

CASE STUDY

FULL SERVICE GENERAL CONTRACTOR PROJECT: DIETLIKON LAUNCHES FTTH NETWORK

In 2009, the Swiss township of Dietlikon decided to link up all households and businesses with modern fibre-optic connections. A qualified partner was identified in the shape of Datwyler who are to be responsible for the planning and implementation of the FTTH network.

At the end of November 2009 the people of Dietlikon were balloted and voted to approve a purpose loan of 3.5 million Swiss Francs to enable the expansion of the township's own broadband network to go ahead on the basis of "Fibre to the Home" (FTTH). Over 82% voted Yes.

Because the community organisations do not have sufficient resources at their disposal to implement a project of this nature successfully on their own, the local council decided to go for a general contractor option. This "turnkey solution" enables to reduce the interfaces to a minimum – and thus also potential errors. In addition, the responsibilities and costs are clearly defined. Following extensive negotiations the local council concluded a sole contractor agreement with Datwyler.

Pilot project successfully completed

By way of an initial step, a pilot project was launched in the industrial area of Dietlikon South. All buildings occupied by electricity consumers whose usage is in excess of 100 megawatt hours (MWh) were connected to the state-of-the-art fibre-optic network. Each of these companies was issued with an optical junction box fitted with four glass fibres.

In order to ensure the most comprehensive and powerful range of services possible for Dietlikon industry, the township is making access to this top item of infrastructure available to all service providers (Sunrise, Swisscom, Cablecom etc.) without exception. This decision has the effect of further strengthening and expanding the attractiveness of Dietlikon as an industrial location.

Datwyler succeeded in implementing the pilot project within just three months and handed it over fully operational in August 2010.

Extension of the FTTH network in 2011

Datwyler will proceed with the planning and implementation of the FTTH network in the remainder of the township area in spring 2011. Commissioning will depend on the progress of the construction works i.e. will take place in stages. The intention is that, by the end of November 2014 at the latest, the whole of the area covered by the township will be linked up to FTTH. The parties have agreed not to disclose the price or the other terms and conditions of contract.

The Datwyler Cabling Solutions division is a leading provider of high-quality total solutions for the electrical and communications infrastructure of public and commercial buildings and for FTTx networks. Datwyler's comprehensive services cover the whole value chain, from consulting and planning via prefabrication, logistics and installation to system maintenance – up to and including turnkey and multi-site projects.

(December 2010)

