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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Operating Principles and Constructional Features of Integrated Telecommunications System IFS

W. Kreis, Bern and A. Moser, Zurich

The integrated telecommunications system IFS comprises digital local and transit exchanges as well as a centralized district operational centre for servicing and maintenance. The IFS offers a range of new services to the subscribers e.g. call diversion and abbreviated dialling, but also itemized billing. It provides rationalization possibilities for the operator through direct access for servicing via terminals in the administrative offices, statement of operational status in the district centre and automatic isolation of hardware faults as well as assistance to the maintenance staff during fault clearance. The objective of the system architecture is modular so that the progress in hardware technology can be utilized through new development of individual modules. Also, the software structure facilitates a future further development in case of new requirements.

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Mecanization of Sack-sorting at the Geneva Airport Post Office

B. Puippe, Berne

The question of mechanization of sorting airmail sacks at the Geneva airport post office was discussed for a long time as this work was so far done manually. At the occasion of transfering the office to a larger building the handling of the sacks was mechanized. Swissair temporarily provides this space till the airfreight building will be ready in 1987. This transition period will help to gather experience for realizing similar installations at the Zurich airport.

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Modernization of Local Exchanges

H. Krebs and F. Weber, Berne

Prior to the implementation of the integrated telecommunications system (IFS) no further new intermediate system will be introduced. The existing local exchange has to be updated through modernization to meet the requirements of IFS and the potential of today's electronics and computer technology. This article describes the basis, objectives, performance characteristics, as well as the technical realization and expected dates of modernization of local exchanges of the Standard Telephone and Radio Co., Hasler Co. and Siemens-Albis Co.

News Items

Telephone

A **hundred years ago** on 1 February 1883, the **city of Winterthur** received for the **first time telephone service** with 35 subscribers. During this time it grew up to the impressive size of 47,000 subscribers and over 80,000 telephone stations. The fist Swiss telephone service was offered to the public in Zurich on 2 October 1880.

The number of subscribers on the **3-month-plus waiting list** decreased by 709 to 4787 in 1982 compared to the year before.

In 1982, the PTT paid over 23 million francs service charges to the **foreign telecommunications administrations and operating agencies** for using circuits and satellite capacity. It received around 3.8 million francs from foreign agencies for similar services. The PTT invested 13 million francs in foreign countries during the same year for the acquisition of circuits through leasing, using and for transit traffic.

On 1 March, the **telephone traffic with Bhutan** (Kingdom of Himalaya) was opened as well as IDD service with reduced tariff to **Greenland, Nepal and Niger.**

Teleinformatics

Since 1 March 1983 the **Bureaufax service** has been available between **Switzerland** and **the Netherlands.**

Radio, Television

In spring 1984, the first **ECS** (European Communications Satellite) of the **Eutelsat** will be officially put into operation. It will be employed in the public telecommunications service. The channels of the spare satellite can be leased to private users. Since the notified demand for this 2nd satellite is already above available capacity, the Eutelsat is considering a 3rd ECS.

Pro Radio-Television has issued an illustrated **documentation «Radio and Television»** on the theme of **the electronic media in Switzerland.**

In 1982, the PTT inspected 634 (1981: 755) **outdoor antennas** which were erected by the certified installation firms. 166 (119) or 26 pc (16 pc) of them were recalled.

The Swiss **microwave radio network for television** stood at 13 986 km of wideband channel in 1982.

On 15 February in Lausanne, a parallel **Natel** (national carphone service) regional network was set up due to increasing demand. The service area is identical to the network A1.

The **activity of the pirate stations** transmitting programmes in the broadcast frequency bands has somewhat declined. In the region of Zurich, however, the number of programmes on political themes is increasing. The interferences are extremely annoying to listeners and viewers as they occur in most cases in the weakly received signals of the foreign VHF/FM radio and TV stations.

Miscellaneous

The **PTT's 1982 accounts** closed with a profit of 133 million francs, of which 100 million francs will be turned over to the Federal treasury and 33 million francs will be kept in the PTT's reserve.

The PTT has proposed to the management board an **increase of tariff** for both postal and telecommunications services from 1 March 1984. This is to prevent sliding into financial losses.