

Summaries and notices

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Pilot Network for Wideband Communications at Marsens

J.-F. Bütikofer and U. Stettler, Berne

During the past years enormous progress was made in the area of optical transmission over glass fibre. In the trunk and district networks, the transmission system with glass fibre is employed with good results. It is also possible to use glass fibre in the subscriber area but today this is economical only in exceptional cases. Thus, wideband services can be offered to the subscriber besides narrow band services. The PTT introduced its first pilot network for wideband communications at Marsens, Canton of Fribourg. The subscribers to the pilot project are receiving TV and radio programmes. Besides, experiments take place with wideband return channels such as video conferences, video telephone, etc.

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Characteristics of New T + T Connector Model 83

J.-C. Weber, Berne

The characteristics of connector T+T Model 83 have been described in this paper. The connector is an interface between the customer terminal and the public telephone network. The procedures for coding are stated as well as the possible combination with the existing Model 76. Further, the author treats briefly the expected extension and the application area.

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Measurement of PCM Symmetrical Pair Cable Circuits with Pseudo-Random-Binary-Sequence Generator

A. Monney, Berne

When the 30 channels PCM (2048 kbit/s) voice frequency band began to be employed in the telephone circuits, the question was how to use the existing symmetrical pair cable. As both transmission directions are mostly in the same cable it became necessary to investigate certain electrical characteristics of the cable,

such as the attenuation of pairs, the impedance, the near-end and far-end crosstalk between pairs and pair groups. This

paper discusses and interpretes results of these measurements with Pseudo-Random-Binary-Sequence (PRBS) generator.

News Items

Telephone

During **Telecom 83 exhibition** (26. 10. to 1.11.83) 6 temporary satellite circuits were connected via Leuk earth station with Brazil and the USA as well as one permanent circuit with the USA. Further 14 small earth stations were in operation during this time.

In September the number of **subscriber lines** increased by 5623 (1982: 6103) to 3 071 298 and the **telephone stations** by 10 602 (11 319) to 5 073 593. The increase of lines and stations since the beginning of this year amounted to 60 926 (63 386) and 118 765 (131 822).

During the 3rd quarter of 1983 15 214 new lines for telephone subscribers came into operation due to **new equipment and extension of the telephone exchanges**.

33 large PABX were brought into operation during the last 3 months.

Teleinformatics

The PTT will introduce at the end of this year '**Telefax 3/2**'. This will allow to transmit picture and text information of A4 format in less than 1 minute.

Lately Swiss and Liechtenstein telex subscribers have got access to **Memo-Telex**, a new SPC service for automatic telex connection.

Since 10 October **Data-Link** network of Radio-Suisse Ltd has been connected to **Telepac** (Swiss packet switching network). This allows Swiss subscribers to Telepac to exchange data with North American data networks such as Telenet and Tymnet.

For the preparation of the **videotex operational trial, editing offices** in Zurich and Berne were installed.

Radio, Television

On 1 November 1983, seven stations out of 36 permitted by the Federal government started their **local radio broadcasting** programmes in VHF/FM band on a temporary trial basis. These are Radio Sunshine, Radio Extra BE, Radio 24, Radio Z, Radio Basilisk, Radio Raurach and Radio Zurichsee. At the same time, the **3rd radio channel** of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation was put into operation for a 3 years trial run in the **German speaking** region. So far it reaches 50 pc of the population with stereophonic sound.

Harmful interference of the **TV receivers** was observed during the month of October. They are due to the temperature inversion at the time of high level fogs in the atmosphere.

Miscellaneous

The Federal government decided to **increase PTT tariffs** in order to keep balanced accounts of the PTT's services from 1 March 1984. This will raise incomes by 16 pc for the postal services and by 3 pc for the telecommunication services.

The 1st stage of the extension of the **PTT radio-relay stations at Jungfrauoch** has recently been completed after 13 months of construction work. This improved the living quarters of the staff and created additional space for the transmission equipment. This station supports today 8800 telephone circuits, 54 wideband TV channels as well as several carphone and service channels.