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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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New construction methods for underground cable installation

H. Kienast, Berne

The author describes the application of chain cutter moulding machines with blades and moving chisels. He shows the possibilities and the limitations of this trenching method from initial experience on different grounds.

p. 42...43

What is digitization?

K. Vöggtli, Berne

The systematic application of digital technique up to the subscriber premises will allow using the same line for different telecommunication services. The author pursues to outline clearly and simply the most important differences between analogue and digital coded signals. What at first sight looks like an unnecessary complication proves to be an efficient means of transmission and switching for voice, music, text, image and computer data. Further advantages of this system are the immunity to noise as well as the possibility of simple data processing and interlocking at regular intervals.

p. 49...56

Computation of transmission reliability of characters in mobile radio systems

P. König, Berne

This paper briefly introduces the statistical model of received signals as encountered in the narrow band mobile radio systems. Some remarks are made on the simulation of such signals. A computation method is derived for the determination of transmission reliability of characters with the help of a simplified statistical model. In conclusion, an example shows the application and accuracy of the computation method.

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Importance of monolithic mm-wave IC in radio and radar systems

W. Körner, Ulm

The author explains the importance of monolithic millimeter wave integrated circuits for the development of radio and

radar receivers. As the demand on frequency band compels to utilize increasingly shorter wavelengths, the application

of monolithic IC will take an important significance in different areas in the future.

News Items

Telephone

The partial liberalization of the telephone sets came into force on 1 January 1988. Only the first set shall be obtained from the PTT in the future. All further telephone sets can be subscribed to or bought from the PTT or from a third party. Only approved sets shall be connected to the public telephone network. The attachment of unapproved sets will be prevented by administrative measures such as 'export voucher'. The PTT will prosecute in case of disregards.

New traffic planning guidelines and the changed transmission condition lead to the cancellation of eight network areas. These will be consolidated with adjacent areas in 1990 to 1992 due to the introduction of digitization of the Swiss telephone network.

Additional satellite circuits were established via Leuk earth station: Hongkong (1), Kuwait (4) and Tokyo (1). Further, 84 circuits with the USA were transferred to TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) on Intelsat V F-10 (instead of F-4) in mid-December 1987.

Teleinformatics

The federal government modified the telegraphe decree on 1 January. Thus, the PTT will be able not only to lease but also to sell the facsimile equipment.

The latest Swiss telefax directory (issue of January 1988) shows almost 20 000 entries. This is about 6500 more than in the issue of June 1987.

At the beginning of December 1987, arCom 400, based on CCITT X.400 message handling system, was connected to 123 mailboxes. There is for the first time a customer with 10 mailboxes. He alone operates and administers them.

Radio, Television

The Italian speaking region of Switzerland has its 3rd radio programme of the

Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) from 1 January onwards. For the time being, this radio programme is broadcast in stereo via six VHF/FM transmitters.

In December, the PTT put 7 new VHF/FM radio transmitters into operation for the German and Romansh programmes of the SBC.

In Dischma (Grisons) and Cheiry (Fribourg), new TV transposers were brought into service to close the reception gap.

A new radio-relay link was installed between Geneva-studio and La Dôle station in view of the introduction of two-channel stereophonic sound in TV networks of the western part of Switzerland.

The 80th VHF simplex relay station came into operation at Kohlfirst (Schaffhausen) serving radiophone connections between fixed and mobile stations. This service is not connected to the public switched network.

With the opening of the Walensee highway, a tunnel communications system was taken into operation with Natel A and B (mobile telephones), DRS 1 radio programme of SBC and ARI (car radio information system).

Miscellaneous

The federal government approved a bill and a draft for a new telecommunication law and passed them to the parliament for deliberation. Accordingly, the PTT will provide exclusively all basic services of telecommunication transmission (telephone, telex, data, leased circuits) under the present scope of network monopoly. The enhanced services (e.g. message transmission, storage and enciphering services) that enhance the basic services, can be offered by third parties and the PTT. A gradual liberalization is foreseen in the market for subscriber equipment, whereby a condition for approval shall be applied. Only approved sets can be offered in the domestic market.