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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

p. 436...445

Providing Radio Communication Services in Road Tunnels

O. Grüssi and P. König, Berne

Results are presented of an investigation to determine the relevant design parameters and find a suitable radiating cable for the provision of radio communication services in road tunnels. An example illustrates the particular problems of supply with wideband amplifiers.

p. 446...456

Introduction of the Integrated Telecommunications System (IFS) into the Swiss Telephone Network

F. Zbinden, Berne

The introduction of an integrated digital telecommunications system brings with it profound changes to the telephone network. The start-up costs of such a system are usually high. For this reason, the method of introduction must take into account the system and the network already existing. Where feasible, the installation of conventional equipment should also be subjected to the constraints of the new system. The IFS will be introduced in a parallel network. Since the initial volume of new equipment will probably be small, it will be necessary to have common remote control over IFS equipment of a large region.

p. 457...466

Radio Links for Television and Sound Feeder Services - A Planning Concept

E. Wey, Berne

A systematic planning method is required for the provision of country-wide television and sound feeder services. The concept outlined here is based on TV and telephone user statistics as well as the plans for telephone and radio-link networks. It guarantees excellent quality as FM with a minimum of modulation and demodulation steps is used throughout. Savings and frequency economy are achieved by making double use of normal radio links. As an example a feeder network with 14 TV, 7 FM stereo and 7 FM mono radio programmes is described.

p. 467...470

The New Telex Directory

P. Wuchner, Berne

The 1975 list of telex subscribers was the PTT's first directory produced entirely

by means of computer typesetting. After a brief retrospect, the article deals with the problems of alphabetic sorting by computer in general and purely alphabetic presentation according to subscribers' names in particular.

News Items

Telephone

The PTT has extended its range of model 70 telephones by a pushbutton set with automatic dialler for 20 subscriber's numbers.

Semi-automatic telephone service has been opened to Guatemala and Senegal.

A permanent satellite communication channel to Chile has been opened via Leuk earth station, which now operates a total of 177 circuits. An additional satellite circuit to Bagdad has been made available via Raisting.

In May and June Switzerland's subscribers used ISD facilities on 95 pc of their international calls (52.58 out of 55.33 million charge minutes).

A further network group, 043 Schwyz, is now fully equipped for international subscriber dialling.

On the microwave building of Leuk satellite earth station a 29 m high antenna tower has been erected to connect the station with the terrestrial radio relay network.

Telephone Regions Lucerne, Olten and Sion are taking part in a trial run of system TERCO (TElephone Rationalization with the aid of COmputers) from 5 September to 23 October.

Telegraph, Telex

In the first half of 1977, inland telegrams rose by 2.1 pc to 374,360 over the same period of last year.

Automatic telex service was opened to Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda at the end of July and to Zaire on 1 September.

Radio, Television

The PTT Board has decided to introduce stereophonic broadcasting by stages taking into account the available funds and experience during conversion of the network.

In August, Switzerland's television network was extended by 11 translators relaying the German (3), French (3) and Italian-language (5) national programmes.

106 local and 38 trunk circuits were made available for radio and television coverage of the Fête des Vignerons (Winegrowers' Festival) at Vevey in August.

Miscellaneous

In the first six months of 1977 the demand for postal and telecommunication services in Switzerland rose by 3 pc over the same period of last year. The services with the highest growth rates were: telephone, 6 pc; letter post, 9.5 pc; and telex, 9 pc.

The PTT's 1978 budget provides for a profit of 66 million francs.

Violent thunderstorms during August damaged telephone plant and affected service in various parts of the country, mainly central and eastern Switzerland as well as the Bernese Jura and Oberland.

The People's Republic of China has joined Intelsat as the 98th member country.