



# Cable Europe

## Cable Europe

Cable Europe, the European Cable Communications Association, groups all the leading European cable TV operators and their national trade associations throughout Europe. The aim of Cable Europe is to promote and defend the industry's policies and business interests at European and international level, and to foster co-operation among its members. The European cable TV industry provides broadband, digital TV, and telephony services to more than 73 million customers. The Association is active since 1955.

## Cable Europe Key Activities

I. Cable Europe's original focus is **regulation, lobbying European institutions and supporting the lobbying activities of its members**. It has achieved a number of significant successes in the domain of regulation. The liberalisation of the telecoms sector and the new EU Electronic Communications Directives, for example, are in line with the needs of the European cable operators.

II. Cable Europe also facilitates the **exchange of information and best practices**. As such, the Association frequently conducts studies and analyses about the European cable industry, organises seminars, and issues reports and position papers. These papers reflect the position of Cable Europe on legislation. Examples?

III. In addition, Cable Europe organises each year the **Cable Congress** (previously known as the ECCA Congress). This annual meeting is the leading dedicated cable event in Europe and has significantly grown over the last years. The 2009 Congress, entitled "The Power To Connect" is set to welcome more than 650 senior executives of the European and the global cable and media industries, network operators and service providers, content suppliers, equipment manufacturers, journalists, analysts, industry regulators and investors.

## Cable Europe Labs

Cable Europe has always strongly stimulated the collaboration between the European cable operators in technical issues, mainly relating to European and international standardisation. In 2005, Cable Europe positioned its elaborated technical knowledge in a separate division or 'centre of excellence'. Cable Europe Labs specialises in research on cutting edge and emerging technologies, developing cable technology specifications and certifying vendor equipment which meets these specifications. Before September 2008 Cable Europe Labs was known as ECL or EuroCableLabs.

## CTAM Europe

Furthermore, Cable Europe is committed to support CTAM Europe, the Cable and Telecommunications Association for Marketing. This non-profit and non-commercial membership organisation aims to advance marketing excellence in the cable industry, as well as the mastery of new technologies and strategic learning in cable, broadband and other emerging media.

### History

The first informal co-operation between European cable operators dates back to 1949. On 2 September 1955, the *Alliance Internationale de la Distribution par câble* (AID) was founded by representatives from Switzerland, Belgium and The Netherlands. In 1993, AID was renamed the *European Cable Communications Association (ECCA)*, underlining the communication aspect of broadband cable services in today's interactive world, as well as the European character and goals of the Association. In September 2006, ECCA rebranded into *Cable Europe*.

## Cable Europe Labs

Cable Europe Labs is the technical centre of excellence for the European cable industry.

Cable Europe Labs is part of Cable Europe. Its core activities are research on emerging technologies, developing standards for cable technology, and certifying vendor equipment. Cable Europe Labs is a member organisation including all the leading cable operators in Europe, servicing TV, broadband Internet, and telephony services.

### Cable Europe Labs: a house with 3 rooms

The organisational structure of Cable Europe Labs can be described as a dynamic flow through a house with three rooms, each focusing on a core activity.

The flow starts in the **Concept Lab**, where a joint strategic vision for the future is being developed, addressing future needs and identifying key technologies in close co-operation with existing labs in Europe. Furthermore, new and non-installed concepts and emerging broadband cable technologies are trailed in a test environment.

The flow continues into the **Specification** room, Cable Europe Labs' oldest, and therefore most developed, domain of expertise. In this room cable technology specifications are being developed along worldwide industry standards. The increased collaboration between CableLabs® and Cable Europe Labs in this area is leading to new standards. These standards enhance the development of equipment that can be used across a larger geographical area, thereby stimulating competitiveness and greater technological developments. These developments are carried out together with CableLabs®, and with standards bodies such as CENELEC, ETSI, ITU and IEC.

The flow ends in the **Certification** room, where vendor equipment is certified to be in line with cable operator requirements. This activity is highly appreciated by industry vendors and cable operators. It provides valuable feedback on the equipment being tested before large-scale deployment and guarantees a high interoperability of the equipment with cable networks. Cable Europe Labs has contracted tComLabs to execute its certification testing.



Cable  
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## Cable Europe Management

### Manuel Kohnstamm, President Cable Europe



Manuel Kohnstamm is Managing Director, Public Policy & Communications, of Liberty Global Europe BV. He is also a member of the board of Telenet NV.

Manuel started at Liberty Global's predecessor UPC NV in August 2000 and held several positions in corporate affairs, public policy and communications. Based largely in Amsterdam and Brussels, he is responsible for government affairs, external relations and communications throughout the Liberty Global group in Europe.

Manuel joined UPC from Time Warner where he worked in a number of different roles since their European office was opened in 1992, most recently as Vice President, Public Affairs. At Time Warner Europe, Manuel was responsible for legal and regulatory policy activities in support of Time Warner's various European media operations such as Time Inc., Warner Bros.

and Turner Broadcasting. Prior to joining Time Warner, Manuel worked with the consulting firm European Research Associates in Brussels where he conducted macro-economic and policy studies on the telecommunications and defence industries for the institutions of the European Community.

Manuel is also a board member of KabelNL (Dutch Association of Cable Operators), and the International Communications Round Table (ICRT).

### Caroline van Weede, Managing Director Cable Europe



Caroline van Weede has been the Managing Director of Cable Europe since December 2005.

She began her career in 1988 at Banque Paribas, Belgium. In 1991, she joined UNICE (Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe) as an Industrial Affairs Adviser. Between 1994 and 1997 she was a member of the European Commission's "Improvement of the Business Environment" unit (DG XXIII responsible for Enterprise Policy).

In 1997, she joined the SFR Cegetel Group (France), where she initially dealt with European Affairs. During that period she chaired GSM Europe (2000 - 2001) and was later promoted to Head of the Business Intelligence Department.

Caroline van Weede holds a Degree in Applied Economics from UCL in Belgium.



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### **Malcolm Taylor, Managing Director Cable Europe Labs**



MALCOLM TAYLOR became Managing Director of EuroCableLabs, the technology arm of Cable Europe, in June 2007 although, since August 2000, he has been responsible for certification activities on behalf of the European cable industry – which are provided by EuroCableCertification bvba in conjunction with Excentis, the test laboratory based in Ghent, Belgium.

He started his career in the telecommunications industry with Cable and Wireless in 1967 and had operational engineering positions in UK and in the United Arab Emirates until 1978 when he joined one of the UK's leading engineering consultancies, W S Atkins, to head up their telecoms consulting division. In 1985, he moved to a similar position with the consultancy arm of one of leading accounting firms in London and during that time he became closely involved with the telecoms liberalisation process in UK and Europe.

In 1992, he joined the alternative network operator, Energis (which is now part of Cable and Wireless) primarily to negotiate a network interconnection agreement with British Telecom. This led to taking on the role of Director of Regulatory Affairs which he held until 1995 when he moved to the UK cable operator, Telewest, as VP, Regulatory and Public Policy.

Between 2001-2007, he was closely involved with the UK government's leading advisory body on broadband strategy (the Broadband Stakeholder Group) and he was a co-author of the BSG's 2007 report, 'Pipe Dreams - Prospects for Next Generation Broadband'.



# Cable Europe

## Cable Europe Membership

Cable Europe membership has steadily grown over the last few years and now extends to the borders of the old and new Europe. It has today 30 members in 20 countries across Europe.

### The current member companies are:

Cablenet, *Cyprus* • Canal Digital, *Norway* • CAIW, *The Netherlands* • Com Hem, *Sweden* • Interkabel, *Belgium* • Kabel Baden-Württemberg, *Germany* • Kabel Deutschland GmbH, *Germany* • Kabel-TV-Wien, *Austria* • Liberty Global / UPC Broadband, *The Netherlands* • Numéricâble, *France* • ONO, *Spain* • Tampereen Tietoverkko oy /TTV, *Finland* • Telenet, *Belgium* • Unitymedia, *Germany* • Virgin Media, *United Kingdom* • Welho, *Finland* • YouSee, *Denmark* • Ziggo BV, *The Netherlands* • Tele Columbus, *Germany* • Zon Portugal, *Portugal*

### The current member associations are:

Association of Bulgarian Cable Operators (ABCO), *Bulgaria* • Cable Belgium, *Belgium* • Cable Communications Association (ACC), *Romania* • Czech Association of Electronic Communications (CAEC), *Czech Republic* • ANGA, *Germany* • Hungarian Cable Communications Association (HCA), *Hungary* • Norsk Kabel-TV Forbund (NKTF), *Norway* • Polish Chamber of Electronic Communications (PIKE), *Poland* • Swisscable, *Switzerland* • KabelNL, *The Netherlands*

### Organisations to which Cable Europe contributes:

CableLabs (U.S) • CENELEC - European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation • CEPT - Conférence Européenne des Administrations des postes et des télécommunications • ECC - Electronic Communications Committee • DVB - Digital Video Broadcasting • EMC Working Party (EC) • ETSI - European Telecommunications Standards Institute • ITU - International Telecommunications Union • SCTE - Society of Cable Technical Engineers • COCOM - Communications Committee (EC) • Council of Europe - Media Committee • ETP - European Telecommunications Platform • European Audiovisual Observatory • European Internet Foundation • WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organisation • FAIB - Federation of International Associations established in Belgium

## Contact Information

More information is available at [www.cable-europe.eu](http://www.cable-europe.eu)

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