Summaries and notices

Objekttyp: **Group**

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

Band (Jahr): **61 (1983)**

Heft 11

PDF erstellt am: **11.07.2024**

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Telepac: Procedures and Parameters for Connection

J. Pitteloud, Berne

Telepac is a Swiss public data network. It utilizes the packet switching technique. It assures transparent transport of messages containing packet of information data between subscribers. In order to connect a terminal or a computer to the network the subscriber, the equipment manufacturer for the subscriber and the PTT have to play their role described in the first chapter of this article. The second chapter is rather directed to the manufacturer of equipment for the subscriber as it states the main parameters for connection. The current approach of the PTT is outlined in the third chapter for the certification of equipment, while the last chapter advises on the interworking of the end-to-end subscriber equipment through Telepac.

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The New Generation of Telephone Sets TS 85

A. Scheidegger, Solothurn

The PTT decided to introduce a new generation of telephone sets as a replacement of Model 70 in order to meet adequately the future requirements and to utilize the advantage of modern technology. The development of these sets took account of the versatility as well as of the rational production of all parts. Thus, certain sets can be used on the wall as well as on the desk. Besides usual facilities, several features are offered such as last number redial, luxury sets store even up to 200 numbers and names, built-in charge indicator, programmable circuit for selection of audible pulse or frequency with or without associated signal, connection of two lines or two pair wires, etc. At this moment these sets are employed in a large scale operational trial. These sets shall be generally available in the course of 1985 and will enlarge greatly the selection to the customers.

News Items

Telephone

The number of telephone customers on the **3 month-plus waiting list** went down by 871 to 4459 at the end of June 1983 as compared to the year before.

Telephone set **Habimat HT 72** is now included in the PTT selection of sets. It has a speaker set-up, 32 single-digit abbreviated dialling numbers and a memory code for around 400 telephone numbers.

From 1 October, starting in Basel and Geneva, the PTT has introduced a new **telephone information service** for **cinema programmes**.

On 1 August a **new radio-link** was brought into service between **Lausanne and Geneva** with a capacity of 2700 telephone channels.

In August additional **telephone circuits** were established with **Colombia** (4 new), **Iran** (2), **Cameroon** (2) over **satellite links**.

Teleinformatics

Automatic telex traffic has been established with Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Mongolia, People's Republic of Yemen since 1 September.

Burofax service was extended to Belgium, Costa Rica, France, Italy, Norway. Thus, 10 European and 23 overseas countries are now served from Switzerland. This network has 29 offices in Switzerland.

After having opened **commercial operation of the Telepac service** (Swiss packet network) at the beginning of July it is now possible to interconnect traffic with Transpac (France), Datex-P (Federal Republic of Germany), IPSS (Great Britain), Luxpac (Luxembourg) and DCS (Belgium).

Miscellaneous

The volume of the **PTT business** continued to grow in the first half of 1983 and increased by 3.8 pc overall, above the predicted number, as compared to the same period of last year. In the telecommunication sector, the telex traffic rose to 7 pc and foreign telephone traffic to 6.2 pc, domestic trunk service to 5 pc and local to 3.6 pc. The number of main telephone lines increased by 2.8 pc.

In the «Indian Ocean» area an **extensive undersea cable network** is planned to cover the distance of Singapore—Indonesia—Sri Lanka—Djibouti—Saudi Arabia-Egypt—Italy—France as main route. From 1985/86 this link from Indian ocean to Near East shall be available to Europe as well as to America.

The **transatlantic cable TAT 8** which will be built with optical fibre cables and will be put into operation in 1988 covers the circuit requirements for the 1988-1995 period. Besides end-to-end traffic between Europe and North America the TAT 8 will also carry transit traffic from Europe to «Pacific Ocean» region as well as from the USA and Canada to Mediterranean and Near East countries.