Summaries and notices

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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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The bottom of the wine glass OSI

J. Pitteloud, Berne

The author shows on the one hand the conditions of standardization of the open system OSI and describes by analogy the essentials of the upper layers of architecture and on the other hand he deals with the details of the transport layers and the communication layers (the bottom of the wine glass OSI). A following article will be devoted to the upper layers of presentation and application.

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System 12 SO – Second Subsystem for Telecommunications

E. Bardill, Berne

The international service is the second manual service to be changed over to the new digital System 12 SO. The new subsystem has several interesting new features such as automatic tax data accounting, multifunctional employment, independence of location of the service.

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Signalizing System CCITT No. 7 – Message Transmission Part (MTP)

M. Freudiger, E. Isler and R. Santschi, Berne

In the second half of 1988, the first intercentral signalizing lines were put into operation with the signalizing system No. 7 of the CCITT by the Swiss PTT. The author describes the task and function of the message transmission part which is given a central role in this system. Besides the theoretical aspect the procedure by the internal PTT inspection of the signalizing report between the CDN-exchange is shown and the application of the message transmission part by means of a telephone connection explained. The conclusion consists of a small outlook into the further development of the signalizing system no. 7.

News Items

Telephone

The **UNO Extraordinary General Assembly** which **was transferred to Geneva** and held on 13th to 15th December 1988 made it necessary for the PTT to provide an extensive telecommunications infrastructure at short notice. Among others 2 mobile satellite ground stations were set up.

For Natel C, three further base stations were put into operation in the **Lake of Geneva area** and in the **Sottoceneri.** Thus 95 of the 109 planned stations for the expansion phase 2 were in operation as of December 1988, 17 of which with 19 call boxes and 229 channels on the North-South axis between Airolo and Chiasso.

Further **80 permanent satellite lines** were connected with USA (72), Australia (4), Canada (3) and Japan (1) in December 1988 via the ground station Leuk. Two circuits were put into operation with Burkina Faso to be used when needed.

The satellite lines up to now analogously operated with the Peoples Republic of China and with Thailand **were switched to digital transmission.**

A further 64 kbit/s IBS circuit and **a further 2 Mbit/s IBS circuit** have been connected with USA via the ground station Geneva-Verbier.

Teleinformatics

In a first phase, the EDW-subscribers of the Bern, Basle, Bellinzona, Biel, Freiburg, Neuenburg and Thun telecommunications administrations were connected **to the memo-telex system of the EDW exchange Berne.** The EDW subscribers of the remaining administrations followed them the beginning of December 1988. Finally, the approximately 3,200 subscribers of the four remaining electromagnetic telex exchanges were taken over in the beginning of 1989.

The **1989 Telefax (facsimile) Directory** which appeared in January contains approximately 36,500 main names and approximately 5,500 additional names. Probably above all because of the registration in addition to the 939 subscribers with PTT apparatuses who applied in November 1988 there were also 2,813 applications from private fax (facsimile) apparatuses.

Access **to the German TV Text and the Luxembourg Videotex** is now open to Swiss **Videotex** subscribers. The same rates as for an inland connection will be charged for access to the free pages.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

A **new medium wave transmitter in Sottens** replaces the twin transmitter originating from the year 1949. Thanks to a special modulation process (PSM) from Asea Brown Boveri, the new transmitter requires about 20% less electricity.

Study groups appointed by the Italian and Swiss PTT for the **improvement of interfered radio and television reception in the Italian/Swiss border** areas met together for the first time the end of November 1988. As a result of the first meeting there is a certain hope of improvement for Switzerland.

In December 1988, **FM transmitters for SRG programmes** were put into operation in Curaglia (DRS 3 and Rhaeto-Romanic programme), in St Sulpice, in the Valley of Travers (RSR 3) and on Mt Salève near Geneva (RSR 1, RSR 2, RSR 3). The transmitter on the Salève improves the reception conditions in the canton of Geneva and in La Cote.

The **Graubündner local radio «GRischa»** began its trilingual transmissions over 7 FM stations on 9 December 1988.
Television decoders began broadcasting in Charmey (TSR), Marbach, Lucerne (DRS) and Villers-le-Lac (TSR).

The **local call** has been introduced in **Vaduz and Eschen** in the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Miscellaneous

The **electric and magnetic radiations coming from display apparatuses** at work among others have been examined by the PTT department of research and development. All ascertained values were about 100,000 times under the limits allowed.

In the middle of December, with a few months delay, the **first optical transatlantic cable TAT-8 USA–Great Britain/France** was put into operation. With about 40,000 channels its capacity is greater than that of all the Atlantic cables and satellites to date of the Atlantic region put together. Switzerland will be using this cable presumably from spring 1989, too.