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Forum

Newsletter of the Federation of Telecommunications Engineers of the European Union

June 2007

46th FITCE Congress Warsaw, 30th August - 1 September



The 46th FITCE Congress will take place in the Marriott Hotel in the centre of Warsaw, Poland from 30th August to 1st September 2007. This will be the first time that a FITCE Congress has taken place in a Central and Eastern European country, and this demon-

strates FITCE's leading role as a major organisation in the evolving European telecommunications scene. The rapid developments in telecommunications and ICT in Poland will feature prominently in this year's Congress programme.

On pages 6 & 7 of this issue of *The Forum* there are full details of the technical programme for the congress. On page 12 readers can find all the practical information one needs on how to register and book hotels etc.

The FITCE association of Poland has been working very hard now for more than a year to develop this congress into one of the most exciting events that FITCE has witnessed. The location, **The Warsaw Marriott Hotel**, is spectacular. The technical programme of the congress contains many exciting papers and presentations and will also introduce a number of innovations for FITCE - see the article on *FITCE Warsaw Paper Selection Committee meeting on page 2*.

As always in organising a FITCE Congress, the hosting FITCE organisation is very conscious of the need to maintain the values and aims of the Federation, which are shown below. As in all FITCE Congresses the social and personal interactions between participants is as an important part of the Congress as the technical programme. With this very much in mind the organisers have assembled a technical and social programme which will ensure that FITCE values and aims are maintained at the highest level.

FITCE Forum

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<http://www.fitce.org>

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FITCE values and aims

- Keeping in touch with leading edge ICT developments.
- Ensuring that our members benefit from the experience acquired by other members in all ICT fields.
- Building strong cultural and business ties between European ICT professionals.
- Ensuring that Young Professionals are able to use FITCE as a valued resource in their career development

Meeting of the Paper Selection Committee in Warsaw

On 30th March the members of the International Paper Selection Committee for FITCE met in the Warsaw University of Technology to choose the papers that should be presented at this year's FITCE Congress. The meeting was most expertly chaired by Prof. Józef Modelski. As usual the task of producing the final technical programme was not easy, since many more abstracts were offered for the Congress than could be practically included in the programme. The team worked hard until late in the evening to make the final paper selection and to establish the session structure, making all the necessary compromises to achieve a balanced programme.



In order to accommodate some more of the very interesting proposed papers, the PSC decided to introduce two innovations into this year's technical programme (see text box on Green Telecommunications below).

It is hoped that by having this rich mixture of carefully peer-reviewed abstracts and some high level keynote presentations by distinguished Polish and international speakers, in both single and parallel track sessions, that this year's congress programme will appeal to a large and wide ranging audience. In addition to the special green telecommunications and poster session, there will be a special session for young presenters.

Green Telecommunications - how can FITCE contribute to the Global warming debate?

The relationship between telecommunications, environmental and waste issues will be the subject of a special discussion session on the Friday afternoon. This session will also include a number of "Poster" presentations on various interesting technical issues which could not otherwise be fitted into the Congress programme. This Poster concept will be another innovation at this year's Congress. Wolfgang Messow, from FITCE Germany, will be the moderator for this combined session, which is intended to allow as much discussion and interaction with the audience as possible. The (currently planned) seven speakers will occupy seven corners of the room and interested delegates will be invited to meet with them and to circulate from group to group. It looks like being a very interesting part of the Warsaw event.

Editor's favourite URLs

Nowadays more and more publications which formerly were paper only based are either appearing in hybrid form (published on paper and on the internet) or appear as web only based publications. The FITCE Forum is no exception to this trend, and one could argue that with FITCE's ambition to be a central body in the ICT industry, we should be leading this trend. Likewise more and more papers at the FITCE Congress quote references, not in the traditional way of citing, author, paper, publication date etc, but merely having URLs as the reference in the article. The URL concept (Uniform Resource Locator) is a common synonym for URI (Uniform Resource Identifier) which is the actual name for the identifier strings such as: <http://www.fitce.org>. Strictly, the idea of a uniform syntax for global identifiers of network-retrievable documents was the core idea of the World Wide Web. In the early times, these identifiers were variously called "document names", "Web addresses" and "Uniform Resource Locators". The FITCE Forum editorial team thought it would be interesting to have a small column in each future issue of the FITCE Forum where the editor would cite some interesting URLs that readers may like to visit and peruse. As we make the FITCE Forum more hybrid, with hopefully a richer presentation of The Forum on the FITCE web-site in future, these URL links will become more useful.

So to start this series I would like to look at the amazing phenomenon that Wikipedia <http://www.wikipedia.org/> has brought about in recent years. Wikipedia is a project to build free encyclopaedias in all languages of the world based on a "neutral" point of view. One is at first amazed at how many languages in which this huge online encyclopaedia appears. As of today there are 138 languages with at least 1000 articles in their Wikipedia. In the English language version alone there are 1.8 million articles. On the other hand Wikipedia is a very controversial topic. Anybody can write or overwrite the articles (within certain constraints). The rules and policies of Wikipedia are themselves part of the Wikipedia tool and can therefore be modified by anybody. This therefore results in a whole body of knowledge being consensus driven. The speed at which the process of building up the information on a particular topic and how it evolves and grows is also something difficult to comprehend.

As a single URL to curl up with this month I invite readers to look at (*and listen, please turn up the sound on your browsing device!*) to: <http://weblog.infoworld.com/udell/gems/umlaut.html>

One needs about 8 1/2 minutes patience to watch and enjoy this small sample of the Wikipedia phenomenon.

Kevin D Fogarty

FITCE Forum Editor

News from FITCE UK

A Journey into the Future of Communications



On 16th May 2007 **The Communications Network** (TCN) which is the parent body for **FITCE UK**, organised a one day conference in the City of London on the theme of “**The Future of Communications**”. In 2006 TCN celebrated 100 years since the foundation of its original predecessor body, “The Institution of Post Office Electrical Engineers”. Soon after this historic inauguration, in 1908 the Institution started a quarterly publication, known simply as “The Journal”. The October-December issue had a set of articles looking forward towards the next 100 years in the story of the communications. This received wide acclaim and consequently TCN decided to organise a major conference on the theme. *Huawei Technologies*, one of the corporate members of TCN, kindly sponsored the event. It was attended by nearly 100 delegates including several from outside of the UK, who expressed their deep appreciation on such a fascinating day which was peppered with continuous questioning and discussions

The Conference was kindly and very effectively chaired by **Prof Izzat Darwazeh**, chair of communications engineering at University College London. The conference programme was largely based on the articles written in the special issue of *The Journal* on “The Future of Communications”.

The event opened with a very controversial and thought provoking presentation and glimpse into the future by **Prof Peter Cochrane**, who is the co-founder of Concept Labs and is widely known for his international publications and presentations on the future of technology etc. His talk entitled “**The Descent of Man - or the rise and fall of wet-ware**” got the conference off to a future-gazing stance, where the evolution of man and society, in the context of the staggering technological evolution we are witnessing today, will need to work hand-in-hand. Peter went on to explain how machines, or robots if you like, are gradually taking over tasks we would never have dreamt of a few years ago. Robots now carry out more and more knee operations on humans. In his wide-ranging talk he made a number of predictions for, and pleas to, the network operators. The Web is gradually moving to being dominated by Web 2.0 applications, which by their nature are symmetrical. Therefore the continuous rollout of a so-called “broadband” based on ADSL will not be sufficient to meet users needs, and alternative operators will move in with the only logical solution – a total optical fibre based access.

The conference was then treated to detailed exposés of the five articles in the issue of the *Journal* mentioned above.

Ian Pearson (BT’s Futurologist), started this session off with his fascinating talk “**The New Dark Age – A View from a Futurologist**”. Ian stressed that there is a great danger of a new dark age of anti-knowledge arising. Such modern ICT tools as Wikipedia can lead to nonsense beliefs dominating mainstream beliefs, including a trend towards anti-science. Suspicion of scientists and of technology is nowadays a media hobby horse. On the other hand governments at all levels are utilising the latest ICT systems and tools to try to control society. Ian demonstrated a number of future trends in technology such as planting active contact lenses in people’s eyes, which could allow 3D computer-generated images to be overlaid on the real world. People could then exist normally and in Second Life simultaneously! With advances in personal area wireless techniques, and miniature and cheap processors embedded in people’s bodies, the concepts of electronic jewellery and digital bubbles will exist, whereby large intelligent data exchanges could happen between people automatically as they meet or pass in the street. A frightening world far beyond the texting dominated social interactions of young people today.

Prof Nico Baken from KPN, and from the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands was the next speaker. Nico is a well known participant in FITCE Congresses, and TCN was particularly pleased that he and his three Dutch co-author colleagues of the paper “**Unravelling 21st Century Riddles – Universal Network Visions from a Human Perspective**” could be present at this conference in London. Nico started off by bringing the audience back 11,000 years to the beginnings of human society and explained how trust between members of those emerging communities was the fundamental attribute that allowed tasks to be shared and stability to form in a community. He explained that the well known concept, the GDP figure, needs to be complemented by a consideration of a GDS (Gross Domestic Service) figure, which measures how the social needs of people are taken care of. This, together with the concept that networks exist in all sectors of society, leads to his proposal that by developing trans-sectoral networks many of today’s problems in society can be solved or eased.

**At the heart of networking is the concept of trust ...
Telcos are in a unique position since they have the expertise on how trustworthy communications can be handled across networks.**

At the heart of this networking is again the concept of trust. The Telcos are in a unique position to gain from such trans-sectoral network developments since they have the expertise on how trustworthy communications can be handled across networks. FITCE Forum readers will be interested to know that Prof Baken will present a paper at the FITCE Warsaw Congress which will further elaborate on these ideas.

After lunch, the conference was treated to a fascinating and amusing presentation by **Ian Neild**, who is disruptive technology expert in BT. Ian’s talk was entitled “**The future isn’t what it used to be**”. He explained that it is getting more and more difficult to predict the future. He predicted that everything we type in our life, everything we are saying, hearing and seeing could fit onto a memory stick. So,

shortly, we won’t be just searching static web sites but searching real world information services and even searching our own lives. As sensor technology improves and perhaps gets integrated into our own nervous systems, it may be possible to record our whole life’s experiences.

we won’t be just searching static web sitesbut our own lives will be online!

Dr Andy Aftelak, Director of operations for Motorola’s application Research Centre in Chicago USA was the next speaker. Andy’s talk was entitled “**Communications Evolution – back to first principles**”. This presentation directly addressed the issue of the evolution of communications and gave some real world examples of this evolution. Taking the examples of the major services offered by communications systems, Andy analysed what have been the compelling user needs, the growth mechanisms and what innovations have happened in these services. As a result he proposed a mechanism for analysing what may happen in the future. He went on to explain that it is clear that convergence is now happening since all media is now digitised. However the ability to enter a market now depends on securing relevant content deals, on the service provisioning software architecture and how billing and DRM (Digital Rights Management) are handled. There was a lively discussion in the Q&A session after this talk on whether DRM is a help or hindrance in the development of the ICT and media industries. However a member of the audience cited the recent Apple and EMI agreement to drop DRM on recorded music and another person, who has founded a TV pod-casting company explained that his business model doesn’t require DRM and relies on advertising to generate revenue.

The final presentation of the day had the fascinating title of “**Why art and technology need each other in the digital networked economy**”. This was delivered by **Robin Mannings**, a research foresight manager in BT. Robin explained that since early history, art and technology have been intimately linked. He cited examples like the great pyramids of Egypt (were they art, politics, religion or technology?)

with viral media and digital bubbles one could share all art forms instantly with people around the world..

He surmised that the viral media concept, used in sharing music on MP3 players, could with the digital bubble concept and the use of ad-hoc wireless networking, be applied to all the various media sensed by the human senses. As a result visual art, architecture, music, drama etc. could be instantly shared between people around the world. Art can also help the development of technology, since it speaks to our emotions and can thus help the early adoption of some technologies. He also cited the famous Eden Project in Cornwall, England (see www.edenproject.com) where art and technology have come together to inform, educate and entertain people on environmental issues.



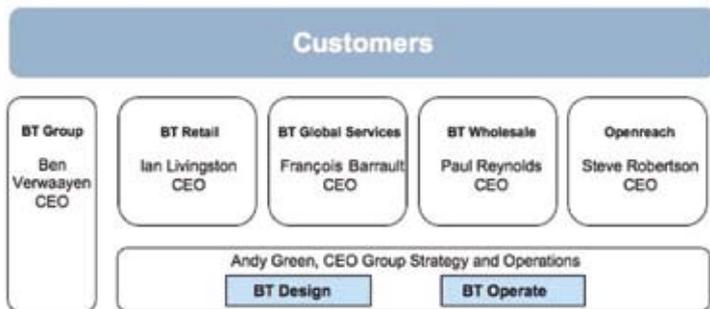
The large audience was constantly enthralled by the fascinating presentations

Following these six different but thoroughly fascinating presentations the day culminated in an intense final hour with a very lively panel discussion. This was most ably and efficiently chaired by **Prof. Ian Angell** from The London School of Economics (LSE).

Telco News

BT re-organises again!

New BT structure



In January 2006 BT announced a major structural re-organisation when a new part of BT was created to deliver installation and maintenance services on behalf of Britain's telephone and internet service providers. This organisation, called "Openreach", was created as a result of the new regulatory framework agreed between BT and Ofcom, the UK's regulatory authority for communications with responsibilities across television, radio, telecommunications and wireless communications services. Containing almost all of BT's field force of engineers, Openreach was created to install, provide and maintain "the first mile" of connections, fibres and wiring which link millions of homes and businesses in Britain to their communications providers' networks via local BT exchanges.

Now in April 2007 BT announced another major structural change that is intended to accelerate its transformation into a networked IT services company, delivering software-driven services over its global 21CN platform. This change is designed to keep BT ahead of the game in the rapidly changing world of telecoms, increasingly characterised by new services utilising the power, flexibility and speed advantages when the services are created and managed with software.

The plan is to bring all people from networks and IT into a single reporting structure under Andy Green who takes on a new role as CEO of BT Group Strategy and Operations and as Chief Transformation Officer. Andy was until now CEO of BT Global Services.

At the same time it was announced that Francois Barrault becomes CEO of Global Services. He was formerly responsible for building BT's business outside the UK. Francois will join the BT Operating Committee (OC) and the BT board.

BT has recognised for some time that systems and software play an increasingly critical role in the operation of its networks and products; that has been a key principle of its move to an all IP-based NGN called 21CN. Software control offers the opportunity to do things faster and more efficiently; to reduce time to market and eliminate duplication and reduce costs. To help exploit these advantages fully, BT has decided to create two new units that will more closely align its IT and networks operations globally. It considers that the time

is right to do this now that 21CN is in the customer implementation phase.

Andy Green will lead the creation of these two new units which will deliver the software-driven services of the future that individual BT business units and the wider communications industry need. He will also chair a new Design Council on behalf of the OC which will approve the strategic and technical direction of the BT group. This means that the network and IT staff from BT Wholesale, One IT, BT Retail and BT Global Services will join the two new BT units from 1 July, which are:

BT Design: responsible for designing and developing new services over the global BT 21CN platform achieving world class reliability and cost efficiency.

Al-Noor Ramji – currently chief executive of One IT - has been appointed the chief executive of BT Design and will be accountable for the design and development of software-driven products and services over BT's global 21st century network (21CN) platform. Al-Noor retains his responsibility as BT Group chief information officer and for BT's customer experience processes.

BT Operate: responsible for deploying and operating new services. It will apply world class standards to testing, operating and monitoring software-driven services and networks.

Roel Louwhoff - currently president of customer service and network operations in BT Global Services has been appointed the chief executive of BT Operate and will be accountable for deploying, testing and operating the new software services on the global 21CN platform.

Matt Bross – BT Group chief technology officer - joins the BT leadership team to drive innovation across the business. Matt is accountable for strategic innovation and vision across BT. He will continue to head up BT's global research and venturing laboratories, exploiting technology and building strategic partnerships in Europe, the US and the Asia Pacific region.

Olivia Garfield – currently managing director of commercial and brands in BT Global Services is appointed BT Group strategy and portfolio director. In her new role, Olivia will be responsible for supporting the BT board and operating committee in setting BT's corporate strategy and in defining the strategic direction for the product portfolio.

The individual customer facing businesses (Retail, Wholesale and Global) will continue with their critical role in managing customer relationships and in winning new business. They will drive customer requirements for their market segments, working closely with BT Design and BT Operate to deliver a more consistent and better customer experience. Openreach's role in providing highly regulated products and services is unchanged.

Warsaw FITCE Congress Programme

For the latest version of the programme see the FITCE Web site

Thursday 30 August 2007

10.30 - 12.00	Opening ceremony	
13.30 - 15.30	Session 1 "The Broadband way to the future"	Chairman: Wojciech Hafka, Poland
	Keynote Presentation	TBD
	At Dawn of a new Era of Communication and Entertainment	Marc Schroeder, Deutsche Telekom, Germany
	Electronic Media Market in Poland and its Possible Changes as a Result of Digitalization of Terrestrial TV and Radio Broadcasting	Andrzej Zieliński, National Institute of Telecommunications, Poland
	Evolution Towards the Next Generation Network	Evangelia M. Georgiadou and Ioannis P. Chochliouros, OTE, Greece
	Next Generation Mobile Networks - 2010 and Beyond	Uwe Janssen and Sebastian Speicher, T-Mobile, Germany
16.00 - 18.00	Session 2 "Can broadband be made profitable"	Chairman: George Agapiou, Greece
	Using Advanced Integration Concepts for Trans-sector Innovation – View and Status	Harrie J.M. Bastiaansen and Nico H.G. Baken, TNO, KPN and Delft University
	On the Factors Influencing the Business Case for Next Generation Network	Joe Martucci, Anne Elvidge, Jerome Villez, BT OneIT, ZStar Trading, UK
	Business Models for Broadband Services: The Case for Tele-Medicine and Tele-Work (TBC)	Elizabeth Fife and Francis Pereira, University of Southern California, USA
	Pricing Digital Contents for Broadcasting	Beatriz Sainz, et al, Univs of Valladolid, Alcalá de Henares, Cordoba, Spain

Friday 31 August 2007

9.00 - 10.30	Session 3 "New services, new regulations?"	Chairman: Armin Sumesgutner, Austria
	Keynote presentation	Katarzyna Szczuka, EU, Brussels
	MHP: an Analysis of Standardization, IPRs and their Implications for Commercial Deployment	Claudio Feijóo, et al, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
	RFID Technology: When Innovation Brings Along Data Protection Challenges	Eleni Kosta, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
9.00 - 10.30	Session 4 Mobile on the move	Chairman: Kevin Fogarty, UK
	Business Model for Broadband Internet on the Train	Bart Lannoo, et al, Ghent University, Belgium
	GSM-R performance in High Speed Railway Environments	Dick Vriend, Capgemini, Netherlands
	Requirements of Wireless Communications for Control and Operation of Railway Systems	Cesar Briso et al, Alonso, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
	Public Transport LBS: Combining GPS and GSM positioning techniques	Nico Deblauwe, Vrije Univ. Brussel, Belgium

Friday 31 August 2007

11.00 - 12.30	Session 5 FMC = Fixed-Mobile Competition?	Chairman: Andrea Penza, Italy
	Multiple Service Access - more bang for the buck	Ralph Griewing, Siemens, Germany
	Analysis of European Mobile Operators Strategies towards Multiple Play Services Provision	Manuel Espías, et al Polytechnic Univ. of Madrid, Spain
	Challenges for Developing Mobile Broadband Services in the European Union	Anastasia S. Spiliopoulou and Ioannis P. Chochliouros, OTE, Greece
11.00 - 12.30	Session 6 Network technology trends	Chairman: Marc Verbruggen, Belgium
	UMA: Myth or Reality?	Emmanuel Dujardin, France Telecom
	Scenarios Designed for the Verification of Mobile IPv6 Enabling Technologies	Miguel Ponce de Leon, et al, Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland
	Industrial Ethernet architectures to provide QoS for extended-Home High Defn MM services distribution	Josu Bilbao, et al ETSIT de Bilbao, Spain
	Trading Transport Resources of Communication Networks on Bandwidth Exchanges	Wojciech Stańczuk & Józef Lubacz, Warsaw Univ of Techn. Poland
14.00 - 16.15	Session 7 BB wireless access evolution	Chairman: Wim van der Bijl, Netherlands
	Roadmap to Personalised Liquid Bandwidth	Wim van Lagemaat, et al, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands
	Securing WiMAX Converged Networks: Threats and Solutions	Michail Tsagkaropoulos, et al Univ. of Patras, Greece
	Wireless Broadband Communications in Rural and Remote Areas – A WiMAX Solution?	Patrick Boets, et al Univ. of Brussels, Belgium
	VoIP Prioritisation over WLAN for Fixed Mobile Convergence	Brendan Kearns and Seán Murphy, Eircom, Ireland
14.00 - 16.15	Open session on green telecommunications & Posters	Chairman: Wolfgang Messow, Germany
	Telecom Technology Research and Development with Inclusion of Environmental Aspects	Wolfgang Messow, FITCE Germany
	Lengthening the life of electronic equipment to reduce and bridge the digital divide	Carles Martín Badell, SISOSCAT, Spain
	POSTERS: <i>Several papers including</i> , Techno-economic Model and Analysis of Broadband Deployment in the City of Łódź with the WiMAX Technology	Paweł Białoń, National Institute of Telecommunications, Warsaw, Poland
16.30 - 18.00	Session 8 Users shape the broadband future	Chairman Emmanuel Dujardin, France
	User Centric Media: from the B2C to the U2U (User to User) Media Paradigm	Federico Álvarez, et al, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
	New Telecommunication Services Shape the Social Behavior, etc.	Julian Costea, Alcatel - Lucent, Romania
	Young Professionals session	

Saturday 1 September 2007

9.00 - 10.30	Round Table and Conclusions of the Congress	
10.45 - 12.15	FITCE General Assembly	

News from FITCE -Austria

Telekom Austria Group – Results 1st Quarter of 2007

Beginning with 1Q 07 the Telekom Austria Group reports three segments. **Fixed Net** comprises primarily the former Wireline segment, whereas **Mobile Communication** encompasses the former Wireless segment. In addition, the Telekom Austria Group also reports a third segment **Corporate**, consisting of all non-operative functions related to the governance of the Telekom Austria Group. Prior years have been adjusted for comparison.

During 1Q 07 revenues remained almost stable at EUR 1,145.8 million compared to 1Q 06, with higher revenues in the Mobile Communication segment almost offsetting lower revenues in the Fixed Net segment.

Revenues in the Fixed Net segment declined by 4.5% to EUR 510.8 million in 1Q 07 due to lower revenues from Switched Voice, which were partly offset by higher revenues in Data & IT solutions and Internet Access & Media. Mobile Communication revenues rose by 0.9% to EUR 694.1 million in the reporting quarter compared to 1Q 06 as a result of rising monthly rental, traffic and other revenues.

Operating income before depreciation, amortisation and impairment charges (adjusted EBITDA) declined by 5.8% to EUR 474.9 million in 1Q 07 impacted by lower revenues in the Fixed Net segment, higher marketing expenses in the Mobile Communication segment and start-up costs for the operations in the Republic of Serbia.

Net debt decreased by 5.2% to EUR 3,003.6 million as of end of March 2007 in comparison to end of December 2006 primarily due to strong free cash flow generation. The net debt to equity ratio (net gearing) was 103.0% compared to 112.2% at the end of December 2006.

Group Review – Fixed Net

The Fixed Net segment continued to show xDSL broadband access line growth despite a challenging market environment, with net adds reaching 28,000 in 1Q 07 compared to 39,800 in 1Q 06. The number of xDSL access lines (including 124,000 wholesale lines) grew by 17.1% to 721,600 as of March 31, 2007 compared to 616,000 at the end of March 2006.

xDSL average revenues per user (xDSL ARPU) declined by 5.9% to EUR 27.3 in 1Q 07 due to a shift in customer mix towards entry level xDSL packages and higher usage of data volume offered. The number of unbundled lines rose by 61.0% to 235,900 at the end of March 2007 compared to the same period of the previous year.

Telekom Austria's voice minutes declined by 12.3% in 1Q 07 compared to approximately 15.7% for the total voice market. This was the result of stronger fixed to mobile migration and a lower number of total access lines. The migration of dial-up customers to higher value broadband products continued and contributed to the decline of total minutes including Internet dial-up by 21.5% to 1.4 billion minutes.

Telekom Austria's market share of total voice traffic grew by 2.6 percentage points to 58.1% at the end of March 2007. This was the result of successful retention measures as the overall market volume declined more strongly than Telekom Austria's minutes. Total market share including Internet dial-up increased by 2.0 percentage points to 57.9% at the end of March 2007.

By the end of March 2007, total access lines fell by 7.0% compared to the end of March 2006. The continued migration to mobile and unbundling operators led to this decline.

To address the demand for flat-rate products Telekom Austria introduced new TikTak bonus packages for residential and business customers in February 2007.

Fixed Net revenues declined by 4.5% to EUR 510.8 million during 1Q 07 compared to the same period last year.

Switched Voice Traffic revenues declined by 14.0% to EUR 86.7 million compared to 1Q 06.

Strong demand for international communication solutions supported the revenue growth of Data & IT-solutions including wholesale by 1.4% to EUR 105.0 million in 1Q 07.

Revenues from Internet Access & Media grew by 2.1% to EUR 68.7 million as a result of stronger sales to business customers and the continued growing numbers of broadband retail customers.

Wholesale Voice Telephony & Internet revenues decreased slightly by EUR 0.8 million to EUR 91.6 million in 1Q 2007 in comparison to the same period last year.

Other revenues declined by EUR 1.6 million to EUR 26.3 million due to lower revenues from directory assistance services in 1Q 07.

Group Review – Mobile Communication

The total number of customers grew by 15.7% to 10.6 million driven by an increase in the number of net additions across all mobile operations at the end of March 2007 to 326,600 compared to 165,300 the end of March 2006.

Mobile Communication revenues grew by 0.9% to EUR 694.1 million in 1Q 07 compared to 1Q 06 as a result of higher traffic, monthly rental and other revenues. Higher contributions from international operations in Bulgaria, Croatia and Slovenia more than offset lower revenues in Austria.

Data revenues as a percentage of traffic-related revenues increased by 4.0 percentage points to 24.9% in 1Q 07 compared to the same period last year.

Operating income before depreciation, amortization and impairment charges (adjusted EBITDA) declined by 2.2% to EUR 287.0 million in 1Q 07 due to higher marketing expenses and start-up costs for the operations in the Republic of Serbia.

Operating income decreased by 5.4% to EUR 161.9 million in the reporting period, caused by higher depreciation and amortization charges due to risen capital expenditures for tangible and intangible assets.

Source: Telekom Austria Results for the First Quarter 2007 (Ad hoc Release)

www.telekom.at

International Newsletter April 2007

 **Austria** In March mobile operator ONE started the mobile internet product called "HUI". The brand new product "H.U.I. Talk" for € 5,- per month offers now mobile internet and additionally calls to the fixnet cost 0 euro (1,100 free minutes/billing cycle). Calls to ONE, mailbox and other operators cost 20 cent per minute ⁵.

 **Belgium** Since March, the Belgian incumbent Belgacom is selling Naked DSL ¹.

The Belgian ANB Scarlet markets ADSL with bandwidths up to 20 mbps download and 1 mbps upload².

 **Denmark** The Tele2 Group has sold its Danish subsidiary (end of 2006: 206.000 fixed line customers, 75.000 broadband customers and 227.000 mobile network customers) for around 111 million Euro to Telenor².

 **Germany** In the first quarter of 2007, Deutsche Telekom has lost 600.000 telephony customers²

In the course of the second quarter 2007, all German internet- users should be able to use the new T- Online video- on- demand- offer, which legally allows burning of movies on CD, after successful download ³.

 **Europe** At the end of 2006, about 22% of European households were only using their mobiles. This is a rise of 4% compared to the year before, According to a study of Eurobarometer, the numbers of households with a fixed line access receded by 5% to 72% ³.

 **France** Henceforth France Telecom will offer naked DSL in their product- portfolio. ADSL with 8 mbps, tv and VoIP is about 39,9 Euro per month. The product costs 5 Euro more, when bundled with 18 mbps.

 **Great Britain** In London, the Cloud has brought a new WiFi-service to the market, whose availability range includes the whole city area. The network is based on Mesh- technology of BelAir Networks ². According to information from Ofcom, in March 2007, there were 2 million unbundled lines in Great Britain. ²

 **Italy** Telecom Italia plans to negotiate with ANB Fastweb about the use of their fibre network. Fastweb offers the most ubiquitous fibre network in Europe and reaches 40% of Italian households ¹.

A consortium including Telefónica takes control of Telecom Italia. The consortium will pay 4,1 milliard Euro for the acquisition. The acquirers include the Italian banks Intesa-Sanpaolo and Mediobanca, the Benetton- concern and the insurance company Generali. Telefónica will lead the consortium with an interest of 42,3 % ⁴.

 **Netherlands** In the Netherlands, the number of households with digital TV has doubled from 2005 to 2006 to two millions ². KPN loses 140.000 fixed line accesses ²: In the first quarter 2007, the Dutch incumbent KPN has lost 140.000 fixed line accesses ².

 **Sweden** The Swedish incumbent TeliaSonera has 100 million customers in 15 countries. That's a growth about 19% in the period March 2006 to March 2007 ².

 **Switzerland** The regulator for the Italian securities market, Consob, gave Swisscom permission for the acquisition of Fastweb ³. Starting 1. July 2007, Swisscom will enlarge their broadband- portfolio with VDSL, with 15 mbps download and 1 mbps upload. This offer will cost about 54 Euro per month ².

 **Spain** The number of mobile network customers in Spain increased in February according to the regulator CMT with a gain of 248,127 to 47 million. This represents a mobile network penetration with 105.13% ².

Ya.com promotes IPTV: They have a special offer, where customers just have to pay 6 Euro for the service in the first 6 month of the contract. The Triple-Play-Offer (20 mbps ADSL, flatrate for telephony and tv) costs with the special offer 27.9 Euro per month. The bundling can be cancelled up to 3 month after registration ².

 **Czech Republic** In the year 2006, Telefonica O2 CR succeeded in increasing the number of mobile broadband customers from 20,000 to 100,000. The service is available to 85% of the Czech population ². Telefonica O2 Czech Republic has already 500,000 ADSL customers. The number of customers was pushed by convergent services like O2 Trio (ADSL, tv, fixed line) and O2 Duo Mobile (ADSL, mobile network) ².

 **Worldwide** Version 4 of Skype should be able to handle beside its own proprietary protocol, the standard protocol SIP (Session Initiation Protocol) too ³.

Sources:

¹ Telecom Markets @ informa telecoms & media

² Telecompaper

³ heise online

⁴ Der Standard (daily newspaper in Austria)

⁵ Presstext

Warsaw FITCE Congress 2007

Social and Partners Programme

A FITCE Congress is not only about presenting the latest technical ideas, or learning about new technologies and services, but it also has very special social and cultural aspects. This year's event in Warsaw will be no exception

46th FITCE Congress in Warsaw will be truly an historical occasion. Not only will it be the first time that FITCE has held a Congress in Poland, it will be the first such Congress to take place in any of the recently joined member states of the European Union in Central and Eastern Europe. This will give many delegates and their partners their first opportunity to visit this important cultural and very historic city of Warsaw and the surrounding Polish countryside.

On the first afternoon delegates' partners will have the glorious opportunity to have a first look at the city and also to visit Wilanów Palace – a Baroque residence of King John III Sobieski, the famous conqueror of the Turks at the Battle of Vienna, 1683.

He was the most colourful person of the 17th Century in Poland, a skilful army leader, accomplished diplomat and author of beautiful love letters written to Marie Casimiere, his wife.

On the opening night (Thursday) of the congress there will be a welcome reception for all participants in the picturesque Firleje Village.



Firleje is a place of an extraordinary charm, only 35km from the centre of Warsaw. It is discretely located on the border of the Ksiazienickie Woods and is surrounded with widespread meadows and fields, in the neighbourhood of picturesque ponds and a small river. The settlement, covering an area of 50 hectares, with a replica of a typical Polish manor house from the 17th century in the middle of it. The most typical dishes of the traditional - Polish cuisine (*like potato pancakes in mushroom sauce, Polish*

dumplings with meat, pea soup etc) will be served by waiters dressed in regional costumes. Guests will be welcomed by a folk band in a very traditional Polish way: with bread and salt. During the meal a unique show of the old Polish art of fencing will be performed for the guests.



All the congress participants and their companions will have a glorious opportunity to mingle in these convivial surroundings and to "break the ice" on the first evening, both making new friends and meeting again with old friends and long established acquaintances.

On Friday the partner programme offers a whole day excursion to some beautiful locations. The tour will start at Żelazowa Wola an old charming Polish manor, the birthplace of the composer and national hero - Frederic Chopin.



The house where Chopin was born is now a museum surrounded by a large garden. All the rooms have been restored to period perfection and contain a collection of family portraits and other Chopin memorabilia, including music manuscripts and a cast of his left hand.



The tour will also include a visit to the Palace in Nieborow whose contents are part of Warsaw's National Museum, which saved them from the devastation in the period of orthodox Stalinism.

The origins of Nieborów date back to the end of 12th century when a settlement was founded and afterwards a village with the wooden mansion and the church was erected in 1314. At the beginning of the 16th century a Gothic Renaissance mansion was raised which lasted till the 17th century. At that period of time the Nieborów grounds belonged to the Nieborowski family of the Prawda (Truth) coat of arms.



This all day tour will also include a visit to Łowicz. This town in the Łódź Province is situated on the Łowicko-Błońska Plain on the river Bzura, and has a population of about 31.000 people. The town is the capital of Łowicz county, an important academic centre and is also the cultural folk centre of Łowicz county.



This all day excursion on Friday for the partners will also give them a golden opportunity to see some of the beautiful unspoilt Polish countryside.

On Friday evening all delegates and their partners will be treated to a wonderful reception in Palace of Culture (Pałac Kultury i Nauki in Polish)



Construction of PKiN was started 2 May 1952. Joseph Stalin was the author of the concept and the architect of PKiN was L.W.Rudniew. The Skyscraper was built as a gift of the Soviet Nation for Poland. It was finished in the year 1955. The building is 230m high with the spire, and the base of the spire is at 167m. It has 42 floors, and a viewing platform is located

on the 30th floor at an altitude of 114m. PKiN has 3288 rooms, and has a cinema, cafeteria, public club and swimming pool.

On New Year's Eve 2000 the biggest tower clock (a donation of Telekomunikacja Polska SA) was unveiled on top of the Palace of Culture, its 4 dials are each 6 m in diameter and it is easily readable from a distance of 5 kilometres.



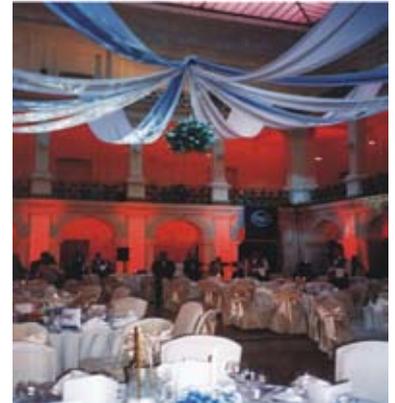
On the last day of the congress, after lunch and after the General assembly of FITCE has been successfully concluded, all delegates and their partners will be invited to enjoy a conducted tour of the historic city of Warsaw. This will include a visit to the Royal Castle. (In Polish **Zamek Królewski**)



This castle which has a long history (see text-box opposite) has been lovingly restored and furnished with repossessed furniture and works of art. It had been partly opened to visitors in 1922-39, but was then destroyed by the Nazis in 1944, and was rebuilt in 1971-84. Since 1971 it has operated as a state-run institution under the name of the Royal Castle in Warsaw – a Monument of National History and Culture. Gradually opening to the public as the restoration and furnishing activities progressed, it was opened fully in 1984.

The final event of this year's FITCE Congress will be a gala dinner which will be held in the magnificent Physics Faculty Hall of the Technical University of Warsaw. This unique

building was constructed in 1900. A patio under the glass roof with three floors of eclectic balconies gives a wonderful impression for guests, especially when it is appropriately illuminated. This place has been the venue for many important episodes in the Polish history of the second half of the 20th century.



The cocktail at the first level of the balconies will be followed by the dinner itself on the ground floor. During the dinner a dance music band will perform for the guests till late in the evening.

It is already clear the this year's FITCE Congress is an event that should not be missed. The highly attractive technical programme and the richly varied cultural and historical social events that are planned, will certainly fulfil the FITCE aims as outlined on the front page of this issue.

Do not hesitate, logo-on and book your participation for the FITCE Warsaw Congress at once !



Zamek Królewski- the Royal Castle (above).

Originally a medieval residence of the Mazovian Princes, the Royal Castle in Warsaw had a number of occupants over the ages: the Polish kings from 1526 to 1795, the Sejm (the lower chamber of Parliament) until 1569, and later the management of the National Holdings of Art from 1922 and the President of the Polish Republic from 1926.

“The Broadband Way to the Future”

will take place on **30 August to 1st September 2007**

Marriott Hotel
Al. Jerozolimskie 65/79
Warsaw, Poland



How to Register for the Congress

- Please click on Congress Registration button
- You will be asked to complete the Congress Registration Form
- After successful Registration you will get two confirmations, the first one after you hit the button “Submit” and the second via e-mail (by next working day) from the Organiser’s Office. Please wait one day to get a hard copy of your Congress Registration Form via e-mail.
- Please use the “Print” button to get a hard copy of your Congress Registration Form
- To obtain your invoice and to pay for the Congress fees, please contact your National FITCE Organisation.

How to make a Hotel Reservation for the Congress

- Please go to Congress page under the address: www.fitce2007.pl
- Than click on the Hotel Reservation button
- Two new lines will be opened:
 - On-line Hotel Reservation
 - Hotel fees and Reservation Information
- Please read carefully all information and then go to “On-line Hotel Reservation”
- Please, register to create your account.
- Because you are “New User”, you will be asked to give your E-mail address and to set a password
- You will then get your personal Login to your account
- After successful Hotel Reservation you will get a confirmation e-mail

Registration Fees for FITCE Warsaw Congress

		Before 15 July	After 15 July	On-site
Delegates	Member	€350	€450	€600
	Non-member	€700	€900	€900
Students		€100	€120	€150
Accompanying Persons	of Member Delegates	€200	€250	€400
	of Non- member Delegates	€400	€500	€500
Delegates 1 day	Member	€150	€200	€300
	Non- Member	€300	€400	€500
Student 1 day		€50	€80	€100



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