

Appendix C

Glossary of terms

Fibre

Fibre-optic cable, glass or plastic tube which is used to send network signals and is often used in replacement of a copper cable. Easily upgradable by only changing the equipment connected at each end and it allows data to be sent at very high speeds.

Fibre-To-The-Home (FTTH)

Fibre-to-the-home, often called fibre to the premises (FTTP) is a new technology which is used for providing broadband services to homes and offices. It uses fibre-optic cable to deliver high speed broadband services which are often referred to as next-generation access (NGA).

Fibre-To-The-Cabinet (FTTC)

Fibre to the cabinet (sometimes called fibre to the kerb (FTTK)) is a technology used to provide high speed broadband services. Used by Virgin Media and BT to deliver their "fibre optic" broadband service. FTTC is often deemed a stop-gap technology between traditional broadband services and full fibre-to-the-home (FTTH).

Fibre enabled cabinet

A street side cabinet with a fibre connection to the exchange. This is required to access FTTC technology. The final part of the connection is the existing copper connection to individual homes or premises.

Leased line

A usually symmetric (same speed in both directions) leased line 'Private Circuit' that provides a full-time, dedicated and direct connection between two sites (usually between an ISP and a business). These are not consumer products and can often carry network data, such as Internet or even telephone services/access.