

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

### **Director-General of the FTTH Council Europe steps down per November 30, 2015**

**BRUSSELS, 15 September 2015 – The FTTH Council Europe announces today that its Director-General Hartwig Tauber has decided to step down. Hartwig Tauber has been the Director-General of the FTTH Council since 2007. He will officially resign his position on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, 2015. The Board of Directors of the FTTH Council Europe will assess the next steps in the coming weeks.**

Hartwig Tauber has been involved with the FTTH Council Europe's activities since its creation in 2004. He was elected President in 2004, a position he held until 2007, and then kept working for the organisation as Director General. For more than a decade, he has helped the FTTH Council Europe evolve into the powerful professional and lobbying organisation it is today. From 30 member companies in 2004 to more than 150 nowadays, the organisation has become a global reference and valued source of information for FTTH-related topics. Ground breaking work on network financing, deployment cost modelling and technical workshops allowed the organisation to increase its lobbying power with the European Commission, regulators and operators.

Along with the Board, Hartwig and his team have also worked tirelessly to promote the positive social and economic benefits of ultra-fast fibre access networks. In this regard, the FTTH Conference is a concrete and powerful demonstration of the organisation's unparalleled commitment to FTTH. Attendance at the annual FTTH Conference has skyrocketed since its inception and the event has become the leading FTTH conference worldwide with more than 3,000 visitors. Furthermore, Hartwig was one of the drivers behind the creation of the FTTH Council Global Alliance (FCGA) – the cooperation of all five global FTTH Councils.

Edgar Aker, president of the FTTH Council: “We thank Professor Hartwig Tauber for the amazing work he has done for our Council; he has truly been one of the fathers of the FTTH Council Europe and one of the pillars of our success. We regret his decision to step down, but understand his personal motivation and accept his decision. Now we will ensure a smooth transition period towards November 30<sup>th</sup>, and we will start the process of finding a new Director-General as successor of Hartwig.”

Professor Hartwig Tauber: “I want to thank the FTTH Council Europe for giving me the opportunity of being its Director-General. It has been more than 10 years and a big part of my life. Due to personal reasons, now – I feel – it is time to move on. I will focus on making a good hand-over, and will always be available as advisor to the FTTH Council Europe. I wish the FTTH Council a bright future!”

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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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