



# INFORMATION

## NEWS RELEASE

**Q3 06 subscribers - 1**

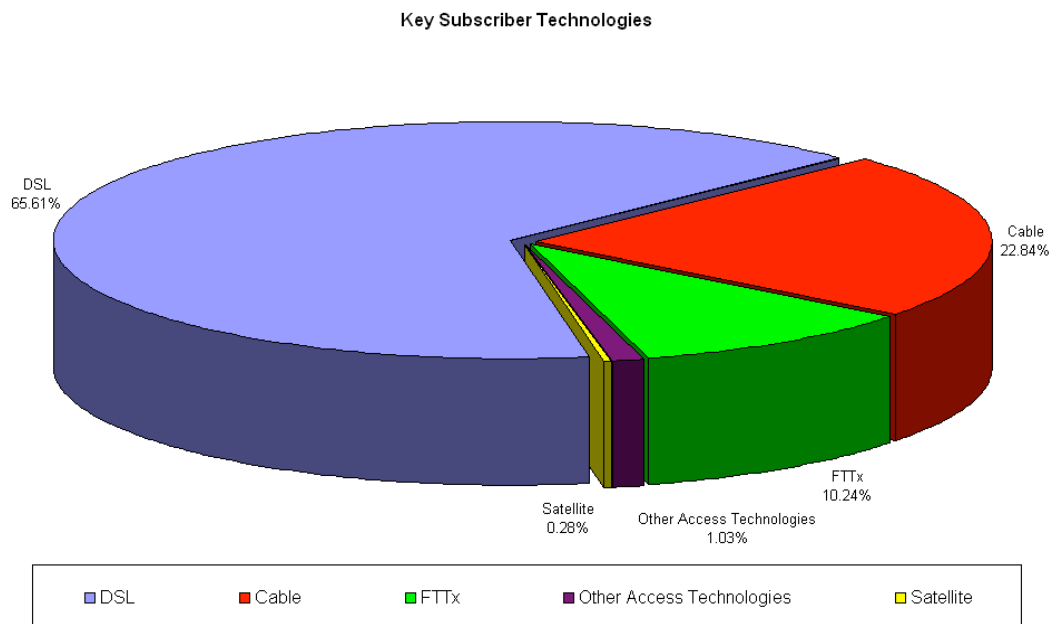
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### **DSL Drives Subscriber Growth: 1.25 Million Sign Up to Broadband Each Week; Two-Thirds Choose DSL**

DSL's subscriber base went up to more than 173 million while global broadband subscribers reached more than 263 million in the 12 months to 30 September 2006. Each week, 1.25 million people signed up to broadband according to the latest statistics prepared for the international DSL Forum by industry analyst Point Topic. An additional 65 million people subscribed to broadband in the period – with two-thirds of new subscribers choosing digital subscriber line technology (DSL) that delivers broadband over telephone lines.

DSL is by far the most popular broadband access technology in the world at 65.6% market share, rising to 82% in the European Union – the world's largest broadband region.

Of the remaining broadband access technologies, fibre to the home or other close location (FTTx), delivers to ten per cent of the world's broadband subscribers. Less than one per cent of broadband is delivered by satellite, accounting for less than one million subscribers.



Globally, the largest broadband market in the world is the USA with more than 55.5 million subscribers, followed by China at 48.5 million. Japan in third place has almost 26 million. Together, they account for almost half of all broadband connections across the world.

### Key Subscriber Technologies

Technology	Number of Subscribers	% of Subscribers
DSL	173,083,131	65.61
Cable	60,245,598	22.84
FTTx	27,019,742	10.24
Other Access Technologies	2,715,619	1.03
Satellite	730,192	0.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>263,794,282</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Sixteen countries now have over two million DSL subscribers, together representing just under half of all broadband customers using this technology.

### Top 20 Countries By number of DSL Subscribers To 30 September 2006

Rank	Country	DSL Subscribers Q3 06	Rank	Country	DSL Subscribers Q3 06
1	China	34,932,000	11	Taiwan	3,882,000
2	USA	24,459,902	12	Canada	3,736,036
3	Japan	14,593,800	13	Australia	2,888,000
4	Germany	12,300,000	14	Netherlands	2,830,000
5	France	11,980,000	15	Turkey	2,472,887
6	UK	9,317,000	16	Mexico	2,380,300
7	Italy	8,001,000	17	Poland	1,667,412
8	South Korea	5,789,598	18	India	1,530,770
9	Spain	4,811,300	19	Sweden	1,516,400
10	Brazil	4,095,600	20	Belgium	1,425,800

Commenting on these latest broadband subscriber figures, Michael Brusca, president of the international DSL Forum said: "As the global reach of broadband into people's lives continues to grow, the range of access technologies used to deliver its benefits is also expanding to capitalise on the various available infrastructures. Even though DSL is the predominant delivery technology in the world, the DSL Forum is working to extend the benefits of our own specifications to be equally applicable for other network technologies and to address the service delivery needs of the ever-growing range of multimedia devices and applications that depend on broadband for their success."

The DSL Forum provides, through its BroadbandSuite™, specifications for an access and management platform responsive to devices beyond the customer gateway as well as the distribution network. This “blueprint” is designed to minimise provisioning and maintenance issues for service and application providers who must support vast and growing requirements of new applications and hardware. With BroadbandSuite, components work together seamlessly, delivering a high quality consumer experience vital for driving next-generation voice, video, data and mobile services.

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***About the DSL Forum***

**DSL Forum** tailors broadband to meet the needs of the next generation of multi-media services, providers and the online community. Its BroadbandSuite initiative provides end-to-end specifications – Control, Access and Home – for DSL and other technologies. By forging agreement on common technical requirements for all access technologies, network and equipment providers and by embracing new applications, the Forum works to define specifications, and share best practices that set the stage for effective deployments and continuing explosive global DSL broadband growth. Established in 1994, the DSL Forum is an international industry consortium of over 200 leading service providers, equipment manufacturers and other interested parties.

[www.dslforum.org](http://www.dslforum.org).

Further regional or country data and charts are available from:

**Media Contacts (Europe & Asia Pacific):**

Carol Friend or Charlie Meredith-Hardy  
PIELLE Consulting  
+44 (0)20 7323 1587

[dsl.forum@pierreconsulting.com](mailto:dsl.forum@pierreconsulting.com)

**Media Contacts (North and South America)**

Laurie Gonzalez  
DSL Forum  
+1 770 761 9300

[lgonzalez@dslforum.org](mailto:lgonzalez@dslforum.org)