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Summaries

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Special receiver techniques and system considerations of coherent optical transmission

C. Béguin, Berne

Coherent optical transmission is a technique which is at the beginning of its development and which will play an important role in future fibre optic systems. In this third article, the author describes special receiver and modulation techniques as well as system aspects of this new glass fibre transmission technology.

p. 320...322

Error correction in group 3 facsimile transmission

R. Stadler, Berne

The author describes an internationally standardized method for the correction of errors for group 3 facsimile transmission. This results in an error free transmission of documents and makes the telefax service more effective.

p. 323...326

Computer based training, a solution for all training problems?

J. Gueisbühler, Berne

The fast technical development, the lack of instructors and the long lead time of a course are all factors which hamper the effective training of the PTT specialists. In order to remedy this problem, the computer based training is now in a test phase. The author describes the advantages of this teaching method and presents a system for the setting up of courses.

p. 327...329

Swiss PTT internal pneumatic tube system

E. Reidy, Berne

Pneumatic tube systems as an internal operational means of conveyance, if properly utilized, can contribute considerably for the speeding up of courier service and for rationalization. After a short general introduction, the author mentions a few possible applications as well as the essential advantages of this system. The description of the most important parts of an internal pneumatic tube system is meant to give an idea of the construction and the operational possibilities for the user.

News Items

Telephone

In Geneva the **ATLAS systems** (Automatic Trunk Line Announcement System) received almost 34,000 calls within 72 hours, with a maximum load of 2,188 calls within 20 minutes, as a result of the changeover to 7-digit telephone numbers on 21st April. Normally the system answers an average of 10,000 calls per week.

56 new **TDMA circuits** with **Spain** and **Portugal** were put into operation in May via the satellite earth station Leuk and a Eutelsat satellite.

Teleinformatics

For the **business communication with the USA**, the following digital duplex connections were newly made in May: 1×64 kbit/s via the Geneva-Vernier satellite earth station and 2×48 kbit/s via the Zürich-Herdern 3 station.

A **64 kbit/s leased line between Winterthur and Carlstadt, NJ (USA)**, was put into operation on 11th April for an American magazine. The connection serves a Crossfield Fax installation in Winterthur for the production of the magazine (Remote Printing).

An **opinion poll** of potential VSAT customers was made on behalf of the CEPT countries. The inquiry serves to record the customer necessities with regard to such special satellite networks.

Radio, Television and Radio Communications

In May the radio link installations and the IF protective switch system for the national television radio link network on the **Albis-Jungfrauoch** section were replaced by new installations. The ten wide-band channels are transmitting in the 2-GHz band with a channel spacing of 20 MHz.

With the putting into operation of the **Schwarzenburg and Worb radio network section**, the major part of the Berne region is made accessible for the PTT bus service radio.

The 41st meeting of the **technical Committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** took place in Constance from 18th to 21st April. Besides the report from the work groups about their activi-

ties, it concerned above all the increasing pressure of the European members on the radio broadcasting policies of the EBU. In the foreground of the discussion was HDTV (High Definition TV), ATV (Advanced TV) – in connection with the compatibility of existing and new systems – and the problems of a speedy introduction of RDS (Radio Data System) and digital radio broadcasting.

Miscellaneous

For the **European Cup Final in the Berne Wankdorf Stadium**, three television link-ups (Eurovision, TV-Spain, TV3 Barcelona) and one PCM-audio connection for 40 commentators were made available. The transmission was taken over by 39 European and 20 non-European stations (e.g. Hong Kong, Kuwait, Australia, Brazil etc.).

Negotiations took place in Vienna from 9th to 12th May between representatives of the administrations of Austria, Italy, Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland for the **use of the 900-MHz range for public radio systems** and the pre-coordination of frequencies for the **ERMES (European Radio Message System)**. An agreement was reached which enables Switzerland to have the definite frequency allotment for the Natel C stations in the border area; this was not possible up to now because of other use of the frequency range concerned by foreign countries. An agreement could be made also in the frequency question for the introduction phase of ERMES.

The **5th media discussion BRD—CH** (Federal Republic of Germany—Switzerland) at the ministerial level took place in Chur on 22nd and 23rd April, combined with the visiting of a private radio station and the PTT installations of Valzeina.

At the annual **'Global Traffic Meeting'** (GTM) of INTELSAT from 9th to 15th May in Washington, DC, over 500 delegates from 145 countries and administrations participated. Forecasts were compiled for the traffic in the worldwide satellite system of INTELSAT which, compared to earlier predictions, foresee an accelerated transition to digital service.

The **13th Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU** took place in Nice (F) from 23rd May to 29th June. The main themes were the technical collaboration between industrial and developing countries, the influence of the evolution of telecommunication on the ITU and various organizational questions.