

European FTTP Shouldn't be Overlooked

Contributed by IMS Research
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Austin, TX (May 24, 2005) – Fiber-to-the-premises in Asia and in the US is at the forefront of broadband news. However, Europe should not be disregarded. In fact, FTTP subscribers in the Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region are forecast by IMS Research to exceed three million by the end of 2009.

Today, all eyes seem to be focused on Verizon's plans for FTTP, and on how fast Japan is adding FTTP subscribers, with little attention being paid to Europe. However, it is important to note that in 2004 there were more subscribers to FTTP in Europe than in all of the Americas. Both the US and Europe have been taking a similar approach to FTTP deployments, with utilities and municipalities driving fiber build-out, yet Europe has over three times the number of subscribers to FTTP delivered services than the US. This is primarily due to large deployments in Italy and Sweden, each of which outnumbered the US in terms of FTTP subscribers at the end of 2004.

“There are several countries in Europe that have already deployed FTTP networks on a large scale, yet none of these have been driven by incumbent telcos,” states Jack Mayo, analyst at IMS Research. “We expect that within the next five years European telcos will become more active in deploying FTTP technology, further strengthening the market.”

In the first edition of a study, The Worldwide Market for Fiber-to-the-premises, IMS Research provides market forecasts and analysis of the worldwide market for fiber-to-the-premises subscribers in over 30 countries in three regions, with segmentation by active Ethernet and passive optical networks, to the year 2009. The report provides an insight into many of the key questions concerning FTTP, including which PON standard will be next, and will active Ethernet deployments fade from view in favor of PON. This study also takes an in-depth look at the technologies employed for FTTP deployments, as well as competing technologies.

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