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Summaries and Notices

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Computer-controlled Registers for Conventional Switching Systems

W. Grunbacher, Berne

In late 1974 the PTT tested a prototype system of computer-controlled 7A Rotary local/trunk registers built in Switzerland. The article highlights the main stages of planning and design, deals with the operational requirements to be met by such systems, and discusses various aspects justifying the modernization of conventional exchanges.

p. 445...454

Potentials and Current Densities in Pores of Insulating Layers

P.-M. Wiedmer, Berne

Having briefly discussed the potentials in the boundary layer between a metal and its electrolytic surroundings, the author outlines an approximation method of determining current densities in the case of local faults in the insulation of underground metal structures. It is shown that with decreasing pore diameter and insulation layer thickness the current densities increase heavily.

p. 455...458

Stores Management in a Fluctuating Market

Part I published in Technische Mitteilungen PTT 11/1975

R. Urfer, Berne

In stores management, economic trends and market fluctuations have a far greater impact on capital goods than on consumer goods. The problems associated with storing capital goods for public services, such as telecommunications, in times of fast changing economic conditions are too little known, and this tends to provoke unfair criticism by those unfamiliar or little acquainted with the subject. The present article attempts to outline and illustrate Swiss PTT policy in telecommunication stores management. The relevant economic data are discussed in detail.

News Items

Posts

A new list of **PTT Giro Account Holders** has been published. It consists of two volumes and, like the 1975 Telex directory, uses computer-assisted phototypesetting.

Under a recently concluded bilateral postal agreement, **direct letter service** has been opened between **Switzerland** and the **Democratic Republic of Vietnam**. Parcel service will also be available shortly.

In December 1975, Swiss PTT will for the first time be using **publicity cancels** bearing season's greetings.

Telephone

Two new services will be made available over 3-digit call numbers throughout Switzerland: **Motoring Assistance**, No 140, and **Pastoral Care**, No 143. In addition, **recorded information on trade fairs and exhibitions** will be supplied over No 188 in the Basle and St-Gall Telephone Regions.

In August and September, **74 incoming circuits for tandem operation** were opened between Basle and St. Moritz (34), Basle and Sargans (17) as well as Berne and St. Moritz (23).

Telegraph, Telex

A new **public call office** with 25 attended telephones, 2 telex installations, 2 pix terminals and a special booth for the disabled has been opened at **Lausanne**.

At **TELECOM 75** the Geneva Regional Directorate operated a temporary public call office, and the Swiss mobile telegraph unit was used for demonstration purposes. Eight local and 22 international leased circuits as well as 10 connections to broadcast systems were made available to exhibitors.

An **FDM circuit** for alternate voice/data or facsimile and additional telegraph signals has been made available to **UNO** between **Geneva** and **New York**.

Radio, Television

Work has started on **Southern Switzerland's new medium-wave transmitter** at Monte Ceneri-Cima, which is to replace the superannuated Monte Ceneri station.

In October, 7 additional **TV translators** came into operation and, near Thun, a **multi-purpose station** was opened which accommodates VHF radio and television transmitters, microwave installations and VHF simplex relays for radiophone service between fixed and mobile stations.

Experimental 12 GHz micro-wave feeder links to CATV systems have been operated from the Weissenstein near Solothurn since October.

The number of airlines using the **Swiss PTT Shortwave Radiophone Service with Aircraft** has increased by 10 to 24 since 1 January 1975.