

Summaries and notices

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Summaries

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Assumptions and Fundamentals of Data Packet Switching

M. Schaeren, Berne

The modern data communications in the sense of information exchange among machines grew from a simple to a very comprehensive and complex network during the last years. At present international committees are working on universal standards and recommendations for interconnecting data networks independent of manufacturers and users. The packet switching follows these regulations so as to provide public data communications service. This public packet service can be well used as an efficient and cost-effective data transport medium.

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Operating System of the PTT Radiocommunications Service (1st Part)

H. Bosshard, W. Braun and W. Weibel, Berne

Most of the stations in the radiocommunications service are operating without any staff except for maintenance and for fault clearance. The automatic control circuits, indicators and remote control equipment, described in this paper, are monitored and processed at the regional data processing center. The purpose is to best use the available resources for the operation of the transmission and the supporting equipment.

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New Sound Recording Vans for the Swiss Radio

W. Frei, Berne

The Swiss Broadcasting Corporation has increased its mobile outside productions capability for the Swiss Radio with the introduction of new sound recording vans. The application possibilities have been greatly extended due to the large outfit including specially an audio mixing console of higher quality. The concept and the construction principle are explained in this article.

News Items

Telephone

Switzerland's **outgoing international** calls amounted to 90.38 (1981: 91.16) million chargeable minutes, of which 99.1 pc (1981: 99 pc) were subscriber dialled, during the months of March and April.

The **international telephone circuits** from and to Switzerland increased by 213 over coaxial cable for European countries and additional circuits over satellite to Saudi Arabia, Hongkong, Abu Dhabi, Argentina and India.

Telephone circuits between the **Soviet Union** and other western countries including Switzerland were decreased from 1 July 1982. Therefore, it is no more possible to reach all subscribers in Moscow by IDD.

The European PTTs and universities have conducted since 1978 **propagation experiments** for measuring attenuations and depolarizations at 11 and 14 GHz with the European satellite OTS. The results of 20 earth stations including that of Berne will be handed over to Eutelsat for the evaluation of European conditions.

Teleinformatics

Public facsimile service was extended to Fiji islands on 1 August. Thus, 24 countries are being served.

A **calendar of events** has been introduced in the **videotex** system displaying those events where the PTT presents this new medium.

The Berne switching node of the **telepac network** (national packet switching service) started the acceptance tests at the end of July. These tests were performed together with the users at 10 locations of the computer manufacturers and the PTT offices for the measurement of the throughput rate and for the check-out of the systems requirements.

Radio, Television

At the first stage of the **Tour-de-France** which started on Swiss ground the development of 17 radio links and a helicopter were necessary simultaneously for the transmission of **radio and TV signals**.

The **television programme** of the Satellite Television Private Ltd. Co., United Kingdom, is available over the **satellite OTS to Swiss viewers** for about two hours daily. This is possible due to elongated duration of OTS. The Rediffusion Co. is the first CATV operator distributing the programme with its own earth station to the Zurich lake and Sihltal community since 15 July 1982.

Miscellaneous

On the basis of a new **ordinance on explosives**, all persons using explosives in their work must possess a corresponding certificate from 1 June 1983 onwards. The regulation has implications for the PTT's construction crew who must follow the necessary courses and pass an examination.