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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Aliasing Distortion in PCM Telephony

A. Kündig, Berne

In PCM telephony transmission, speech signals are low-pass filtered both before sampling and after reconstruction. Incorrect rating of these filters results in aliasing distortion. By means of subjective tests the filter characteristics have been adjusted to optimize the quality of transmission. The resulting filters differ significantly from the theoretically optimum low pass filter and can be built with fewer elements than those used in the present-day short-haul PCM systems.

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Wood Protection in Line Construction

H. Steinle, Berne

Only short open-wire telephone lines are encountered in residential areas. Long lines are limited to prealpine and alpine regions. Notwithstanding, the overhead line has not lost its importance. To keep it sound, as the most important support element, the wooden mast must be protected from harmful influences. To increase its life-span, an effective wood preservation program is undertaken. Life-tests in pole gardens are suitable to judge the effectiveness of the various preservatives and impregnating processes under different environmental conditions. The installed pole requires periodical checks and, according to its serviceage, an effective aftertreatment.

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Data Transmission over the Telephone Network: Services and Equipment

J. Werndli, Berne

The facilities for data transmission over the public switched network and leased telephone circuits are outlined, and a typical installation is described. Various types of application of recent PTT-owned and privately supplied equipment for remote data processing are mentioned.

News Items

Telephone

Automatic telephone service was opened to **Algeria** and **Ivory Coast** on 14 June, and to **Teheran** and **Lima** on 1 July.

The charges for manual calls to **Hong Kong** and **Taiwan** were substantially reduced on 1 June, when ISD service became available to these countries.

Telephone network groups **Bienne** (032), **La Chaux-de-Fonds** (039), **Solothurn** (065), **Delémont** (066) and **St. Moritz** (082) have been equipped for **international subscriber dialling**, which is now available throughout 25 of Switzerland's 51 groups.

A new system of processing applications for telephone service, introduced experimentally in telephone regions Geneva, Lucerne and Winterthur in October, will become effective throughout Switzerland on 1 January 1977. With this system it has been possible to reduce the average time required to connect new subscribers, or transfer existing stations, by 6 days to only 4 days for 76.8 pc of the orders handled.

Telegraph, Telex

Automatic telex service to Mexico, Dubai, Ajman, Ras al-Khaimah, Sharjah,

Umm al-Qaiwain and Swaziland was opened in June.

In the **experimental public facsimile service** operated by telegraph offices Basle, Berne, Geneva, Lausanne, Lugano and Zurich since 1 May, transmissions from private stations, both inland and foreign, are also accepted now.

Radio, Television

The **Swiss television network** was extended by 8 translators in 5 stations in June.

Field-strength measurements of **test transmissions from Beromünster, Sarnen and Lenk stations on 9535 kHz** (31 m) are being conducted at several points in Europe with a view to obtaining data on the radiation conditions for these transmitters.

Miscellaneous

An **international colloquium on wide-band digital transmission over satellites**, organized by Swiss PTT Research and Development and the European Space Agency, was held at Berne in June, following joint PTT-ESA tests, in the Jungfrau region, of simulated satellite communication using the 11/14 GHz range.