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Summaries and Notices

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Stability Considerations in Terms of Scattering Parameters for Linear Active Twoports (Transistors)

by E. R. Hauri

General stability conditions and stability factors for linear active twoports in terms of "classical" twoport parameters, which include the terminations, have been derived earlier, but the analogous relations in terms of scattering parameters apparently are not yet known. Considering the condition for oscillation of a twoport with terminations, a general stability condition and a general stability factor in terms of scattering relations are derived in this paper. The design of an amplifier with a given power gain for optimum stability is described. The derivations are paralleled by the equivalent in terms of y parameters. Finally it is shown how to proceed in case the absolute value of the parameter s_{11} (or s_{22}) is greater than or equal to one.

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Installation for Parcel Distribution at the Basle 2 Post Office

by W. Rolli, Berne

Compact installation of conveyer equipment in old buildings often presents great problems. Part one of this article describes the equipment put into operation at the Basle 2 post office in 1968, when parcel distribution by code was introduced. Part two contains remarks on the economy of this installation.

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Methods of Measuring the main Characteristics of mobile Radio Telephone Equipment

by H. Maag, Berne

This article outlines the methods of measuring the main characteristics of mobile radio telephone equipment in the Swiss PTT Services.

News Items

Posts

The 1971 overseas advertising campaign of Swissair, our national airline, will include a short film for cinema and television, showing **Switzerland as the country of the alpine postal coach services**.

The alpine postal coaches of the Chur and St. Moritz service groups are being equipped with **radio telephones** enabling drivers to communicate with their **district offices**.

In order to compensate for the **shortage of qualified postal staff**, which – in spite of rationalization and mechanization – is steadily increasing, the Swiss PTT Services will shortly install additional p.o. boxes, introduce partial self-service in post-offices and open more unattended bureaus. In this way it is hoped to keep up the scope of service offered at present.

The association for the operation of alpine coaches decided at its annual meeting in Wurzburg (Germany) to **continue the Europabus Service between Munich and St. Moritz during the winter**.

While the **Consultative Council for Postal Studies (CCEP)** of the Universal Postal Union was meeting in Berne, about 150 delegates were shown the technical installations at the regional postal operating centre (Schanzenpost).

Two leading **officials of the Nepal Post Office** were staying at the Postal **Stamp Division** in Berne for 2 months' studies, whereas a representative of the Swiss PTT lectured at a **seminar on operational planning and traffic forecasts** in Fort-Lamy (Chad).

Telephone

On 19th November 1970, **automatic dialling to the USA** (Alaska and Hawaii excepted) was introduced in the exchange areas of Zurich, Basle, Delémont and Dietikon. Geneva followed on 15th December, and Berne will be connected to this service in early 1971. The call charge is 10 Swiss centimes for a period of 0.625 seconds.

On 23rd October 1970, **an additional 8 voice circuits** over satellites were opened between **Berne and New York**. The 46 lines now available are supplemented by 11 circuits over the Frankfurt/Main pool.

In July/August 1970, 53.6% of the **telephone calls to European countries** (against 48.3% in January/February of the same year) were **dialed automatically** by the subscribers. The rates in the various exchange areas were as follows: Basle 85%, Lugano 80%, Geneva 76%, Berne and Zurich 63% each.

The **semi-automatic telephone service**, which enables the Swiss operator to dial through to the foreign subscriber, was extended to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore in October, and to the Republic of South Africa on 1st November 1970.

Geological and engineering reports on the site of the **future Swiss satellite earth station** in Leuk (Valais) have been favourable. Now the possibility of purchasing 60,000 square meters (71,760 sq. yds) of land, on which several aerials could be set up, is

being examined. Provided that no unforeseen difficulties arise, the first antenna will be installed towards the end of 1972, or in early 1973.

The radio telephone connection between **Berne and Bangkok (Thailand)** was closed on 30th October 1970 and replaced by a **satellite link**.

Telegraphs, Telex

At the beginning of 1970, the **world total of telex connections** amounted to 335,000. With 11,069 connections, **Switzerland rated 7th in the world and 5th within Europe**.

On 1st October 1970, the **telex service** was extended to **New Caledonia** over the Paris-Noumea radio link.

Data Transmission

In October 1970, 96 **rented data communication circuits** were in operation in Switzerland. This number included 61 inland lines, 26 European and 9 overseas circuits. In Swiss local networks an additional 48 lines were being used for data transmission at rates of 200 bps (33), 1200/2400 bps (8), 4800 bps (4), and 40,800 bps (3).

Radio and Television

At Sottens a **500 kW short-wave transmitter** with revolving aerial is being installed for use by the Swiss Short-Wave Service.

Miscellaneous

In November 1970, the **CEPT co-ordinating body for telecommunications over satellites (CCTS)** decided at a meeting in Lausanne to continue to develop plans for a European telecommunication satellite, despite the failure of the European Space Conference (ESC) held on ministerial level. The studies are being pursued in co-operation with the European Space Research Organization (ESRO).

At the end of November 1970, the **international working group of the Intelsat Conference** met again for final discussion of the definite agreement on an international telecommunication satellite system. The document will be submitted to a governments' conference in early 1971.

The **International Relay Alliance** (Alliance Internationale de la Distribution par Fil) has been meeting in Berne to discuss the development of the copyright, its application in common aerial systems, as well as problems in connection with satellites and wire broadcasting systems. Furthermore, the organization has decided to publish its own bulletin.