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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Telepac: Why to connect and what equipment to link

J. Pitteloud, Berne

Telepac is the Swiss public switched network dedicated to the transport of data. Its structure allows to select either centralized or decentralized information processor. It offers a very safe transfer of data. Its operation is ensured by the PTT. Telepac utilizes the proven packet switching technique based on international standards. The users can share dynamically the resources of the network at a high performance rate. Telepac offers some of the new benefits at an interesting price in areas such as change of transmission rate, of topology or automatic reconfiguration of the teleinformatics network. In the first chapter the article presents the essential characteristics of telepac. The following chapters deal rather with telecommunications aspects and inform more precisely on the large range of equipment connectable to telepac.

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Quality Assurance of the Telecommunications Equipment at the PTT

F. Mürger, Berne

The reliability, availability, maintenance and environmental compatibility of the technical product are gaining increasing importance due to the growing complexity of the product and the connected problem of outages. These requirements can only be met through the extensive quality assurance programme and the close cooperation of all involved parties such as developers, component and equipment manufacturers, customers. This report gives a general view of the present situation.

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Datex 300 — A New Teleinformatics Service

P. Martin, R. Schenk and L. Vuilleumier, Berne

This article describes a 300 bit/s circuit switched exchange which is a part of the electronic data dialling (EDW) system (processor-controlled switching ex-

change). It allows text as well as data transmission with automatic subscriber dialling. Technical, operational and tariff aspects of the domestic public network as well as code converted character

mode terminal SP 300 are treated. The paper also discusses the initial results of the operational trial which is still continuing and the consequences drawn from this trial.

News Items

Telephone

The PTT placed an order for **30,000 telephone sets**, model «Paradiso» and «Lugano», at the joint venture Tritel (Autophon Co, Gfeller Co, Zellweger Uster Co). The early models of the **future generation TS 85** will be available throughout Switzerland at the beginning of 1984.

The PTT gave permission to the Radio Suisse Ltd to operate the computer storage of speech, **Voice Mail system**, a kind of an electronic letter box.

For the first time, **two direct satellite circuits** were established via Leuk earth station between **Switzerland and Peru**.

The erection of an **ECS antenna** at the Leuk earth station will start in October 1983. It will be taken into operation at the beginning of 1985. The ECS satellite was launched successfully on 16 June 1983. The satellite will open telecommunications service within Europe already this year.

Teleinformatics

The first **direct telex system Switzerland to USA** was established in July 1983 between telephone exchanges in Zurich and New York. The system is equipped with C multiplexers and 22 two-way circuits.

In the first half of 1983, 3580 **telex SP 300 sets** were delivered to the telecommunications districts. 2928 sets were connected to the telex network. 80 percents of the sets have message storage and/or perforated tape capabilities.

From 1 September the PTT will start the 1st stage of the **operational Videotex trial**. The applied standard is the essential difference to the earlier pilot trial: the character line is extended, improved possibilities for graphics, more consideration to the requirements of our several language groups. On the same day a Videotex congress will take place in Basel.

Radio, Television

The federal government gave **temporary broadcasting licences on trial basis to 36 local radio stations** in all Switzerland. The trial time runs from 1 November 1983 to the end of 1988.

The federal government permitted the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation to broadcast a **3rd VHF/FM radio programme** from 1 November 1983 onwards. The PTT will provide the necessary transmission equipment. Till 1 November the network will be so far established that 50 pc of the population of the German speaking region can receive the 3rd programme in stereophony.

The federal government gave temporary licence for **local Pay-TV** on trial basis to Rediffusion Co and Autophon Co for the city of Zurich as well as to Autophon Co for the Solothurn network.

The construction of the **car radio information system (ARI)** was completed in due time with the exception of four stations which will follow soon. The project was started in 1981. The system is equipped with 71 VHF/FM transmitters to serve the Swiss main routes of the north-south axis (Basel-Chiasso), the east-west axis (Geneva-Romanshorn) as well as the routes of Graubünden and Valais.