News Items

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Telephone

At the regional telecommunications offices St. Gallen, *another 29 operator's workplaces have been connected to the new electronic directory services.*

In the Intelsat network, the following satellite links have been switched on: five Intermediate Data Rate (IDR) circuits with Indonesia, Bahrain, India, Thailand and Syria, five Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access (SSTDMA) links with Thailand, India, Australia, the United Arab Emirates and Singapore, as well as a Single Channel Per Carrier (SCPC) circuit with Burkina Faso.

In the *Mobile Switching Centers for Natel C* at Lausanne-Préville, Olten and Lucerne-Weinbergli, *the software stage 60 has been introduced.*

A *new time schedule has been generally introduced* for Natel C and Natel D GSM. The higher tariff is now applicable from 7.00 to 19.00 hours, the lower in the remaining time and on Saturdays and Sundays. In mobile telephony, call diversions are now taxed in order to allow diversion to foreign destinations.

The *Aspwald Tunnel* on the road from Jona to Hinwil has been *equipped with Natel C mobile telephony.*

Four new base stations for Natel C and 17 for Natel D GSM have been put into operation.

Teleinformatics

42 international leaselines, eight of them to overseas destinations, have been switched on by *the leaseline control centre (LCC).*

The 25 000th connection to Unidata Telepac is a fact! This has been celebrated together with the subscriber. Another large subscriber has signed a contract for an X.25 solution with Unidata Telepac.

In the framework of 'Unidata LAN Interconnect', *Swiss Telecom PTT is realizing a project for the postal department* as general contractor, with the partners Unisource Business Networks (Switzerland) AG and Datrac AG.

The one millionth message could be treated on the system connecting arCom 400 and Data Care (Leased Line MTA). Usually, these messages are intended for telefax subscribers, Telepage Swiss paging receivers, and for customers with their own message transfer networks on the 'Data Care' service.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following fixed microwave radio links have been switched on: in the regional network Gerlafingen–Leuzingen with a transmission capacity of 140 Mbit/s as well as *the first microwave radio link carrying an SDH signal,* the link Frauenfeld–Müllheim, which is ready for operation with a 2×STM-1 signal. For the first time, the SDH functions of the equipment are fully used. The link from Frauenfeld over a passive reflector to the switching center of Müllheim has a length of 22.6 km and is fitted with two-carrier equipment from ANT operating at 11 GHz. For the feeding of Natel base stations, the link Konstanz (D)–Kreuzlingen with a capacity of 4×2 Mbit/s has been switched on.

For reasons of frequency economy, *the transmitter frequencies on some FM broadcasting stations have been exchanged between the programme chains.* At the same time, in the Ticino, the range identification has been switched on in the traffic information broadcasting system (ARI).

The programmes of Swiss Radio International (SRI) will in the near future be broadcast from Montsinéry in French Guyana. This will improve the reception in North and in South America as well as in Australia and in parts of Africa. The new transmitter with a power of 500 kW has been built by Télédiffusion de France on behalf of Swiss Telecom PTT; it operates for 10.5 hours dayly. The programme is relayed by Swiss Telecom PTT from Switzerland to the French overseas territory over an Intelsat link.

For the S-Plus TV programme, the microwave radio links Säntis–Piz Corvatsch, Piz Corvatsch–Celerina, Celerina–Zernez and Zernez–Lavin have been switched on as transmitter feeders.

At the 36th rowing regatta on the Rotsee, Swiss Telecom PTT provided the lines for video and sound: an internal video connection each by microwave radio from the camera boat via receiving station to the TV production and an optical fibre from the reporter's car to the production. From there, the video signal was linked via Rigi and Albis stations to the studio in Zurich for national and international distribution. For the radio and TV speakers on site, about 20 four-wire lines to Zurich were provided, as well as twelve telephone connections.

Miscellaneous

The technical commitee RES (Radio Equipment and Systems) of ETSI met in Mariehamn (Finland). In preparation of the public vote by ETSI, they passed draft standards for land mobile radio equipment with data transmission, the Terrestrial Flight Telephone System (TFTS), the Trans-European Trunked Radio (Tetra), the Digital European Cordless Telephone (DECT), as well as standards for the electromagnetic compatibility of several radio equipment classes. Furthermore, questions of interest from the standardization of paging systems (ERMES), High-Performance European Radio Local Area Networks (Hiperlans) and several small radio systems were discussed.