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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Evolution of Push-Button Selection Units

B. Nuoffer and S. Filisetti, Solothurn

In less than ten years the Swiss PTT has introduced three generations of key-pads having the same function as the dial switch. The three types and their introduction are dealt with in some detail. The evolution of the price is also mentioned. It is shown that with each new model the unit became simpler and more durable, resulting in reduced maintenance costs.

p. 430...435

Perforated-Tape-Controlled Test and Measuring System for Series Acceptance Tests

H. Schneider, Thun

Automatic testing facilities often ensure efficient and economical quality control. They must, however, be easily adaptable to rapidly changing technology and production methods. The APX-Measuring System is particularly flexible and lends itself to a wide variety of applications.

p. 436...443

Remote Control of Short and Medium-Wave Broadcast Transmitters by Means of Process Computers

F. Schweingruber, Berne

The PTT has put into service two new transmitting stations equipped with one medium and three short-wave transmitters. They are the first high-power transmitters to be remote controlled and monitored by a central process computer. The author describes the necessary equipment and programmes and shows that even complex transmitters can be successfully operated as unattended, remote controlled installations.

News Items

Posts

On 25 September, only one day after the Swiss had voted in favour of the creation of **Canton Jura**, the PTT issued a **commemorative stamp**, which had been printed in utmost secrecy.

Telephone

Solar cells instead of petrol-electric battery charging sets have been installed at seven **Swiss Alpine Club mountain huts** equipped with wireless telephones.

The new, **three-digit information and emergency service numbers** will become available throughout **Lausanne telephone region** (network groups 021 Lausanne, 024 Yverdon, and 025 Aigle) on 17/18 November. This will enable several services to be rationalized and improved.

Data communication

Sixteen European telecomms administrations, among them Swiss PTT, have commissioned **Eurodata Study 1979**, an extensive survey of customers' data communication requirements.

Radio, Television

For about a year now the PTT's research and development division has been conducting **propagation and reception tests with TV teletext systems**. The purpose of these experiments is to determine the reliability of data transmission in the television signal.

From 4 November, the Swiss Short-wave Service will be broadcasting to Europe and overseas under the new designation of **'Swiss Radio International'**.

Since 6 October **Ticino Radio**, too, has been broadcasting some of its programmes in **stereo**.

In the first six months of operation of the PTT's **national car radiophone network (Natel)**, some 900 out of 1000 applicants have been connected in the Zurich region.

Miscellaneous

The **Posts and Telecommunications Treaty** signed between **Switzerland** and the **Principality of Liechtenstein** on 9 January 1978 was ratified by the Swiss Parliament in the September session and the Liechtenstein Diet.