Comprehensive FTTH Network Planning and Design Training Course



26 - 30 Oct 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #TEL6894_285250

Course Introduction / Overview:

The global demand for high-speed internet connectivity is surging, positioning Fiber to the Home (FTTH) as the definitive solution for future-proof, last-mile access networks. This course provides a comprehensive, A-to-Z exploration of the entire FTTH lifecycle, from initial strategic planning and architectural design to physical deployment and ongoing maintenance. Moving beyond basic theory, the curriculum delves into the practical complexities and engineering trade-offs involved in building robust and scalable fiber optic networks. We will explore foundational principles established by leading academics like Gerd Keiser, whose work "Optical Fiber Communications" remains a cornerstone of the field. Participants will gain a deep understanding of Passive Optical Network (PON) technologies, including GPON and next-generation standards. BIG BEN Training Center has meticulously designed this program to equip engineers, planners, and project managers with the critical skills needed to navigate the technical and commercial challenges of modern FTTH projects, ensuring they can deliver high-performance networks efficiently and cost-effectively. This training is an essential investment for any professional aiming to master the intricacies of deploying the world's most advanced broadband infrastructure.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Telecommunications Engineers.
- Network Planners and Architects.
- Outside Plant (OSP) Engineers.
- Project Managers in the Telecom Sector.
- Technical Supervisors and Team Leaders.
- Field Installation and Maintenance Technicians.
- Infrastructure and Civil Works Engineers.
- IT Professionals responsible for network infrastructure.
- Regulatory and Compliance Officers in telecommunications.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Telecommunications Service Providers.
- Internet Service Providers (ISPs).
- Cable Television (CATV) Operators.
- Utility Companies (Electricity, Water, Gas).
- Real Estate Development and Smart City Projects.
- Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) Firms.
- Government and Public Sector entities managing municipal networks.
- Data Center and Enterprise Campus Network Operators.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Network Planning and Design.
- Outside Plant (OSP) Engineering.
- Project Management Office (PMO).
- Field Operations and Maintenance.
- Infrastructure Development.
- Technical Support and Network Operations Center (NOC).
- Corporate Strategy and Business Development.
- Procurement and Supply Chain Management.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Analyze the core principles of fiber optic communication and various FTTH architectures.
- Master the complete FTTH network planning process, from demand forecasting to route selection.
- Develop detailed High-Level and Low-Level Designs (HLD/LLD) for FTTH networks.
- Calculate and optimize optical link power budgets and rise time budgets for performance assurance.
- Effectively manage the deployment, installation, and fiber optic splicing phases of a project.
- Conduct comprehensive network testing using OTDR, optical power meters, and light sources.
- Implement best practices for the commissioning and formal acceptance of new FTTH networks.
- Develop robust strategies for troubleshooting, maintaining, and upgrading live fiber networks.

Course Methodology:

This training course employs a dynamic and interactive learning methodology designed to maximize knowledge retention and practical application. At BIG BEN Training Center, we believe that true mastery comes from doing, not just listening. The program is built upon a foundation of expert-led instruction that breaks down complex FTTH concepts into understandable modules. These sessions are enriched with real-world case studies, providing insights into successful network deployments and valuable lessons from projects that faced challenges. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to hands-on workshops and simulation exercises where participants will engage in activities such as designing a network layout, calculating a link power budget, and interpreting OTDR trace results. Collaborative group discussions are a key component, encouraging participants to share their unique experiences and solve problems collectively. This blended approach ensures that attendees not only grasp the theoretical knowledge but also develop the confidence and competence to apply their new skills immediately in their professional roles, transforming them into highly capable FTTH specialists.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Fundamentals of Fiber Optics and FTTH Technology

- Introduction to the principles of fiber optic communication.
- Comparative analysis of fiber optics versus copper and wireless technologies.
- Understanding different types of optical fibers, cables, and connectors.
- Key concepts of light propagation, attenuation, dispersion, and reflection.
- Overview of FTTx architectures including FTTH, FTTB, and FTTC.
- Deep dive into Passive Optical Network (PON) technology and its evolution.
- Review of critical FTTH standards from ITU-T, IEEE, and other bodies.
- Essential safety protocols for handling and working with optical fiber.

Unit Two: FTTH Network Planning and Architecture

- The end-to-end FTTH project lifecycle from concept to operation.
- Conducting market analysis and forecasting subscriber take-up rates.
- Selecting the optimal PON technology such as GPON, XG-PON, or NG-PON2.
- Architectural decisions between centralized split and distributed split topologies.
- Strategic planning for the Optical Distribution Network (ODN).
- Best practices for planning feeder, distribution, and drop cable routes.
- Leveraging Geographic Information System (GIS) tools for efficient planning.
- Navigating regulatory frameworks, permits, and right-of-way challenges.

Unit Three: Detailed FTTH Network Design

- Creating comprehensive High-Level Design (HLD) documentation.
- Developing detailed Low-Level Design (LLD) for construction teams.
- Mastering the calculation of the optical link power budget.
- Performing rise time budget analysis to ensure bandwidth capacity.
- Selecting appropriate passive components like splitters, cabinets, and closures.
- Inside Plant (ISP) and Outside Plant (OSP) design considerations.
- Generating detailed splicing charts and termination diagrams.
- Developing an accurate Bill of Materials (BOM) and project costing.

Unit Four: FTTH Deployment, Installation, and Splicing

- Applying project management methodologies to FTTH deployment.
- Best practices for civil works including micro-trenching and duct installation.
- Advanced techniques for aerial and underground cable installation.
- The science and art of fusion splicing and mechanical splicing.
- Installation and configuration of OLTs, ONUs/ONTs, and field equipment.
- Efficient drop cable installation and customer premises termination.
- Implementing quality control and assurance checks throughout construction.
- Effectively managing contractors, logistics, and project timelines.

Unit Five: FTTH Network Testing, Commissioning, and Maintenance

- Standard procedures for pre-commissioning and network acceptance testing.
- Using an Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) for characterization and fault finding.
- Accurate measurement of optical power levels with an Optical Power Meter (OPM).
- Conducting end-to-end service verification and performance testing.
- The importance of as-built documentation and network records.
- Developing proactive and reactive network maintenance strategies.
- Systematic troubleshooting of common faults in FTTH networks.
- Overview of Network Monitoring Systems (NMS) for operational excellence.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

As network demands escalate towards terabit speeds, how might the current centralized split architecture of PON evolve, and what are the techno-economic implications of shifting towards a more distributed or hybrid model for future FTTH deployments?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by offering a holistic, business-oriented engineering perspective on the entire FTTH lifecycle, rather than focusing on isolated technical tasks. While many training programs may teach how to perform a splice or read an OTDR, this course teaches why those tasks are critical within the larger context of network performance, profitability, and future scalability. We bridge the gap between technical execution and strategic planning, emphasizing the techno-economic analysis required to justify and manage large-scale fiber deployments. The curriculum is built around real-world case studies that explore complex trade-offs between cost, performance, and speed of deployment. Participants will not just learn the "how" but will master the "why," empowering them to make informed design and planning decisions. This strategic approach transforms attendees from technicians into well-rounded FTTH project leaders who can architect, deploy, and manage networks that are not only technologically superior but also commercially successful and prepared for the demands of tomorrow.