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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Pilot Network for Wideband Communications at Marsens

J.-F. Bütkofer and U. Stettler, Berne

During the past years enormous progress was made in the area of optical transmission over glass fibre. In the trunk and district networks, the transmission system with glass fibre is employed with good results. It is also possible to use glass fibre in the subscriber area but today this is economical only in exceptional cases. Thus, wideband services can be offered to the subscriber besides narrow band services. The PTT introduced its first pilot network for wideband communications at Marsens, Canton of Fribourg. The subscribers to the pilot project are receiving TV and radio programmes. Besides, experiments take place with wideband return channels such as video conferences, video telephone, etc.

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Computer-Aided Production of Telephone Directories

P. Bösiger, Berne

The author describes the process of publishing the 18 Swiss telephone directories based on stored data in the Terco computer through different computer-aided processes at the PTT and the 'Tages-Anzeiger' printing office. In these processes the selection of data and the alphabetical sorting are playing an important role. For printing, the data stored in the magnetic bands are transferred to films by photo-composition technique.

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A New Subscriber Service of the PTT — Service 21

J.-C. Weber, Berne

The 'Service 21' allows diversion of incoming telephone calls to a selected or fixed number. The subscriber programs different criteria from the own telephone set. Following the explanation of the new service, the author describes programming and verification, start and stop as well as the limitation of this service. The article further outlines the local exchange equipment, the tariff and the installation requirements at the subscriber's set. Finally, the article provides a list of available call diverters and their characteristics as well as the corresponding rates.

News Items

Telephone

On Telephone No. 166, the closing price of the Swiss Stock exchange can be heard as usual between 1300 and 1600 hours as well as between 2130 and 2300 hours from Monday to Friday. As in the past, this will be followed by New York stock exchange news.

The **pilot broadband local network with glass fibre at Marsens**, Canton of Fribourg, commenced after a press conference on 5 December 1983.

The **glass fibre cable link between St. Gallen and Herisau** was connected with 2+1 8 Mbit/s equipment on 1 December 1983.

The **first digital exchange** became operational at Zurich/Herdern on 20 December 1983. It is an intercontinental **switching exchange EWSD** (electronic digital dialling system) and it occupies $\frac{1}{4}$ of the floor space of a conventional system.

For the first time between **Switzerland and Togo**, two **satellite circuits** were connected over Leuk earth station on 15 December 1983.

Teleinformatics

The **European network of Reuters Ltd** for news circulation was converted to 300 Baud and the subscribers' terminals are equipped with SP 300 teleprinters.

The **first automatic telefax terminals of group 3** (transmission time less than 1 minute) are being supplied to the customers from the beginning of this year.

At the end of November 1983, the PTT accepted the **exchange equipment** of the **telepac (packet switching) pilot network** after the system manufacturer and the supplier had largely removed essential faults.

A **second telepac exchange** came into operation in Zurich on 16 December 1983.

Now another 300 to 400 subscribers can be connected to this packet data network. For 1984 further new exchanges are foreseen at Basel, Lausanne and Lugano.

Through the **amendment to the telegraph ordinance** on 1 December 1983, the **telepac data network** was embodied in the constitutional law as a public service.

During the month of January 1984, the subscribers connected to the **Data-Link network** of Radio-Suisse Ltd were transferred to the telepac network.

Radio, Television

At the end of the last year, the **Swiss television network** consisted of 429 stations with 1254 transmitters and transponders.

The federal government gave **teletext (broadcast videotex) license** to the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation and the Swiss Newspapers and Magazines Publisher Association (SZV) for six years starting from 1 January 1984. This service is financed by the limited advertisements and the contributions of information providers.

At the end of 1983, 55 **Simplex relay networks** with 4800 subscribers were in operation.

The **redesign of the car radiopaging service** was completed. It has a capacity of 10,000 connections. At present 9000 subscribers are served.

Miscellaneous

The managing board of the PTT came to a decision on the **choice of systems** for the **integrated telecommunications system** on 2 December 1983. The selected systems are: AXE 10 (Hasler, Berne/LM Ericsson, Stockholm), EWSD (Siemens Albis, Zurich/Siemens, Munich) and System 1240 (Standard Telephone and Radio, Zurich/ITT).