News Items

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Telephone

The 35 km long stretch between Basel and Mulhouse as a bridgehead to France has been completed. It is the first frontier-crossing connection in SDH (Synchronous Digital Hierarchy) technology. The two terminals of the SLA-16 type from *Siemens* are connected with each other via two glass fiber pairs, whereby one actively handles the traffic and the other is immediately ready to maintain the connections in case of disturbance. Thanks to SDH technology, it is now possible to transmit optical signals with a speed of 2.5 Gbit/s without intermediate amplifier.

An in-house provision for Natel C and D was installed in the railway station and in the sales level of the *Kloten Airport, Terminal B.*

One Natel C base station and 25 Natel D-GSM base stations were put into operation.

Teleinformatics

The zero series of the 2.048-Mbit/s line system for subscriber copper cable (HDSL, High-Bit-Rate Digital Subscriber Line) from *Ascom Ericsson Transmission was delivered to the Telecom offices.* The system, which is operable via the central network testing installation (Zenpa), enables the transmission from n×64 kbit/s to 2.048 Mbit/s with the X.21, V.35, V.36, G.703/704 interfaces and with ISDN primary rate connections.

50 leaselines were put into operation via the leaseline control center (MLKZ), four of which with overseas as well as four international and three national leaseline bearers. In addition, an international 8-Mbit/s block Amsterdam–Zurich was set up for *Unisource Business Networks* (UBN).

On the occasion of the *Berne Economic Conference, a prolonged video conference was carried out with representatives of the EU in Brussels* and a large public in the congress centre of the BEA in Berne. The video conference, transmitted on the Megacom broadband dial network (2 Mbit/s) was displayed in Berne on a large screen.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following *permanent radio relay connections were set up:* Herisau—Kronberg in the regional network with a transmission capacity of 140 Mbit/s; for the feeding of the St. Chrischona–Ziefen (4×2 Mbit/s), Osterfingen–Schleitheim (4×2 Mbit/s) and Gibloux–Pont-la-Ville (4×2 Mbit/s) Natel base stations and for a remote unit Champéry–Croix-de-Culet with 34 Mbit/s.

The following satellite connections were recently set up in the Intelsat Network: two connections of the SSTDMA (Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access) type with *Thailand* and with the *United Arab Emirates,* 30 speech circuits of the FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access) type with *Sri Lanka* and two speech circuits of the FDMA type with the *Ivory Coast* as well as three speech circuits of the IDR (Intermediate Data Rate) type with *Vietnam.*

The Charmey FM station was definitely put into operation. It supplies the region of Charmey, Châtel-sur-Monsalvens, Crésuz, Cerniat and Valsainte with the RSR 1 (92.8 MHz), RSR 2 (98.1 MHz) and RSR 3 (103.8 MHz) programmes. Set up in the same way were *the FM broadcasting stations Melide/Grancia, Tunnel N 2,* with the RSI 1 (88.1 MHz, mono) programme and *Leissigen, Tunnel N 8,* with the DRS 1 (93.6 MHz, mono) programme.

The Leissigen tunnel radio installation was put into operation for two radio channels of the Canton of Berne as well as for diffusion of the FM DRS 1 programme.

Miscellaneous

The Binz Telecommunications Centre was handed over to the Telecom PTT Zurich by the architect office after a four-year building period. With this handing-over, two transmission locations, one national transit exchange and various broadband transmission networks were also put into operation. The 'management center networks' also began operating at the same time. In addition, a Natel D-GSM and an international centre will be set up during the year.

An audio and video feed-in point was installed in the Zurich-Herdern satellite ground station, which is also at the disposal of the customers. All signals from all accessible satellites there can be received, recorded or transmitted further in the ground station by customers who possess the transmission-rights.

The 11th Conference of the TM 4 Technical Subcommittee of ETSI (equipment specifications for relay radio installations) *took place in Gällivare (Sweden).* Various drafts for the coming ETS (European Telecommunication Standards) in the 1.5- to 38-GHz ranges for analogue video transmission and SDH transmission areas as well as aspects of the Telecommunications Management Networks (TMN) for radio relay systems were cleared up. *The 20th Conference of the RES 02 Technical Subcommittee from ETSI* (equipment specifications for the mobile land radio service) *took place in Sandefjord (Norway).* At the meeting the revised ETS 300 113 on technical specifications for land mobile equipment with data radio as well as the ETS RES 02-14 on the channel access method were cleared up for presentation to the TC (Technical Committee).

Meetings of the Working Party 4B and the Task Groups 4/3 and 4/5 of the study commission 4 (permanent satellite service) of the ITU-R were held in Washington, DC, USA, at the Intelsat headquarters. The working party 4B prepared recommendations for SDH and the task group 4/3 interface recommendations for the connection of VSAT networks on package-switched public data networks (PS PDN) and ISDN networks for approval by the study commission 4. The task group 4/5 made great progress at their second meeting in the elaboration of technical fundamentals for the introduction of satellite-supported mobile radio networks, which will be necessary as technical basis for the Radio Conference 1995 (WRC 95) in Geneva.