

Summaries and notices

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Superionconduction: An Extraordinary Phenomenon with Interesting Applications in Energy and Measurement Techniques

H.-U. Beyeler, Lenzburg

In certain solid-state material higher ion conductivity is observed than in the liquid electrolyte. This extraordinary phenomenon is the subject of intensive research at present. The application of such material will allow, among others, the construction of a new type of accumulator with higher energy density.

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Multiplex Switch for Telephone Conference at the Studio

M. Schneider, Regensdorf

The author describes a multiplex switching equipment for telephone conference for the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SBC). Using this equipment the listeners can participate via public telephone in the studio programme during radio broadcasting.

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Universal Feeding and Charging Rectifier for Small Telephone Plants

M. Lehmann, Berne

Small telephone plants need direct feed or battery power supply. The construction and fabrication department of the Swiss PTT has developed a feeding and charging rectifier which can provide both 24 V and 48 V and in addition, it can deliver the necessary power to lighting (24 V) and to ringing (70 V). This paper describes the operating principle of the applied secondary switching regulator and an electronic alternating-current safety device.

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Acceptance Tests for Computer Based Communication and Teleprocessing Systems: Objectives, Contents, Methods and Problems

J.-J. Jaquier, Berne

This paper is dedicated to the topic of acceptance tests. From the customer's (user's) point of view, the acceptance

phase is the most important test phase. Considerations are based on and primarily oriented to the acceptance test of large scale systems. The principles and concepts of this paper are based on experience gathered with two particular projects (the Telegraph Message Switching System ATECO and the Teleprocessing System TERCO of Swiss PTT. However, they are sufficiently generalized to be useful for a large spectrum of projects,

for which the customer wants to get a clear qualitative view of the ordered system. The investment in terms of time and manpower dedicated to the acceptance tests has to be adapted to the size and aim of the project. A possible structure for the acceptance phase is sketched out. Some test tools are briefly described. In conclusion, suggestions are given for the planning of acceptance tests of future systems.

News Items

Telephone

For a trial at Basle, Geneva and Zurich **100 pre paid debit card-operated telephone sets** have been ordered for 1982. This new service will complement the present coin-operated sets.

Now **international direct dialling** is possible for all subscribers connected to the 52 national switching centers except for Sursee and Wohlen. These two centers will have access to IDD in July 1981 and January 1982, respectively.

Additional permanent **satellite circuits** were opened in May to **Cairo** (2), **New York** (12) and one SCPC (single carrier per channel) to **Ecuador**.

Teleinformatics

Public facsimile service was extended to **New Zealand** on 1 May and to the **Federal Republic of Germany** on 1 June in compliance with the CCITT Group 3 and Group 2, respectively.

On 10 May the **Ateco** (automatic telegram switching with computer) system reached 10 years of operational life. The availability during this time was 99.9488 pc or on the average 23h 59m 16s per day.

The **EDWA exchange** (electronic data dialling system for asynchronous terminals) **Zurich-Herdern** became operational on 4 May 1981. This is the 3rd after Zu-

rich-Fussli and Geneva-Stand. The exchange is also capable of switching telex-transit, international traffic as well as 300 bit/s asynchronous data.

At present the **EDW** (electronic data dialling) **special service** has more than 3000 subscribers with 1400 terminals alone for abbreviated dialling. Most used special services are for notification of date, time and of chargeable duration.

The **wireless transmitter of the Radio Suisse Ltd at Munchenbuchsee** operating since 1922 was finally put out of service. Most of the traffic is now transmitted via Prangins.

Radio, Television

Sottens and Beromunster MW transmitters attained 50 years on 30 April and 5 May, respectively.

On 19 May 1981 **2 millionth television receiving license** was issued.

On 22 May 1981 **Rediffusion Ltd** became 50 years old. In 1931 it received its license from the Federal Government to operate its own cable radio network. Today, it is the largest CATV operator in Switzerland with 40 licenses and 250 000 subscribers.

Miscellaneous

The **licensed radio and television installation firms** sent 80 candidates, of which 51 were successful in the technical supervision examination.