

WHY CHOOSE A NEUTRAL FIBER TERMINATION UNIT?

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Introduction

A neutral Fiber Termination Unit allows multiple Service Providers to access customer premises. A cost efficient Base Installation allows for a home network scalability solution that can be deployed to every household early in the planning phase. For example, wireless standardizations changes rapidly, forcing operators to change wireless boxes every 1½ years.

The DKT philosophy is to separate the basic FTU media converter functionality from the Service Boxes, making a neutral simple demarcation point from the customer In-home network to the distribution network.

- FTU can easily exist for more than a decade.
- Service Boxes must be replaced every 2 - 3 years due to new de-facto standards and services that are offered to the end customer.

Many FTTH installations deployed in the field today are typically

- Blurred picture, where operators mix the Network and Service => higher OPEX costs
- All CPE vendors define their "one-fits-all" box as de-facto.

Future FTTH installations will ideally take into account:

- Open Network, where services are being added to the installation where applicable or requested
- Customers will pay for the services they want => lower CAPEX
- Make the installation simple and easy to maintain and upgrade => lower OPEX costs

It is possible to make a simple analogy to Power and telephony installations, where the "outlet":

- Defines a clear demarcation point
- Separates the Network from the Services

FTTH Council Europe has prepared an informative FTTH handbook. You can download it from DKT's website.

Conclusion

DKT's FTUs consist of a neutral low-cost base in which fiber can be rolled, connected and terminated. This is with the intention for service activation at a later time. The FTUs have a flexible design, allowing installation with fiber feeding from various angles, this being from the side panels (via breakaway) or from the rear panel (when using a wall-mounted housing).

Even if a customer does not want to activate the services, the household is prepared for the fiber installation, which can be activated at a later time. The installation's value helps define property rental and sales values.

The advantage of this type of fiber termination is that the household requires only a single visit by a technician. This is when performing the fiber termination/installation, following which customers can themselves, at the necessary time, be responsible for their own activation and maintenance.

The mounting of the FTU, occurs at the most practical place in the house. This is by considering the property's shape, external factors such as excavation possibilities and rain and wind conditions, and this without consideration of optimal placement with regard to service distribution in the home (for example WiFi conditions, suggested placement of set top boxes and routers.

- with the vast amount of 3rd party active equipment available on the market, it is essential to choose a vendor-independent FTU, which fits together with almost any active equipment.