

Summaries and notices

Objektyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **Technische Mitteilungen / Schweizerische Post-, Telefon- und Telegrafienbetriebe = Bulletin technique / Entreprise des postes, téléphones et télégraphes suisses = Bollettino tecnico / Azienda delle poste, dei telefoni e dei telegrafi svizzeri**

Band (Jahr): **60 (1982)**

Heft 7

PDF erstellt am: **11.09.2024**

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Summaries

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Switzerland's First Optical 34 Mbit/s Experimental Transmission Equipment

A. Käser, Berne, and P. Glanzmann, Zurich

The introduction of the optical transmission technique requires an early clarification of basic questions and of possible problem areas so as to avoid later complications in this new technology. A 34 Mbit/s transmission equipment is described. The important characteristics are discussed as well as the initial measurement results.

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Protective Suit against RF Electromagnetic Field Exposure near Transmitting Equipment

W. Bolinger, Berne

The intensity of the RF electromagnetic field can cause biological damage due to thermal effect to the personnel working near broadcasting and radio-relay transmitting equipment. The permitted maximum field strength value that men can be safely exposed to has been set at different levels in different countries. Little is so far known about the biological effects. To provide sufficient safety margin against thermal and other effects a protective suit with face mask of metallic textile fabric has been developed and tested. It screens the electromagnetic field so well that one can work near an operating antenna without any danger. The protective suit represents an individual Faraday's cage.

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Status of the Data Transmission Networks in Switzerland

P. Lässer and H.-P. Lutz, Berne

The data transmission traffic is progressing rapidly with a yearly net increase of around 30 pc. At present it is possible to transmit the data traffic over the public telephone network, the leased circuits or Euronet and Datac. Message switching, telefax as well as telex are included in the complete range of the data services. The Swiss packet network Telepac and the Datex 300, an interesting network for the interchange of texts and data, are on the verge of realization. In the new service area the videotex and the teletex are being tested.

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Sweep Measurements of the Transfer Function of a RF-Channel and its Representation by Polynomials

M. Liniger, Berne

Sweep measurements over a bandwidth of 40 MHz were carried out on two hops in the 2.5 GHz and 11 GHz band, respectively. The aim of these measure-

ments was to determine the amplitude and delay distortions caused by selective fading. The measurement set-up, the path profiles and the method of analysis are described. A new approach was taken to present the results. They are described as probability density functions of polynomial approximations of the attenuation in decibels. Results are shown for transmission with and without space diversity reception.

News Items

Telephone

The PTT in cooperation with the Swiss meteorological office has been tentatively reporting a **5-day weather forecast** on the telephone No 162 since mid-May 1982. This report can be heard daily between 15.30 to 18.15 o'clock in French and German.

The **Terco** system dealt with 65 754 million inquiries in peak hours for inland directory information service during the first quarter of this year. The demand for this service increased by 8.5 pc over last year.

The **telephone service in Geneva** celebrated the **centennial anniversary** on 15 May 1982. An exhibition of the historical development of the telephone was organised on this occasion. The first Swiss telephone service opened on 2 October 1880 in Zurich.

Since 1 June 1982 **IDD service** has been provided to Liberia, Surinam, Syria, Togo and Yemen Arab Republic.

Teleinformatics

The PTT has decided to invest 6.25 million francs in equipment for step 1 and step 2 for replacement of **Ateco** (automatic telephone switching with computer). These new parts will form the basis of the **Comtex** project as well as completely replace the Ateco system. The Comtex system is planned to take over further services within the area of text communications.

Since 1 June **automatic telex service** has been available to **Burundi** and **Panama**.

Radio, Television

Since the end of April 1982 the Rediffusion Co through the regional **cable TV network** in Zurich has been providing a **pay TV** «Teleclub» service as well as an additional «Telenewspaper» service.

A pilot project for **wideband communications** has been foreseen at Marsens, canton of Fribourg. It will connect 30 participants via optical fibre cables. The new transmission equipment is based on the development work between the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and the PTT.