

## **EU Directive on broadband cost reduction: missed opportunity?**

**BRUSSELS, 6 March 2014** - "The FTTH Council Europe welcomes the recent agreement on the EU Directive on broadband cost reduction", said Karin Ahl, President of the FTTH Council Europe, "This is an important step forward to reduce the costs of civil work for fibre networks. Once voted into law, it will be up to National Governments to implement the directive in an efficient and effective way so that it enables fibre projects to benefit from existing infrastructure like empty ducts and joint digging activities."

The FTTH Council also hopes that European Governments will go beyond the Directives and choose a future-looking approach for in-building cabling solutions. The FTTH Council Europe is disappointed that the proposed directive has missed an opportunity to require that Multi Dwelling Units are equipped with a future-proof fibre cabling. National Governments in Europe who have already taken action in this area such as France and Spain go some way beyond the proposed text and require fibre cabling to be deployed. The FTTH Council hope that these countries will set the example and that all countries in Europe will move quickly to FTTH solutions."

Karin Ahl, President of the FTTH Council Europe

-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)

Longing for a better Internet connection? Join "I want Fibre" page on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/pages/I-want-fibre/174248502650699](https://www.facebook.com/pages/I-want-fibre/174248502650699)

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)