News Items

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News Items

Telephone

The St. Gall and Rapperswil Base Station Controllers (BSC) were put into operation for Natel D. Thus almost 30 base stations were switched over from Zurich to the two new installations.

Two new Natel C and five Natel D-GSM base stations were put into operation.

At the opening ceremony of the reconstructed 'Kapellbrücke', the Lucerne Telecom *offered for sale the telephone Tritel 'Elm' with the logo of the bridge on it, a pin and a 'Kapellbrücke' tax card* at a stand.

Teleinformatics

In the course of the retrenchment of the service number 110, *the whole telegram traffic taken over by Berne in the past year from the Basel region has recently been assigned to Zurich.*

33 leaselines were put into operation by the leaseline control center (LCC), seven of which with overseas as well one international and two national leaseline bearers. In addition, one 1×8 Mbit/s block Berne–Zurich was set up for leaseline bearers.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following permanent microwave radio links were put into operation: Chasseral–La Chaux-de-Fonds (transmission capacity STM-1) and Bergün–Weissfluhgipfel (34 Mbit/s) in the district network, Gibloux–Lovens (4×2 Mbit/s) and Gurmels–Jeuss (4×2 Mbit/s) for the feeding of Natel base stations, Effretikon/Post–Effretikon/Vogelsang (16×2 Mbit/s) and one connection in Schaffhausen (16×2 Mbit/s) as leaselines.

Two satellite links of the IDR (Intermediate Date Rate) *type were switched on* in the Intelsat Network *with the Dominican Republic and South Africa* as well as four speech circuits *of the FDMA* (Frequency Division Multiple Access) *type with Iraq.*

The FM network was completed with the RDS EON radio data system (Enhanced Other Networks). Provided the FM receiver is equipped for this and the EON function is activated, the traffic announcements of the first broadcasting chain can also be received on the second and the third chain.

A TV broadcasting transmitter for the Programme 101 (TV DRS) was put into operation *on the Aroser Weisshorn* on channel 37 to supply Arosa.

The towns of *Bonfol (canton of Jura) and Basel-Birsfelden were recently made accessible with one transmitter installation each for Telepage Swiss.*

Miscellaneous

The new telephone answering service of the PTT Telecom, Teleoffice, is taking over the incoming calls for customers who value the continuous and personal telephone attainability. The main characteristics of the new service are: personalized answering with the customer's name, individual handling of the call according to the customer's instructions, service times at customer's option, i.e. 24 hours per day/365 days of the year or 12 hours (07.00–19.00) per day/5 days per week (Monday to Friday), specific customer service and professional personnel. The offer comprises the following package: *TeleOffice Deluxe* as telephone answering service for regular customers; *TeleOffice Holiday* for temporary customers; *TeleOffice Speciale Mobile* as a regular customer answering service for the message transfer via radio paging (Telepage Swiss); *TeleOffice Paging 157* as message transfer to radio paging receivers via a TeleBusiness number; *TeleOffice Flex* based on TeleOffice Deluxe and Special Mobile; and finally *TeleOffice Profi,* a complete service (secretarial work, fax transmission, advertisement service, telemarketing, etc.).

The 'Glacier Patrol' sports event was transmitted by radio and television. Apart from two portable satellite earth stations in Zermatt and Arolla and one double receiving station in Verbier, microwave radio links were in action for a dozen temporary connections for the Swiss Television in order to transfer the images from the locations (Col de Riedmatten, Rosa-Blanche) to the broadcasting direction in Verbier and then via the Telecom network to the television studios. For radio transmissions, special music lines were set up. Additionally, there were a large number of modulation and coordination lines for the technical operation of the transmissions as well as 30 telephone and fax connections.

The Technical Committee RES (Radio Equipment and Systems) *of the ETSI* (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) *met in Lisbon* with over 100 delegates participating from administrations, industry, operators and user organizations. The committee essentially adopted drafts of standards for land mobile radio equipment, the trunk system Tetra (Trans-European Trunked Radio), the cordless telephones (DECT, CT2), Terrestrial Flight Telephone System (TFTS) as well as EMC standards for various categories of radio equipment. In addition, current questions from the following standardization areas were discussed: call systems such as Ermes (European Radio Message System), Hiperlan (High-Performance European Radio Local Area Networks) and various small radio systems.

The *Eutelsat profits increased about 10 % in 1993 to 33.6 million Ecu* (compared with 30.4 million Ecu in 1992) with a yield of 244 million Ecu (compared with 232 million in 1992). This increase can be attributed to the constant growth of almost all business fields of Eutelsat, in particular by the setting up of new television channels and the construction of additional networks for the business communication via the Eutelsat II-F4 satellite. Alone in this area the earnings of the organization increased by about 40 %. Furthermore, Eutelsat signed the contract to build the new television satellite for 13° east with Matra Marconi Space and holds options on further satellites. The new satellite will be delivered within 27 months and launched in August 1996. With this third satellite, the present capacity with Eutelsat II-F1 on 13° east will be increased by 20 transponders, in addition to the 'Hot Bird', whose launching is planned for this year. Furthermore, Eutelsat has concluded agreements for the building of a new administration building on the perimeter of the André Citroën Park in the 15th district of Paris. The new building will be ready for use in the summer of 1996.