decision to invest in FTTH - the only future-proof solution - needs to be made today."

Further information is available on [www.ftthcouncil.eu](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu)

<sup>1</sup> EU27+9 = EU27+ Andorra, Croatia, Iceland, Israel, Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey.



June 2012 European Ranking  
Source: IDATE and FTTH Council Europe  
October 2012

\*Economies with at least  
200,000 households

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#### 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)

**FTTH Conference 2013**, London ExCel, 19-21 February 2013 [www.ftthconference.eu](http://www.ftthconference.eu)

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