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## **DSL Maintains Global Broadband Dominance: Wins North American Broadband Growth Race**

***78 Million Global DSL Subscribers at End of First Half 2004***

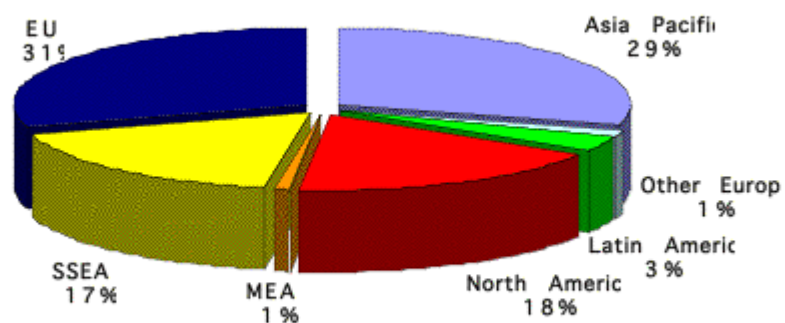
***USA Has World's Largest Broadband Population***

Fremont, CA - (September 22, 2004) - DSL - the world's most popular broadband technology - added more than 30 million subscribers in the 12 months leading up to June 30, 2004, reaching a global total of 78 million, according to the latest data produced for the DSL Forum by industry analyst Point Topic. That growth in DSL subscribers was more than double that of the other broadband access technologies in the same year. Total broadband subscribers grew by almost 55% to more than 123 million in the same period.

DSL made considerable progress in North America, achieving a 48% subscriber increase, significantly more than the 31% growth in cable and other technologies. In the USA, which has comfortably the world's largest total broadband population, DSL has seen a 3% increase in market share with nearly 4 million new subscribers. In Canada, DSL subscribers now account for 48% of the total broadband market. South and East Asia was the fastest growing region for DSL subscribers in the 12 months, with a 110% growth, while the Middle East and Africa showed a 107% increase, and Latin America a rise of 104%.

The European Union (EU) has narrowly taken over from Asia Pacific as the number one DSL region, with a total of over 23 million subscribers, around 11 million of them joining the DSL community in the last 12 months.

**Regional breakdown of DSL subscribers**



China now leads the world in delivering DSL broadband services, climbing up from fourth position a year prior. Almost 13 million subscribe to broadband DSL in China, an increase of nearly seven million in one year (119.4% growth). The UK, with more than 1.65 million new subscribers in the year ending June 30, has moved up from eleventh to eighth position, and Australia enters the Top 20 DSL countries list for the first time after seeing a growth of nearly 147% in one year. A total of 13 countries now have more than one million broadband DSL subscribers; 11 have more than two million and three - China, Japan and the USA - have more than ten million each. In the Netherlands (8.44%).

**Top 20 countries: DSL penetration of phone lines**  
**30 June 2004**

<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Penetration (DSL/100 phone lines) Q2 2004</b>	<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Penetration (DSL/100 phone lines) Q2 2004</b>
1	<b>South Korea</b>	28.66	11	<b>France</b>	13.79
2	<b>Taiwan</b>	20.76	12	<b>Finland</b>	13.65
3	<b>Hong Kong</b>	19.59	13	<b>Norway</b>	12.90
4	<b>Iceland</b>	18.14	14	<b>Portugal</b>	12.73
5	<b>Belgium</b>	17.89	15	<b>Estonia</b>	12.36
6	<b>Israel</b>	17.10	16	<b>Switzerland</b>	12.30
7	<b>Japan</b>	16.96	17	<b>Canada</b>	12.20
8	<b>Denmark</b>	15.03	18	<b>Italy</b>	12.14
9	<b>Singapore</b>	13.91	19	<b>Spain</b>	11.05
10	<b>Netherlands</b>	13.87	20	<b>Sweden</b>	9.98

China now leads the world in delivering DSL broadband services, climbing up from fourth position. Almost 13 million subscribe to broadband DSL in that country, an increase of nearly seven million in one year (119.4% growth). The UK, with more than 1.65 million new subscribers, has moved up from eleventh to eighth position, and Australia enters the Top 20 DSL countries list for the first time after seeing a growth of nearly 147% in one year. A total of 13 countries now have over one million broadband DSL subscribers; 11 have over two million and three - China, Japan and the USA - have over ten million each.

**Top 20 countries: total DSL subscribers Q2 04  
30 June 2004**

<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total DSL Q2 2004</b>	<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Total DSL Q2 2004</b>
1	<b>China</b>	12,710,000	11	<b>Spain</b>	2,067,031
2	<b>Japan</b>	12,068,718	12	<b>Netherlands</b>	1,387,000
3	<b>USA</b>	11,434,254	13	<b>Brazil</b>	1,366,048
4	<b>South Korea</b>	6,666,190	14	<b>Belgium</b>	918,064
5	<b>Germany</b>	5,000,000	15	<b>Hong Kong</b>	753,000
6	<b>France</b>	4,687,000	16	<b>Australia</b>	710,200
7	<b>Italy</b>	3,332,975	17	<b>Sweden</b>	656,842
8	<b>UK</b>	2,724,698	18	<b>Switzerland</b>	656,000
9	<b>Taiwan</b>	2,720,000	19	<b>Denmark</b>	562,000
10	<b>Canada</b>	2,436,246	20	<b>Portugal</b>	555,341

Tom Starr, president of the DSL Forum said: "The DSL success story just continues getting better. With our new DSL Anywhere White Paper offering service providers technical options to deliver this robust, reliable broadband access technology to all of their residential and business customers, no matter where they are located, the benefits of broadband DSL can be enjoyed by many millions more. There is no question that this is the DSL decade."

*About the DSL Forum*

DSL Forum is an international industry consortium of about 200 leading service providers, equipment manufacturers and other interested parties focused on developing the full potential of broadband DSL to meet the needs of the mass market. With the established goal of 200 million customers by the end of 2005, DSL Forum works to streamline processes, develop specifications and share best practices that set the stage for effective deployments and explosive global DSL growth. By developing new standards and embracing new applications, DSL Forum is tailoring DSL to meet the needs of the next generation of multi-media services and the online community. Established in 1994, more information about the DSL Forum is available from its industry site [www.dsiforum.org](http://www.dsiforum.org).

DSL - more than a phone line - it's a global solution.

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