News Items

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Telephone

For the first time the CATS (Caller Address Tracing System) *was put into operation on a Swissnet connection.* It provides immediately the extended user data of the caller from the Electronic Telecom Directory (ETV), based on the call identification transmitted on the D channel, and displays it on the screen of the called party and on the log printer. Callers can thus be quickly and precisely identified at any time.

A completely new routing of the Natel C traffic was introduced in the whole of Switzerland; at the same time, the Gateway function was put into operation.

16 new Natel C and Natel D GSM base stations were set up. In Brig and Locarno one mobile base station each was put into operation in October for catastrophe relief use.

Teleinformatics

The following *digital leaselines were set up via the Leaseline Control Center* (LCC): 2 × 56 kbit/s, 15 × 64 kbit/s, 4 × 128 kbit/s, 1 × 512 kbit/s, 1 × 1920 kbit/s and 1 × 2048 Mbit/s. One analogue leaseline was also set up.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following permanent microwave radio links were put into operation: in the district network *Les Ordons-Chevenez* (34 Mbit/s), for the feeding of the Natel C base station *Gais-Kronberg* (4 × 2 Mbit/s) and a link in the city of *Winterthur* (4 × 2 Mbit/s) for a leaseline. In addition, the temporary *Zurich/Selnau–Zurich/Freigutstrasse* and *Zurich/Herdern–Zurich/Badenerstrasse* microwave radio links with a transmission capacity of 4 × 2 Mbit/s each were put into operation for the duration of ten months and eight months, respectively.

The following satellite links were put into operation via the Intelsat network: four voice circuits of the SSTDMA (Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access) type with the *United Arab Emirates* (60° east) and eleven voice circuits of the same type *with Kenya* (335.5° east) via the Leuk earth station. An IBS (Intelsat Business Services) data link with Brazil (307° east/64 kbit/s) and a temporary IBS link for the video conference service *with Argentina* (307° east/128 kbit/s) were put into operation via the Geneva earth station.

The Gunzwil municipal council granted the building permit for the new cooling tower of the Beromünster national broadcasting station. Thus, the old 500-kW medium-wave broadcasting station can be replaced, too.

The frequency of the RSI 1 FM programme on the *Valzeina* station had to be changed from 97.2 MHz to 105.9 MHz due to technical reasons. In the *Baregg Tunnel (N1)* the DRS 1 programme is now broadcast on the 88.4-MHz frequency, the same as with the Baden-Hörndli transmitter. The tunnel radio transmitting station operated up to now on the 90.9-MHz frequency of the Rigi station. At the same time the feeding was changed, so that now the Aargau/Solothurn regional news is being broadcast.

New channels for the *TV programmes* were put into operation in *Davos-Glaris* parallel to the existing ones until the end of March: DRS channel 22, TSR channel 28, TSI channel 25. Furthermore, *the programme supply for the S-plus programme* was put into operation with one radio relay connection from the Ulmizberg multipurpose installations. At the same time, the AM distributor in Ziegelbrücke was put into operation.

Flaach and Gondo were newly set up with one transmitting station each for the Telepage Swiss radio paging system.

A tunnel of the St. Gall cantonal highway near Wattwil with a length of 1 km *was equipped with a tunnel radio installation.* The DRS 1 programme is transmitted as well as the radio traffic of various cantonal services handled via this installation.

After rejection of a complaint by the federal court, *PTT Telecom received the green light for the extension of the PTT installations on the Rigi.* The project consists of a total restoration of the existing multipurpose station, the new construction of an approximately 100 m high transmitting tower, an underground cave as well as a combined radio station. Thanks to a partial permit validity, the redevelopment work could already be started in the summer of 1993. The new construction work is to begin in 1994 and to be completed in 1998. The whole investment will amount to approximately 35 million Sfr.

The 17th meeting of the ETSI working group RES 02 (equipment specifications for the mobile land radio service) took place in Nieuwegein (NL). At the meeting the submitted comments to the public consultation procedure of the ETS 300 296 standard (technical specifications for mobile land radio equipment) and a larger part of the work for the extension of the I-ETS 300 113 standard (data transmission) were settled.

Miscellaneous

Ascom-Ericsson Transmission AG (AET) and Alcatel STR AG were ordered to deliver the future SDH network nodes within the framework of the *Synchronous Digital Network* (Sydinet). This acquisition is necessary in order to guarantee the economic efficiency and competitiveness of the transmission network on the background of the progressing liberalization. The first SDH network nodes are expected to be installed in the 2nd quarter of 1994 within the framework of an extensive operational test. After the successful completion of the test, deliveries are to be expected during

The PTT Telecom, the German Federal Post Telekom and the Dutch PTT Telecom, all three of which operate trunking radio networks, have, after several meetings of the joint work group Trunking Operators, *signed a Memorandum of Understanding* with which they are mutually committed to cooperate in the trunking radio field.

The 9th meeting of the European Radio Communications Committee (ERC) *took place* in Montreux, for the first time in Switzerland. Switzerland and Liechtenstein signed, with reservation, the ratification of the ERO (European Radiocommunication Office convention). Despite various difficulties the *CEPT recommendation for 'DCS-1800' (mobile telephone/1800 MHz)* was *approved.* In addition, the *Memorandum of Understanding on the cooperation between ETSI and ERC was adopted.*