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Summaries

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Economical transmission of television signals via FM radio relay links

H. Roggli, Berne

In connection with the radio relay feeder network for community aerial installations constructed by the PTT, a new method of simultaneously transmitting two television signals via one FM radio relay channel was developed in the Research and Development Department of the PTT. Together with *Jürg Furrer* of the PTT General Directorate, the author of this paper developed and constructed the required baseband equipment in prototype form. Numerous laboratory investigations and field trials have proved the serviceability of the new 2-TV transmission method.

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Lightning induced overvoltages in buildings and installed equipment. Recommendations for optimum protection

E. Montandon, Berne

This paper deals with the overvoltage risks to extensive electronic systems in buildings due to voltage differences between the various parts of a structure's earth system (reinforcing steel, etc). Especially at risk are installations grounded at several points. The Swiss PTT R+D Division has now devised a method of measurement enabling both the voltage drop inside a building and the effect of exterior metal facing to be determined. This method, based on extensive model experiments, has been tried out at a newly erected PTT multipurpose building.

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Design Requirements for Warehouse Structures

A. Wiederkehr, Berne

At the PTT, every new building is planned jointly by the construction department and the user. Close cooperation at every stage ensures that the best possible solutions are arrived at. Depending on the type of building, its design is influenced more or less markedly by user requirements. This is illustrated by means of a telecommunications warehouse.

New Items

Telephone

In the first six months of 1979, **telephone lines** in Switzerland went up by 41,103 (2.4 pc) to 2,718,567, and the number of **stations** rose by 82,512 (9.9 pc) to 4,374,517.

In Telephone Regions **Chur** (network groups 081—085) and **Winterthur** (052—054) all exchanges are now equipped with **international subscriber dialling** facilities.

In the new **Atlantis submarine cable** the PTT has acquired 163 circuits at a cost of 9.5 million francs. One section of the cable runs from Lagos (Portugal) to West Africa, the other from Senegal to Brazil. Expected to become operational in mid-1982, Atlantis will provide direct telecommunication links with Senegal, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Brazil and Argentina.

Two new satellite circuits, **Bagdad—Zurich** and **Montreal—Zurich**, were opened via Leuk in July.

Some 100 potential information suppliers were briefed on the PTT's **videotex pilot trial** at a meeting held in Berne on 17 July. The trial is due to start this autumn with about 70 customers, but there are plans to double connection facilities and data bank capacity in the spring of 1980.

Telegraph, Telex

Greetings telegrams were the subject early this year of a **nationwide campaign** involving newspaper advertisements and posters in some 1400 telephone kiosks. As a result, 6.2 pc more inland greetings were handled up to the end of June than in the first half of 1978. External greetings rose 1.7 pc while other external traffic dropped nearly 8 pc.

Net **telex growth** in the first six months of 1979 was 613 stations as against 886 in the same period of last year. **Leased circuits** rose by 3.9 pc to 2597 at the end of June, and the number of **modems** went up by 11.3 pc to 11,025.

Radio, Television

In the first half of this year, **radio broadcast receiving licenses** went up by 18,054 to 2,190,170, and **television licenses** rose by 24,811 to 1,919,811. The number of **wire broadcast listeners**, however, dropped by 1490 to 414,591.

Miscellaneous

A revised edition of the brochure «**Telecommunications in Switzerland**» will be published shortly. In addition, a small guide to the **exhibition pavilion of Leuk satellite earth station** has been prepared for its numerous visitors.