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Summaries

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The IFS-1 Integrated PCM Telecommunication System

K.E. Wuhrmann, Berne

The PCM Integrated Telecommunication System IFS-1 being developed in Switzerland by the PTT and manufacturers has the long term goal of providing all existing switched services, PCM quality, for all subscribers and a wide range of data facilities. The system employs highly centralized software controls for large telecommunications areas, divided into competing independent networks or planes to overcome security and maintenance problems. All subscribers normally have access via concentrators to all the planes of the multi-network structure of the area. A network is built up modularly, using remote-controlled, freely locatable units, which are interconnected by CEPT compatible PCM multiplexes. The paper describes the switching and control network configuration, the multi-plane approach, the principles of information exchange and the way that calls are set up.

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A New Transmission System for Remote Alarms

J. Ruckstuhl, Berne

The new transmission system for remote alarms is used to provide a main exchange with rapid and complete information on the working order of remote exchanges. It is fully electronic and permits the transmission of a maximum of 480 alarm positions or in-

structions per second. A flexible concept enables units of widely varying size to be built, which are always expandable to full capacity. Several remote exchanges may be connected to one and the same main exchange line, and signals can be transmitted alternately in both directions.

News Items

Telephone

Swiss PTT is conducting a field trial with 200 telephones of the model 70 pulse-keying version. The set is powered over the subscriber line and can be connected to any type of exchange.

An automatic morning and alarm call system for 1680 orders has been installed at St. Gall. At present 8 Swiss towns are equipped with this facility, which is to be extended to all Regions by the end of 1974.

Microfilm viewer positions at the St. Gall enquiry office have been increased by 10 to 30.

An additional 3 direct satellite circuits have come into operation on the Zurich-Tel Aviv route. Communication facilities between Switzerland and Israel now comprise 6 satellite, 15 cable and 4 Lincomplex radio links.

Following the cut of the Beirut-Marseilles cable during the Middle-East war, Switzerland reopened the Berne-Beirut radio link.

Acceptance testing at the Swiss satellite earth station at Leuk (Valais) began in August and will last about 4 months.

Swiss PTT has purchased another 2 fully equipped mobile microwave multiplex shelters for a 120-channel temporary installation. They will first be used in western Switzerland where trunk sections are being converted for data transmission.

The new St. Gall-Lachen trunk service centre came into operation in October. Equipped for 3775 incoming and 3720 outgoing lines, it handles now 70,000 calls a day.

Telegraphs, Telex

For the 1974 Universal Postal Union Congress at Lausanne a telecommunications centre with 12 attended telephones, 2 telex machines and the mobile telegraph office will be provided.

During the Middle-East war, telegrams to Israel and some Arab countries were delayed. Telex service, on the other hand, was not affected.

Direct telex circuits between Switzerland and Japan have been increased by 6 to 23.

Radio, Television

A new radio station has been opened at Sarnen. It broadcasts the German-spoken programme for Switzerland on 1562 kHz medium wave, and the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation's programme for Europe on 9535 kHz short wave. Short-wave programmes are also broadcast from three other stations: Beromünster, Sottens and Schwarzenburg.

The 16th simplex relay for Switzerland's mobile radiophone service was put into operation near Zurich to cover the country's north-eastern regions.