

HIGHLIGHTS EUROFIBER 2019

JANUARY

In January 2019, Parnassia and Eurofiber signed a contract for engineering, construction and management of digital infrastructure. The agreement covers connections for nearly 180 locations across 1,200 kilometers of fiberoptic cable. Dataplace will be providing the datacenter services for Parnassia. Both will be helping Parnassia grow and continue improving the care it provides for its patients.

FEBRUARY

In February, Eurofiber released the latest build of its DCspine platform. New functions have been added, including end-to-end redundancy at port and network level and improved interconnectivity management. The improvements have made it easier to provide direct access to third-party connections via DCspine.

MARCH

In March, Eurofiber and Speer IT announced that they will extend their partnership in managing and developing Eurofiber's fiberoptic network for years to come. Eurofiber and Speer IT have been working together for 15 years on managing and registering Eurofiber's fiberoptic network. Perfect registration in a user-friendly management system is crucial in order to manage the network efficiently.

On 21 March, Secretary of State Mona Keijzer received the 5G Charter from Alex Goldblum, Eurofiber CEO, who presented it on behalf of all the signatories. The document was presented during the 'Digital Netherlands' conference. By joining the 5G Charter, over 20 telecom companies, utilities, interest groups, knowledge institutions and local and national government authorities have expressed their commitment to working together to maintain the leading role that the Netherlands plays in the digital society.

MAY

In May, Eurofiber and QTS announced a strategic partnership for the datacenters recently acquired by QTS in Eemshaven and Groningen. The partnership includes connectivity services and a joint approach to marketing and sales. Eurofiber also announced the completion of its second fiberoptic connection between the city of Groningen and the seaport of Eemshaven. The establishment of this 37-km connection has further improved the connectivity of Dataport Eemshaven, making the area even more attractive to large datacenters.

JULY

In July, Eurofiber expanded its successful Secure Cloud Connect service, adding it to the standard service portfolio. Secure Cloud Connect gives customers a direct connection to Microsoft Azure, Office 365, Amazon Web Services and Google Cloud Services. The combination of specifications makes Secure Cloud Connect a unique service in the Netherlands.

SEPTEMBER

Following a European tender procedure, the SIVON purchasing cooperative selected Eurofiber as one of its three preferred providers that will be delivering fast, reliable, secure connections for primary and secondary schools in the Netherlands. Eurofiber will be providing access to the connections that the SIVON co-op will use to provide internet access, Wi-Fi as a Service, security and firewall services to educational institutions.

OCTOBER

In October, Eurofiber launched its online platform for flexible datacenter connectivity in Belgium: DCspine. As the first and only provider of this service in Belgium, Eurofiber is reaffirming its role as an innovator in the Belgian fiberoptics sector. DCspine makes it easy for customers to cross-connect between datacenters through an online interface, giving them flexible access to their data and services as if everything was running in a single environment. Six datacenters in Belgium are already connected, and further expansion is expected over the next few months.

The first stage of the new DWDM network for Eurofiber was completed by the end of October. The customers will benefit, but that's not all: this upgrade also boosts the capacity of Eurofiber's MPLS network. In the long run, the new DWDM network will make it possible to achieve speeds of up to 200 gigabits per second and even higher.

Infrastructure, services and datacenter connectivity are increasingly converging. Hardware is becoming software, and the fringes of data network structures are expanding from global cloud to local edge environments. In order to keep offering optimal services to their customers, Eurofiber and its subsidiary UNET announced in October that they would be integrating their organizations and services. The merger was effective as of the 1st of January 2020.

Eurofiber acquired the fiberoptic network of what was previously SensorCity in Assen. The addition of that 42-km network gives Eurofiber the city's most densely deployed fiberoptic network for the business market. The high-quality network in Assen offers routes through or along a large number of business estates, schools and office locations. As a result, Eurofiber will be able to provide most of the companies and organizations in Assen with excellent fiberoptic connections.

NOVEMBER

In November, Dataplace announced the acquisition of Datacenter Nedzone. With this fifth datacenter, Dataplace has strengthened its position in the Dutch datacenter market.

Later in November, Eurofiber announced the acquisition of three French companies: Eurafibre, ATE and Eura DC (Eura DC: 50% stake). Based in Lille, these companies have a strong position in the north of France in fiberoptic connectivity, cloud and managed services, as well as server hosting services in colocation datacenters. Collectively, these companies operate more than 2,000 km of fiberoptic network and 2 local datacenters, servicing 150 business parks and 200 municipalities in the north of France.

In the same month, Eurofiber announced with its partner Telindus that they would be providing full-service solutions to the City of Amsterdam. Solutions provided will include data, voice and video connections for the city's ICT department. With the @Net connectivity service offered by Telindus and the Dark Fiber infrastructure provided by Eurofiber, 15,000 municipal employees will easily be able to communicate with each other, within and between the 150 locations. Information panels, sensors, cameras and access gates will also be connected to the network.

DECEMBER

In December, Sustainer, Nokia and Eurofiber announced their partnership to build 5G systems integrated into streetlights. The first prototype will be operational in the second quarter of 2020. Municipal authorities and mobile operators are invited to participate in a pilot setup.

2020

Impact of the COVID-19 crisis

In March, the COVID-19 crisis affected all five countries in which Eurofiber operates. Because digital connectivity and cloud services are now more vital than ever for the economy and society, the crisis has not yet had a major impact on Eurofiber's commercial activities. There are currently no significant delays in network construction for customers in the Netherlands. This is not the case in France and Belgium, however, where government authorities have imposed restrictions on the delivery of new projects. We expect to be able to largely compensate for the financial consequences of this in the course of 2020.

Datacenter Amsterdam

The construction of the Amsterdam Datacenter by Dataplace is proceeding according to plan. The new datacenter will be fully 2N redundant and equipped with the latest proven technologies. With this sixth datacenter location, Dataplace will enhance its position in the regional, national and international datacenter market. The new location opens for business in Q2, although the official opening ceremony will take place on a later date because of the national ban on public gatherings.