

Summaries and notices

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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Project and Realization of the First Phase

E. Hess, Berne

The objective of the Terco system is to rationalize certain administrative and operational tasks of the PTT telecommunications service to the widest extent possible. To meet this goal a computer network was envisaged connecting three centres. In the first phase the new system is at the disposal of the inland directory information service and the editors of the directory. Thus, it is possible to process necessary data in the automatic photo-composition for the directory as well as to call up these data for information services from the central bank. The system requires new working methods and re-training of the operation and maintenance staff. The realization of the three further phases, which will be completed around 1990, is expected to simplify the activities for the subscriber, the fault clearing and the installation services as well as the civil engineering and the charge accounting. The experience with the first phase is encouraging and shows the approach taken is correct.

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Terco Data Communications Network

J.-J. Jaquier and R. Kost, Berne

The authors describe the data communications network which connects the computer to the user console of the Terco system. They call special attention to the problems and the selected solutions of the teleinformatics network. The network must meet severe performance and reliability criteria. The special requirements led to original methods on the topological plan as well as for maintenance and supervision of the network.

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The Telephone Directory after Change Over to the Computerized System (Terco, 1st stage)

P. Bösiger, Berne

Since April 1979 the PTT has gradually introduced the fully integrated computerized Terco system for the telephone directory and also the computer-controlled photo-composition process for printing. At the same time the data banks are avail-

able to the Inland Information Service No 111 for answering customer enquiries. Besides giving a view of the system from the user side (data bank and directory setting) the article describes especially the basic changes in the editing of the directory at the district telephone directory as well as the first experience, the benefits to the customer and, finally, the prospect.

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Application of Terco System to Directory Information Service

D. Zimmermann, Berne

After mentioning the earlier methods of providing national directory informa-

tion the author describes the preparation required for the introduction of computerized directory (Terco). She further deals with the new operating procedures and application possibilities of the equipment with reference to the computerized directory information service. Finally, she reports on the initial experience with the system.

News Items

Telephone

The new **Feutersoey exchange facility** (Bernese Oberland) will be the first in Switzerland operating with **solar power** for heating and warm water from 19 March 1981.

Additional **telephone circuits** are established in January 1981, **48 with France and Great Britain** over coaxial cable, **8 and 13 with overseas countries** over cable and satellite, respectively.

In 1980 the **Terco system** handled 147 million inquiries (9.4 pc increase over 1979) for inland directory information service with a further slightly reduced system response time.

At the end of 1980 there were **449** (1979: 436) **subscriber lines** and **730** (1979: 704) **telephone stations** per 1,000 inhabitants in Switzerland.

Satellite circuits via Leuk earth station last year increased by 117 to 407 and operated to 19 extra-European countries. Besides, 93 permanent circuits are utilized from foreign European earth stations. The demand assigned SPADE channel reached around 100,000 minutes of occupation per month with 19 overseas countries in 1980.

Telematics

Public facsimile service was tentatively extended to Great Britain on 5 January 1981. This is the first time such a service is established between European countries.

At the end of 1980 **Telefax** (subscriber-to-subscriber telefacsimile service) reached 120 subscribers with the PTT equipment five months after the opening of the operational trials.

Telex terminals rose from 457 to 486 per 100,000 inhabitants at the end of 1980.

Automatic message switching system (SAM) connected 27 (1979: 19) customer networks with 2,580 (1979: 1,202) terminals at the end of 1980. This service is available over the telex network and was opened in March 1979.

Leased circuits on trunk routes reached 3,073 at the end of 1980, an increase of 316 over the previous year. The number of modems in operation increased by about 24 pc to 14,882, of which 40 pc were placed in the public telephone network and 60 pc on leased lines.

Radio, Television

The PTT is in a position to set up and operate a **Swiss broadcast satellite system** if the government so decides. This is the outcome of a study commissioned by the Federal Department.

Radio broadcast receiving licenses rose from 350 to 357 per 1,000 inhabitants in Switzerland at the end of 1980.

Television receiving licenses increased from 307 to 313 per 1,000 inhabitants at the end of last year.

Miscellaneous

Last year the PTT ordered **telecommunications equipment** worth 1,063 million francs, which is 108 million francs more than in 1979.