

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): **65 (1987)**

Heft 8

PDF erstellt am: **11.07.2024**

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Summaries

p. 372—392

Interactive graphic information system for telephone network – Grafico

B. Gnehm, Berne

The objectives of the PTT's Grafico (graphical interactive information system with computer) project is to collect, plan, project, execute and update the graphic and alphanumeric information of the total network with the help of the computer (CAD). The author describes the technical and organizational solution. He shows the economic aspect of improving the efficiency of the project.

p. 393—399

Message Switching System DSX-40

R. Schenk, Berne

The message switching system DSX-40 serves the modern office communications by decentralized message processing. It allows to combine different teleinformatic terminals and to connect to the public networks such as telex, teletex or to a stand.

p. 400—416

Centralized operation of IFS digital exchanges

J. Röthlisberger, Berne

The exchanges of the future telecommunications network IFS are based on the systems AXE 10, EWSD, and System 12 supplied by Hasler, Siemens-Albis, and Standard Telephone and Radio in Switzerland. The author describes the proposed measures at the PTT regional telecommunications directorates who will ensure operation of these new digital exchanges. He deals especially with the aspects of change from local to centralized operation of IFS digital exchanges such as task area, organization, personnel employment and requirement as well as duration of training.

News Items

Post

Postal coach service was equipped with radiotelephone network on the route of Sarnen-Stans-Fluelen.

Telephone

An experiment has been started to **control the payment of the telephone bills** in Berne. The detailed payments are entered into computer on line. The outstanding amount of each subscriber can be displayed on the terminal at any time. The new automatic payment checking procedure stretches up to 90 (until now 50) days after mailing the bill.

New **satellite circuits** to and from Switzerland via Leuk were established in June: **Oman** (4) and **Qatar** (3).

Teleinformatics

In the course of stepwise **partial replacement of Ateco system** (automatic computer-based telegram exchange), in operation around the clock since 1969, **the magnetic drum mass memory was substituted by a semiconductor memory**. The exchange of equipment took place without interruption of operation. The magnetic drum memory is one of its last model in Europe.

The **publifax** (a public telefacsimile service) was extended to the **Ivory Coast**, the first country in Africa.

The **packet switching service** for data is now available between Switzerland and **Iceland**.

The PTT will replace **TUS 35 M** used for **remote control application with Infranet system**. It is a two-way information exchange system and has the possibility to extend the application area.

Radio, Television

Canada and the USA were connected each with a 64 kbit/s circuit via the **Intelsat/IBS earth station at Geneva/Vernier**.

In Zurich, the **satellite earth station for intra-European business communications** (Eutelsat SMS) was permanently taken into operation in middle of May. It is now possible, among others, to provide **videoconferencing with United Kingdom**.

The **15th International Television Symposium with Technical Exhibition** took place between 11 to 17 June under the patronage of the PTT. Not only 70 papers and discussions on the current themes of terrestrial and satellite TV as well cable distribution were held but also two «Highlight Sessions» were organized on the **influence of modern technology on TV entertainment programmes and changes in TV programmes** due to satellite and cable distributions. At the same time, the **high definition television (HDTV)** was once more demonstrated by Japanese firms (1125 lines, 60 Hz filed frequency). The event united several thousand technical experts and journalists from all around the world.

Miscellaneous

The PTT and the Telecommunication Centre (FTZ) of the German Federal Post Office undertook jointly **measurements of designated modulated technique in view of determining the basis for the future pan-European mobile digital radio communications system**. This is to clarify the question of **occurring distortions due to multipath propagation in mountain regions**. On the basis of these and other results a special conference can be convened to determine the technical parameters.