

Broadband Forum Launches Gfast Council

Brings together service providers, equipment makers, silicon providers and software companies to accelerate the adoption of Gfast

The Hague, Netherlands - June 13, 2017: The Broadband Forum today announced it has launched the Gfast Council to centralize and disseminate the expertise and experience of the Gfast market in order to facilitate the rapid deployment of Gfast implementations.

Gfast is the new gigabit broadband access technology that deploys faster by extending fiber to existing wiring infrastructure. The Gfast Council will inform the market through events, white papers, use cases and other resources.

"Consumers want ultrafast broadband speeds and they want them immediately. In many cases, Gfast offers service providers the best chance to meet this requirement," said Broadband Forum CEO Robin Mersh. "The Council will be the center of expertise in Gfast and as such will work to show how Gfast fits into the bigger gigabit broadband picture covered by the Forum's work."

The Council will also promote the Gfast Certification program, which today announced the first certified, interoperable products, to help accelerate the availability of interoperable solutions and expedite timely integration with service providers' networks.

"Gfast has become an essential tool for service providers," said Michael Weissman, Chair of the Gfast Council. "The Gfast Council combines the collective intelligence of 150 members of the Broadband Forum to make the rollout of Gfast deployments faster and more successful."

Open to all Broadband Forum members, the Council will represent the Broadband Forum and the Gfast community Broadband Forum and at industry events such as today's TNO Ultrafast broadband event in The Haque.

The formation of the Gfast Council follows the <u>creation of the NG-PON2 Council</u> by the Forum earlier this year.

For more information on the Broadband Forum, visit the Broadband Forum website at broadband-forum.org.

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About the Broadband Forum

Broadband Forum, a non-profit industry organization, is focused on engineering smarter and faster broadband networks. Our work defines best practices for global networks, enables service and content delivery, establishes technology migration strategies, engineers critical device & service management tools, and is key to redefining broadband. Our free technical reports and white papers can be found at broadband-forum.org. Twitter @Broadband_Forum.

For more information about the Broadband Forum, please go to <u>broadband-forum.org</u> or follow @Broadband_Forum on Twitter. For further information, please contact Brian Dolby on +44 (0) 7899 914168 or <u>brian.dolby@proactive-pr.com</u> or Jayne Garfitt on +44 (0) 1636 704888 or <u>jayne.garfitt@proactive-pr.com</u>.