

## NEWS FLASH

### Berlin looks towards a Gigabit society

#### *Great success for German Symposium on Broadband Policy*

Brussels, 09 September 2015 – The FTTH Council Europe joined forces with four leading communications associations in Germany – namely ANGA, Breko, Buglas and VATM – to organise a symposium entitled “*Broadband Policy – Towards a Gigabit society*”, held on 9 September 2015 in Berlin, Germany.

For the very first time, the FTTH Council Europe and four leading German associations have worked together to foster fibre networks development in Germany by organising a symposium on Broadband Policy and Gigabit society, held on 9 September 2015 in Berlin. This successful event gathered more than 200 participants, including high-ranking representatives from politics, industry and scientific fields alike, to discuss the challenges of developing a broadband strategy that enables a Gigabit society. More than twenty experts<sup>1</sup> spoke at the event and shared their views and experience in their respective fields. Several panels engaged participants to discuss various topics, from “*Broadband deployment for citizens: what is the status of competition in fibre networks?*” to “*Stakeholders of broadband rollout: citizens, investors and operators talk straight*”, including many others.

Professor Hartwig Tauber, Director General of the FTTH Council Europe, presented at the symposium a joint paper between the five associations entitled *The Way to a Gigabit society: an initiative for a readjustment of the German broadband policy*<sup>2</sup>. Expressing his opinion on the event, he said: “This event was a great success for us all, whether organisers, delegates or speakers. Panel discussions were fruitful and led to interesting conversations in the building of a Gigabit society. We hope we’ll be able to engage national associations in other European countries to cooperate with the FTTH Council Europe in the organisation of such events. We trust that those initiatives will help Europe to take a step forward in the development of a sustainable and future-proof communications infrastructure”.

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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)

Save the date: **FTTH Conference 2016**, LuxExpo, Luxembourg, 16-18 February 2016 - [www.ftthconference.eu](http://www.ftthconference.eu).

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<sup>1</sup> [www.ftthcouncil.eu/home/investors/symposium-breitbandpolitik](http://www.ftthcouncil.eu/home/investors/symposium-breitbandpolitik)

<sup>2</sup> [www.ftthcouncil.biz/Download/Thesenpapier.pdf](http://www.ftthcouncil.biz/Download/Thesenpapier.pdf)