



Networking for Success

By Sara Waddington, Managing Editor, SCTE

We report from the ANGA COM conference and exhibition in Cologne this June, where a selection of SCTE's bursary winners chronicle their experiences at the event.

This year's ANGA COM conference and exhibition (**4-6 June 2019**) for Broadband, Television and Online in Cologne (Germany) was a networking success, attracting over 500 exhibitors from 35 countries as well as 20,000 participants from 83 countries (47% international). The event's extended conference programme, featuring 36 panels and over 180 speakers, was attended by 2,400 delegates. ANGA COM also organised an International Content Summit and CTO Summit at the event. ANGA COM is organised by ANGA Services GmbH, a wholly owned subsidiary of the ANGA Association of German Cable Operators e.V. The association represents the interests of more than 200 companies in the German broadband industry, who supply more than 40 million consumers with telecommunications services in Germany.

"Exhibitors particularly praised the increased presence of C-level visitors and decision-makers. ANGA COM registered many new entries this year, particularly in sectors such as fibre, OTT and AppTV. Networking highlights at ANGA COM were the open-air plaza with food trucks and the ANGA COM Night with 1,800 participants," ANGA told *Broadband Journal*.

ANGA COM is Europe's leading exhibition and conference for Broadband, Television & Online. This year's conference programme offered new summits, new topics and even more of an international flavour. In addition to the Broadband and Media Summit, the conference programme included a new Fibre Summit, the International Content Summit and the International CTO Summit. Fibre; Smart City; 5G; Internet of Things; Smart Home; Content; Streaming; Cloud TV and Personalised TV were key topics at the event. Within the core areas of broadband and audiovisual media, topics such as Big Data; Artificial Intelligence; Start-Ups and Cyber Security were expanded.

On **6 June 2019**, ANGA COM, the Broadband Office of the German Federation and the Association of Telecommunications and Value-Added Service Providers (VATM) organised a joint Broadband Day for the second time. After its successful premiere in 2018, Smart City was the focus this year. The Broadband Day was free for all visitors upon prior online registration.



Above: The SCTE's stand party for members and bursary winners at ANGA COM

SCTE at ANGA COM

As well as promoting its range of nine training courses (including a new Wi-Fi technology course), SCTE's training team demonstrated a new online innovation on its booth at ANGA COM in Cologne. Its new Learning Management System (LMS), for online SCTE training courses and examinations, was shown on SCTE's booth MB7 in the Exhibition Boulevard. Visitors were able to test their knowledge on the booth and step into a new training experience. A free desktop holder for mobile phones and tablets were offered to those who tried.

"There is no need to sit in a classroom to take our range of online courses and exams and these are available for students 24/7," explained Anthony Basham, Chair of the SCTE Training Committee. "After ordering the courses, one username gives access to all our courses and users are given immediate feedback, through a chat function, on their knowledge levels, as well as on their progress (reports can also be generated). Learning is interactive and done at the student's pace. SCTE certificates are also provided online to those who pass the exams."



Anthony Basham, SCTE

The SCTE™ (Society for Broadband Professionals) offers nine training courses – these can all be customised and adapted,

as necessary, to student requirements. They can also be designed to contain specific content that is necessary for a company (e.g. codes of conduct, installation methods etc.).

SCTE/ANGA bursary winners mixed with SCTE members and ANGA visitors at SCTE's lively booth party during ANGA COM on **5 June 2019**. Mike Thornton, SCTE's International Ambassador, also moderated a panel session entitled "10G - HFC Today and Beyond" as part of the ANGA-COM Conference on **5 June 2019**.

Bursary winners at ANGA COM

The SCTE™ and ANGA have a long history of cooperation and, this year, sent several lucky SCTE bursary winners, from a range of European operators, to ANGA COM 2019. Annual bursary winners enjoy free entry to the ANGA COM conference and exhibition (provided by ANGA) and hotel accommodation in Cologne and flights to Germany (provided by the SCTE).

The SCTE also hosts all bursary winners during the show, providing the use of its stand as a 'hospitality base' for its bursary winners, and taking them on a tour of the show floor (mentoring, where required). It also organises a stand party for all SCTE bursary winners and members during the event.

Here, SCTE's 2019 ANGA COM bursary winners chronicle their experiences in Cologne during ANGA COM:

“ The show is certainly impressive and filled with industry experts, whether you meet them in the exhibition halls or during the many talks that take place. ”



Betim Elshani
Implementation
Engineer, IPKO



Kamer Hoti
Team Leader,
IPKO

"As lucky bursary winners in 2019, we were amazed by this major event which took place at Cologne. It was very well organised and was an excellent opportunity for us to visit different vendors and various people during the exhibition.

"Although we knew about the ANGA exhibition and had received information on the event, we had created a picture of it in our imagination but, when we arrived and saw so many products and met so many engineers who could answer our questions and show us their products, it was really great!

"On the conference side, we were delighted to see many interesting topics discussed such as: 'Smart Home: How can Monetisation be achieved' and 'Opening Discussion Broadband Day: Smart City and 5G' etc.

"We would like to thank the SCTE staff for the party it organised for us and the assistance and hospitality provided to us during the show."



Stephen Harding
Senior Engineer, Test Equipment
Team, Access Network
Optimisation, Virgin Media

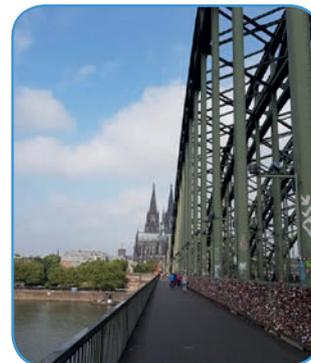
"Thanks to the SCTE, I was able to enjoy a bursary and a visit to ANGA-

COM in Cologne this year, where over 500 different exhibitors showcased all aspects of broadband delivery and testing.

"I work for Virgin Media in the test equipment department where we perform Type Approval, maintenance and support of our existing equipment. Visiting ANGA COM enabled me not only to see the latest technology but to get 'hands on' and meet with vendors face-to-face. I was particularly interested in any new testing or monitoring methods for HFC and FTTP networks (of

which there were plenty of examples). I was greatly impressed with the ease and speed of ribbon splicing, which was certainly a pleasant surprise (especially with no more forgetting to put the splice protector on as there is a new crimped version).

"The show is certainly impressive and filled with industry experts, whether you meet them in the exhibition halls or during the many talks that take place. You will definitely learn something new and gain new contacts!



"I stayed on the City side of the river and enjoyed a walk to and from the exhibition each day across the Hohenzollern Bridge, which gives a great vantage point for the Cathedral across the Rhine. Alternatively, you can save your shoe leather for the show, jump on the train and enjoy a free bus transfer to the exhibition."



Harry Mason, Meng
Engineering Graduate, Core
Transmission Architecture &
Engineering, Core Networks
Strategy & Engineering, Technology
& Innovation, Liberty Global

"I was fortunate enough to be able to attend ANGA COM 2019 as one of the lucky SCTE bursary winners. I am very new to the industry, having been with Virgin Media for only nine months (working predominantly in Access Network Deployment and Core Transmission Architecture). ANGA COM proved to be a fantastic experience! There was an incredible buzz surrounding modern technologies in the industry and a huge variety of vendors, operators and technology specialists.

"I spent a lot of my first day there chatting to various vendors, especially those I had not heard of previously, as they all gave slightly different opinions and visions of where they thought



ANGA COM is one of the best exhibitions and conferences that I have ever attended.





“ I would like to thank the SCTE again for this exceptional opportunity and would encourage others to apply for SCTE bursaries for future events.” ”

the industry was heading and where they are looking to take their products/services in the future. The rest of my time at the conference was spent attending the various strategy and technology talks, which my SCTE bursary included. The talks I attended covered a wide variety of interesting topics such as the ever popular 5G (including 5G core networks), R-PHY and even AI-focused intelligent network management.

"It was my first time in Cologne and only my second time in Germany, so I feel very fortunate to have been offered this bursary and I took full advantage of it by touring around the city in the evenings. A big thank you again to the SCTE for giving me the opportunity to go!"



Shpend Matusha
Implementation Engineer, IPKO

"It was a great experience to be at such a huge broadband event. I would like to thank ANGA for this conference and exhibition, which was superbly organised, as well as the SCTE for my attendance.

"ANGA COM is one of the best exhibitions and conferences that I have ever attended. I would particularly like to mention my experiences with members of different leading companies from all over the world in the broadband industry.

"At this event, you can certainly see the future of broadband as well as a range of innovative solutions for internet and Cable TV users."



Xhevdet Shala
Network Planning Engineer, IPKO

"Being part of ANGA COM 2019 was an extraordinary opportunity for me, professionally as well as socially. I would



Above: Xhevdet Shala at ANGA COM

like to thank the SCTE for choosing me as one of the lucky bursary winners of ANGA COM 2019.

"It was a very good opportunity for me to meet a huge number of vendors and engineers on the exhibition show floor. There were also a lot of interesting conference presentations such as '5G – Potentials, Concepts, Products', 'Smart Home: How can Monetisation be achieved?' and '5G – Potentials for Smart City and Internet of Things', to mention just a few....

"I would like to thank the SCTE again for this exceptional opportunity and would encourage others to apply for SCTE bursaries for future events."



The next ANGA COM Exhibition and Conference for Broadband, Television & Online will take place in Cologne (Germany) from 12-14 May 2020. Stand space booking will be available for exhibitors from the middle of September 2019 and registration for visitors is open from January 2020.

For more information, see www.angacom.de