



2006 FTTH Council Award Winners Announced

October 5, 2006

Today the Fiber-to-the-Council announced the 2006 recipients of its annual FTTH Awards. For four years, the Council has celebrated the outstanding contributions of individuals in the industry who have advanced the fiber to the home (FTTH) industry. The announcement was made today at the closing lunch of the 2006 FTTH Conference and Expo in Las Vegas which took place from October 2 – 5, 2006.

The Chairman's Award - The State of Texas

The Chairman's Award, given at the discretion of the Chairman of the FTTH Council Board of Directors, singles out an individual or company that has shown tremendous effort to promote, educate or accelerate fiber to the home.

This year, the Council recognizes the Lonestar State for being the first to pass statewide video franchise reform. As a result of this pioneering effort, states such as California and North Carolina have passed similar reform bills which have resulted in an increase in FTTH deployment. Accepting the award on behalf of Texas is Miguel Lecuona, of Grande Communications, a Texas overbuilder who is moving rapidly to deploy fiber in new areas of the State.

The Star Award – Tom Cohen, Attorney, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

The Star Award recognizes a person, community or company that has gone above and beyond what is expected in the advancement of fiber to the home.

Thomas Cohen, of the Washington legal firm, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, is this year's recipient. As a Washington insider with many years of experience in the telecommunications industry as a legal advisor and advocate, Mr. Cohen has been most successful in effecting telecom reform at various levels of government. He is the former legal counsel to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and has been an advisor to companies wishing to influence government public policy actions in the communications sector. The FTTH Council recognizes Mr. Cohen for his influential advocacy in testimony before the FCC and the House of Representatives which resulted in the successful passing of the Telecom Reform Bill (Barton Bill). Mr. Cohen is currently working in numerous state legislatures on behalf of the FTTH Council for further telecommunications reform.

The Photon Award – Michael Kunigonis, Jr., Corning Cable Systems Inc.

The Photon Award recognizes a FTTH Council member who, through their volunteer contribution, has demonstrated a high level of dedication to the organization and contribution to the industry.

Michael Kunigonis, Product Line Manager-Access, is responsible for Corning Cable Systems Fiber to the Home program management. As a member of the 2006 FTTH

Council Planning Committee, Mr. Kunigonis has been instrumental in securing the Council's influential keynotes and conference speakers and spearheaded the innovative Fiber-Powered Pavilion which debuted at the 2006 FTTH Conference & Expo in Las Vegas. As Chair of the Council's International Committee, he worked closely with the sister Councils of Asia Pacific and Europe to develop the first definitions and standards of FTTH terms for global use. Mr. Kunigonis has displayed extraordinary dedication, time and commitment in his volunteer efforts to advance the Council and its mission.

About the FTTH Council

The FTTH Council is a non-profit organization established to help its members with planning, marketing, implementing and managing FTTH solutions. The Council offers a unique venue for FTTH Providers by including municipalities and utilities, developers and their operators, along with traditional and non-traditional service providers. This broad membership of experts - wholly focused on fiber - is a cohesive group which shares knowledge and deployment experiences; and builds industry consensus on key regulatory and legislative issues surrounding fiber to the home. The Council advocates this consensus with government policy-makers on behalf of its members. Organizations interested in exploring fiber-to-the-home information should visit the FTTH Council web site at www.ftthcouncil.org or by e-mailing info@ftthcouncil.org.