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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Management System of the Radio and Television Division

H. Bosshard, Berne

It is the responsibility of the management of the PTT General Directorate's Radio and Television Division to provide the service managers in charge of telephone regions with the necessary guide-lines to permit an optimum utilization of their facilities. The article points out the essential considerations, requirements, principles and standardization leading to the system described herein.

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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 service-age, an effective after-treatment.

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Equipment for Subjective Rating of Speech Transmission in Telephony

E. Seemann and F. Maurer, Berne

With the aid of problem setting in telephony reasons are given for the provision of special equipment for subjective speech transmission rating. An outline of this equipment, which includes listening and talking booths as well as adaptable, modular electrical apparatus, is given.

News Items

Posts

Swiss PTT has secured two major **delivery orders** for 1 and 1.5 million copies respectively of privately produced classified telephone directories.

Telephone

Switzerland has opened **direct telephone service to Jordan and Saudi Arabia** over the SPADE facilities of Leuk satellite earth station.

Six permanent satellite channels to South Africa, the seventh direct link from Leuk earth station, were put into operation at the beginning of August.

Two new 6 GHz microwave telephone links, 1,800 channels **Albis-Bern III** via Jungfrauoch, and 2x2,700 channels **Lugano-Milan** via Mte Generoso, came into operation at the end of August.

The **Frankfurt-New York (ATT) circuit pool** operated jointly by Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland since 1964 was discontinued when the **TAT 6 cable** (France-USA) came into operation at the end of July.

The charges for **operator-connected calls to Iran and Peru** were reduced when ISD service became available to these countries on 1 July.

Four Swiss Alpine Club mountain huts in Sion Telecomms Region have been connected to the public switched network over **radiophones**.

Telegraph, Telex

Automatic telex service was opened to **Qatar** (Doha) on 1 August, and to **Khartum** (Sudan) on 1 September.

A **public telex installation** each has been opened at Vevey and Yverdon. A total of 49 machines are now available to the public in 35 Swiss towns.

Radio, Television

Two television transmitters relaying the German and French-spoken Swiss programmes came into operation on the **Santis** on 12 August.

Miscellaneous

Swiss PTT's telecommunication business increased slightly during the first half of 1976, but **postal business** overall declined further. National trunk calls were up by 3.6 pc, outgoing international calls by 9.4 pc, and local calls by 0.4 pc on last year. Telex continued to develop favourably (+7.3 pc), but telegrams dropped again (-11 pc).

The PTT's 1977 budget provides for 5,179.1 m francs expenditure, with revenue estimated at 5,213.5 m francs and profit at 34.4 m francs.

Recalculation of the 1974 medium-term telecommunication planning data has shown that the changed economic situation will lead to **substantially lower circuit requirements**. Estimates for 1980 and 1985 have had to be reduced by as much as 20-25 pc.

Intelsat's first director general, elected by the member countries' representatives at Nairobi, is Mr Santiago Astrain of Venezuela, the organization's former secretary general.