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Summaries and Notices

Parcel Mail Centre at Däniken

Summaries

p. 253...261

Postal Engineering at the Parcel Mail Centre of Däniken

O. Bütkofer, Berne

The reasons for choosing Däniken as the site of a parcel mail centre are outlined and the various stages of planning and implementation of the project discussed. The technical installations such as conveyer systems, sorting machines and special equipments are described. Finally, the author deals with the various conveyer and sorting operations.

p. 262...283

Conveyers and Sorting Machines

H. Keller, Berne

The parcel and bag conveyers and sorting machines are described, and details are given of several units such as stackers, loaders, etc. Innovations in the design of machinery are also dealt with. The last part of the article outlines operation.

p. 284...293

Control of Parcel Conveyers and Sorting Machines

W. Irniger, Berne

The design and functions of the system controlling parcel conveyers and sorting machines are explained. The process computer and control programs are outlined, along with motor control of certain machines.

p. 294...300

Monitoring by Television

F. Lechner and M. Polli, Berne

In Däniken, television is used as an additional means of control and supervision. After explaining the reasons for its introduction, the authors deal with some specific points such as the choice and handling of cameras, control room equipment and marginal problems of lighting, etc.

p. 301...305

Postal Railway Station

H. Marti, Berne

The article describes the postal railway station, an integral part of the parcel mail centre. The shunting of mail vans in close

cooperation with Swiss Federal Railways is illustrated. Innovations appearing for the first time in PTT plant are outlined and a speciality, the PTT's own switching locomotive, is dealt with in greater detail.

p. 306...309

Automatic Gates and Doors

M. Ballenegger, Berne

The indispensable pneumatic gates and doors are described and problems of con-

trol as well as compressed-air production and distribution are examined.

p. 310...315

Electrical Installations

F. Hegi and R. Theiler, Berne

Having outlined power and extra-low voltage distribution and installations in the building, the authors deal with the electrical equipment of the conveyer systems.

News Items

Telephone

No 166 – Stock Market Report, the PTT's latest recorded information service, proved so popular from the start, on 15 December 1976, that daily bulletins were increased from six to seven on 23 April 1977. Calls to this number at present average 14000 a week.

A new **6.2 GHz, 1800-channel microwave telephone link** was opened between **Zurich** and **Lugano** in April.

France and Switzerland have agreed on **substantial increases in the number of circuits** between their two countries over the next five years.

It is expected that circuits between Switzerland and Spain can be routed over a new **Genoa-Barcelona submarine cable** from 1980.

In the first quarter of this year, Switzerland increased its **intercontinental telephone circuits** as follows: South Africa, 1 (satellite); Canada, 5 (cable); Saudi Arabia, 3 (satellite); Hong Kong, 2 (satellite); and Singapore, 1 (satellite).

By the end of 1976, Swiss PTT was operating 143,668 (+4502) **junction circuits**, 38,206 (+536) **trunk circuits** and 9426 (+1343) **international lines**.

Telegraph, Telex

Telex calls to the Azores can now be booked with the Zurich operator.

Automatic telex service to Angola, Mozambique and Sri Lanka has been available since 2 May.

Semi-automatic telex service with ships at sea was opened via **Marisat** satellite on 16 May. At present some 40 ships are equipped for this service.

IXSD to the USA will be simplified by the introduction, on 1 August, of a **common country code** for all American networks.

Radio, Television

In April the **Swiss television network** was extended by **four translators** supplying the French and/or Italian-language national programmes to German-speaking areas.

A further two **CATV systems**, at Rapperswil and Altdorf, have been supplied with TV programmes from neighbouring countries Germany and Austria over **PTT microwave links** since April.

Miscellaneous

The **oldest still active Intelsat III satellite** has now been in orbit for some 100 months, as compared with 75-23 months for the six Intelsat IV as well as 19 and 15 months respectively for the two IV-A satellites.