



# Newest generation

of hardened connectivity propels FTTH rollouts in Europe

By CommScope

**The number of high-speed fibre-optic broadband connections in Europe is expected to increase 67% over the next five years as explosive growth and demand challenge service providers to keep up.**

High-speed fibre will pass 197 million homes in the European Union and Britain by 2026, up from 118 million in 2021, according to a report from IDATE and FTTH Council Europe. France, Germany and Britain are among countries expected to experience significant growth in the number of homes passed in 2026 compared to 2021.

With demand at its peak, altnets and other licensed operators have an excellent opportunity to deliver direct home connections. The broadband market is ripe for them to provide an alternative to traditional service providers—particularly in rural areas and other underserved communities.

## Fierce fight for talent

The FTTH surge is being compounded by a shortage of skilled labour across Europe. The workforce can't build out fibre networks fast enough and isn't able to hit the ground running to meet demand. Experienced technicians are difficult to find and expensive to train—making it difficult for service providers to meet their deployment goals.

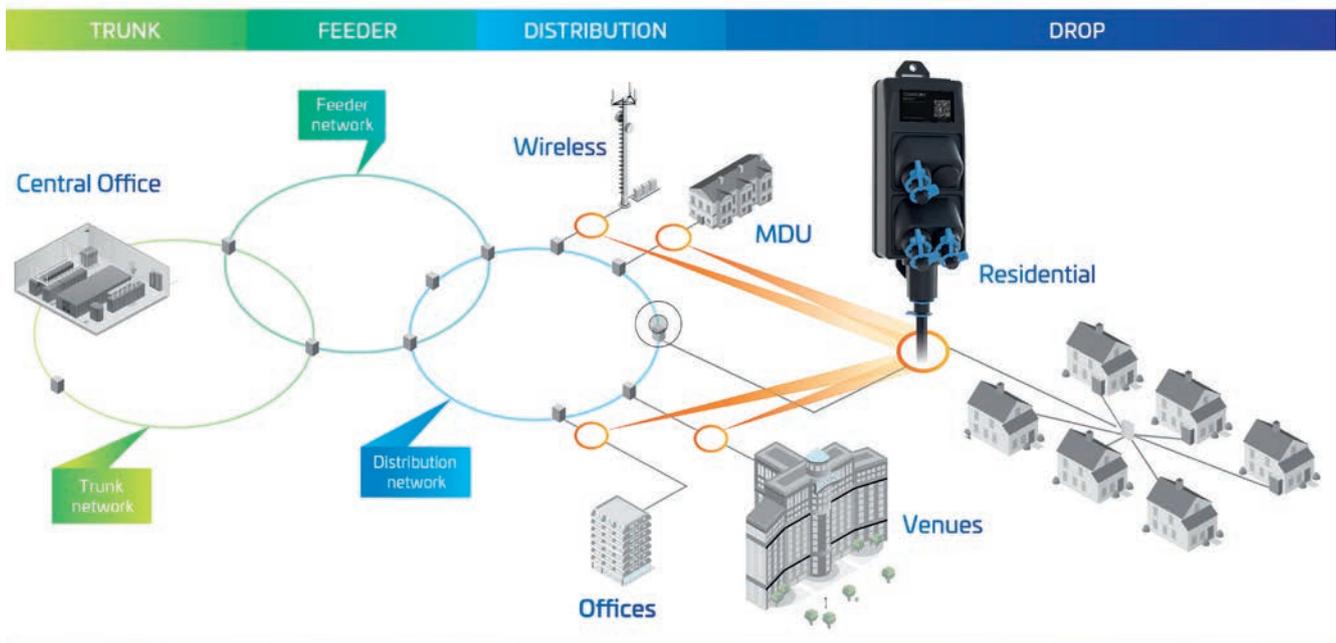
Specialised technicians work on different parts of the network and often don't have the skills needed to install, repair and maintain a network holistically. The last mile is particularly

complicated, with multiple variations that include spliced, connectorised and hardened drops. With few technicians available and a trend toward a younger demographic, the opportunity to simplify fibre connectivity has never been greater.

Plug-and-play hardened connectivity, which has been around for several decades, has helped alleviate some of the pain points around FTTH deployments. It's not enough to meet staggering demand and time-to-market expectations, however. The industry must evolve beyond conventional and dated approaches or face new and unrelenting connectivity challenges.

## Evolve quickly and empower the workforce of tomorrow

To support the relentless need for connectivity, CommScope is committed to simplifying and speeding deployments—increasing network density and overcoming complexity in every connection, from one end to the other. The new Prodigy™ small-form hardened connector system for fibre terminals and cable assemblies has been specially designed to be universally compatible with multiple hardened fibre connectors—simplifying ordering, installation and maintenance.



Prodigy simplifies field installation logistics and ordering for customers who use multiple types of hardened connectors and terminals. With Prodigy, customers need only one cable assembly that will include the required different lengths. An installer can simply run a drop cable assembly and convert the Prodigy connector to the required connector in the connection box. Customers have total freedom in using this universal cable solution.

Prodigy is particularly ideal for the small, high-density terminal footprints that challenge European service providers today. Existing poles and chambers are often congested, but being able to use them is the fastest and most cost-effective deployment approach. Physical infrastructure access deployments in Britain give altnets a chance to roll out FTTH networks quickly, and Prodigy helps them minimise space constraints.

### NOVUX™—do more with less

Networks will soon be able to use Prodigy connectors and adapters with CommScope's new NOVUX™ hardened terminals in situations when a small footprint matters. Prodigy is the perfect complement to NOVUX and is the next evolution in outdoor-ready, plug-and-play connections.

CommScope re-engineered traditional design, product and supply chain approaches from the ground up to develop the modular NOVUX ecosystem—the first in the industry.

Designed for simplicity and configurability, NOVUX uses 75% fewer components than existing products while delivering 50 times more configurations than the number available today.

Prodigy features self-guided automatic alignment and self-locking mechanisms to help eliminate connection errors and accidental release. This powerful combination helps ease space constraints and optimise the benefits of the NOVUX hardened terminals portfolio.

Standardised interfaces across products and accessories address skilled labour challenges, making it easier for service providers to train technicians and improve the quality and success of their installations. Common features among all NOVUX components mean less training across multiple applications and fewer field installation errors. Service providers can also move faster, with reduced product delivery times and the ability to configure the fibre solutions they need in today's competitive environment.

### Pioneering collaboration in network connectivity

Openreach, Britain's largest digital network business, is ramping up its full fibre network deployment with CommScope's NOVUX platform. Engineers will have access to NOVUX hardened terminals, designed to enhance health and safety with less time spent on the pole. Technicians can complete site visits in a few hours, thanks to NOVUX.

As part of the Openreach collaboration, 30-50 CommScope manufacturing engineers will assemble connectorised block terminals, the fibre connection point where individual fibres connect to a premises' main fibre cable. These can be found on top of a telephone pole or within a chamber in the ground. Openreach is building full fibre faster, at lower cost and higher quality in Britain than any other company, having made the technology available to more than 4.8 million homes and businesses so far.

### NOVUX is what's next in the fibre evolution

NOVUX closures and terminals are available in the widest variety of sizes and technologies, including single- and multi-fibre splitters, wavelength-division multiplexing, fibre indexing and optical tap configurations. They're designed to adapt to the application—sharing connection capabilities, a unique product information system, a mounting platform and customer configurability. One terminal works for all applications in all deployments.

Built-in mounting tabs and a mounting strap feature allow easy, direct mounting onto a strand, flat surface, pole or pedestal, or within a hand hole. Alternatively, to ease installation and maintenance, CommScope's universal mounting bracket can be used in all mounting applications. With one common platform, installation across the series is easy and efficient and is backed by consistent documentation and training.

Each NOVUX hardened terminal comes with a QR code that allows field installers to access CommScope's cTrak® app. With one click, cTrak provides a wealth of product information, specifications, installation instructions, videos, schematics, and test results. An optional customer-configurable ID plate provides clarity for multiple service providers that share locations.

In addition, the NOVUX portfolio is built with sustainability in mind. CommScope designed NOVUX using sustainable



practices for packaging, labelling and installation—helping service providers meet their own corporate sustainability goals. All components come in compact, convenient packaging and minimise single-use plastic for optimal environmental benefit. CommScope is developing more closures and terminals in the NOVUX fibre connectivity portfolio, and this will give service providers the ultimate package in configurability, scalability and simplicity.

COMMSCOPE®



For more information, see [www.commscope.com](http://www.commscope.com)

# NOVUX™

A close-up photograph of several black fiber optic connectors with metal ferrules, arranged in a row. In the foreground, a colorful geometric graphic composed of several interlocking triangles in shades of blue, purple, pink, orange, and green is overlaid on the image.

## Deploy faster and simpler with NOVUX

Explosive FTTX growth and labor shortages demand new solutions. Meet NOVUX, from CommScope, the industry's first modular ecosystem. NOVUX hardened terminals are configurable, scalable and simple.

**75%**

**fewer components**  
than existing products

DELIVER

**50X**

**the number of configurations**  
available today

- Single, and multi-fiber splitters, optical tap, fiber indexing and hybrid configurations
- Minimized footprint for optimal port count and terminal size
- Unique network identification with ID plate and QR code
- Uniform installation practices across applications
- Common platform design and processes

Discover how NOVUX can help you meet bandwidth demand and rollout speed.

[commscope.com/novux](https://commscope.com/novux)