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Development of Data and Subscriber Equipment for Future Digital Networks

A. Kündig, Berne

A number of firms are cooperating with Swiss PTT in the field of digital subscriber apparatus for voice/data communication in future integrated PCM systems. The objectives of the joint study group set up for this purpose are described and an outline is given of two development projects, one for a data multiplexer, the other for a multi-purpose terminal.

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Data Multiplexer for PCM Transmission Systems

A. Baumann, W. Neu, Berne
W. Schenk, Hombrechtikon

A data multiplexer for PCM transmission systems is described which enables channels of 48, 64 and 128 kbit/s to be combined into a 2.048 Mbit/s multiplex. It can be used both autonomously and as a circuit access facility enabling data channels to be introduced into, or branched off from, 2.048 Mbit/s circuits. It is suitable for two-level working, which increases operational safety.

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Duct Systems for Telephone, Power and Lighting

P. Günter, Berne

The article describes the various under-floor and wall duct systems designed to meet the requirements arising from open-plan layout and movable partitions in modern office blocks and factory buildings. Details are given of a new system of underfloor ducts and floor outlets for telephones.

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Multi-Frequency Code Signalling in the Swiss Telephone System

W. Zach, Berne

Switzerland is introducing a multi-frequency code signalling system offering far better reliability, speed and flexibility than the currently used pulse signalling systems. A general description is given together with details of application and special features.

News Items

Posts

Efforts by Swiss PTT to cut **postal delivery costs** include the provision of **p.o. parcel boxes**, whose number has been increased from 25,000 to 50,000 since 1967.

Swiss PTT is again **advertising postal giro accounts on television** with three spots showing that cashless transfers are quicker and safer and withdrawals easy.

Telephone

A new **automatic exchange for service and information calls** has come into operation at **Lugano**. It accommodates the **three-digit numbers** now being introduced throughout Switzerland. Also at Lugano, an **automatic morning and alarm call system** for 1,120 orders has been opened. At present, 17 installations of this type are in use, their capacity being 50,000 orders.

Representatives of **Austria and Switzerland** met at Vienna in January to discuss the **rapid development of telephone service** between the two countries. It is estimated that line capacity will have to be increased 2.5 fold within the next ten years.

On 1 March the charge for a three-minute call to **Greenland** went up 9 Sfr. to **36 Sfr.** and the charge for a station call to **Surinam** was reduced 20% to **30 Sfr.**

Since its opening in early 1974 the **Leuk satellite earth station** has been attracting wide public interest. Up to the end of 1974, 132 tours of the installation were arranged for some 4,000 visitors.

By the end of last year **International Subscriber Dialling** was available from 689 Swiss exchanges serving 2,065 016 customers (84.3%).

Telegraph, Telex, Leased Circuits

Gentex service between Greece and Switzerland was opened on 14 February.

In February 16 direct **telex circuits** between **Eire and Switzerland** were connected over the new Dublin-Zurich vft system. The incoming lines from **Athens** were increased by 2 for **transit dialling**, and **automatic**

service in the direction **Turkey-Switzerland** was opened over 9 Istanbul-Zurich vft channels.

At the end of 1974 the **Swiss telex system** comprised 2169 inland lines and 2048 links to foreign exchanges.

Receiving terminals connected to private **stock exchange intelligence and press teleprinter networks** amounted to 1049 by December 1974.

Swiss PTT has purchased a series of **30 Hasler SP 20 part-electronic teleprinters** for field trials.

Radio, Television

In 1974, **private transmitters and receivers** used in Switzerland increased by 22% to 81,368 and transmitting licences by 30% to 31,767. Their numbers have almost doubled since 1971.

Last year 8545 instances of **radio and television interference** were reported to the PTT. Of these 2296 concerned radio broadcast reception, 6028 TV reception, and 221 other radio services. Complaints per 1000 licensees were 1.12 for radio and 3.51 for television.

PTT radio and TV technicians last year inspected 1823 out of 3142 newly installed **outdoor aerials**. Of these 482 (26%) did not meet the safety requirements and had to be removed or brought up to standard by the owners.

Miscellaneous

Swiss PTT lost 229.4 million francs last year. With a deficit of 147.4 million brought forward from previous years, the accumulated net loss per 31 December 1974 was 376.8 million francs.

Suggestions put forward by PTT staff in 1974 will result in **annual net savings of 700,000 francs**. Cash awards to the entrants totalled 25,450 francs.

A 10% (600,000 kWh) **power saving** worth 35,000 francs was achieved by the **Berne postal operating centre** last year.

The number of stations in Zurich's new automatically controlled **pneumatic tube system** has increased by 7 to 36.