

# Summaries and notices

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## Summaries

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### Realization of Comtex project – Phase B

F. Maurer, Berne

Comtex is the name for the PTT project dealing with the electronic message handling service. This project of great implication will be realized in phases designated by the first letters of the alphabet. The author describes the functional aspects within the framework of phase B of the project. He also delineates the system configuration chosen for optimal service quality and for its great adaptability to future needs.

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### Subsystem operator-assisted information service System 12 SO

E. Bardill, Berne

The operator-assisted information service was updated by the future-oriented digital exchange of the System 12 SO. This system allows to integrate further manual services by its central structure.

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### 120-Mbit/s TDMA/DSI equipment for satellite communications

M. Freudiger, Berne

Digital communication via satellite has already been implemented since over 15 years. The forecasts on demand for this type of communication are greatly increasing because of the growth of data communications as well as the progressing digitization of the national network. The satellite frequency bands are efficiently utilized at the Leuk earth station with the introduction of the time division multiple access (TDMA) and digital international circuits. The article describes the technical principle, the transmission, and test equipment as well as the interface to the terrestrial network.

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### The new alarm-clock equipment WA 490

H. Nägeli, Berne

In 1969, the first completely automatic alarm-clock equipment WA 49 was brought into service in the public telephone exchanges. Autophon Co. has just developed a new generation of alarm-clock equipment WA 490 to assure future requirements. The order carrying capacity

of each alarm-clock rack was increased from 560 to 1500. The equipment is of modular construction and can be extended to a maximum of 20 racks. The operational trial was successfully completed with the first equipment in Zurich. The article conveys an overview on concept and construction of the new alarm-clock equipment WA 490.

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### Videophone in digital telephone network

F. May, Ulm

In future, ISDN subscribers will have access to two channels, each with 64 kbit/s rate. This allows not only transmission of freeze-frame pictures in parallel to voice communications, but also real full-motion images, if high performance coding techniques are employed. A sufficiently high picture quality for typical videophone scenes can be expected by the application of picture coding with motion compensation and motion adaptive interpolation of uncoded title pictures.

## News Items

### Telephone

The PTT opened further **customer information centres** in Zurich and Basle.

During the fourth quarter of 1986, **23 700 new lines for telephone subscribers** were procured.

### Teleinformatics

The first **mobile exchange booth** equipped with TT-switches came into operation on the occasion of the Congress of the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne.

**6 direct telex lines** were opened between **Addis Ababa and Zurich**.

At the end of November 1986, the PTT provided the **first telex work-station for the blind** made of a SP 300 terminal. It can be operated without restriction also by a person with vision.

The **Baskal-EDP system** (computerized management and information system for

cable, equipment and lines) was put into service to support operation and maintenance in connection with leased lines in Zurich. At present, there are stored data of 33 000 telephone and 10 000 telex lines.

## Radio, Television

At the end of 1986, **303 VHF FM transmitters** from 133 stations broadcast programmes of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SBC). In addition, 51 private local transmitters were in operation. Thus, 98 pc of the population received the 1st and the 2nd programme of the SBC, 76 pc the 3rd and 64 pc one or more private radio programmes.

The PTT supplied a **new mobile TV studio** to the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation in December 1986. The van is equipped with infrastructure for high-quality broadcasting. It is provided with five studio cameras, two video tape recorders, and one 32-channel sound mixing console, among others. The mobile TV studio will be employed for the first time in the Ski Championship at Crans-Montana.

The **wireless distribution of foreign programmes in Alpine region** (Dravap) was extended to the regions of Grisons-Upperland, Upper Toggenburg and Walensee.

The **laying of glass fibre cable** was completed for **radio-TV primary and feeder networks in Geneva** at the end of 1986. At present, the private organizations are constructing networks for further distribution of programmes to the subscribers.

A further **VHF simplex relay station** came into operation at **Buchserberg** for radiophone service between fixed and mobile stations. The PTT operated 75 such stations connecting more than 7100 mobile equipment at the end of last year.

The PTT opened four more **radio telephone networks for the Swiss Postal coach service**.

**New radio-relay links** were recently established between St. Gallen and the multipurpose station of Sântis, Lucerne and Titlis, La Dôle and Lausanne.

A **temporary earth station for Eutelsat/SMS** came into operation in **Zurich/Herdern**. It will be replaced by a permanent station in April.