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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Saint Chrischona Multipurpose Station

A. Haldemann, Berne

The Saint Chrischona multipurpose station was put into operation for broadcasting and telephone services after 4 years of construction and installation work. The tower located in the north-east of Basel is the highest and most prominent landmark of Switzerland reaching a height of 250 m. The article portrays the reasons for the unusual architectural construction, a cover for all technical installations, and describes the radiocommunication equipment.

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Saint Chrischona: Historical and Archaeological Significance

R. Moosbrugger, Basel

The PTT multipurpose station at Saint Chrischona is located at point 618,185/269,170 landmark 522 on the national coordinate network. This location is also of archaeological and historical interest. The excavation at the hilltop proves that people of the early Stone Age already went by. Pottery remnants of Celtic and Roman times stress the importance of the location in later times. Saint Chrischona reached special significance after Christianization set in: excavations show that today's chapel (from the 16th century) was preceded by four chapels that go back to the 7th century. The French, German and Swiss landmarks meet at Saint Chrischona's chapel spire.

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Integrated Telecommunication System (IFS): The Status of the New Project

R. Trachsel, P. Bachofner and J.-F. Bütkofer, Berne

The transition of the analogue to digital technique in the Swiss telecommunication network started with the introduction of PCM transmission links at the end of 1960s. The adaptation of the digital exchanges is the next step starting from 1986. The newly defined IFS project is based on three systems: EWSD from Siemens, 1240 from ITT and AXE from LM Ericsson. They are represented by Siemens-Albis, Standard Telephone and Radio, and Hasler. These systems have to be coordinated to meet specific national requirements. The main emphasis shift to

manufacturing for the Swiss telecommunication industry. The users are offered new services, including the possible benefits of ISDN. Better quality and somewhat lower tariffs are expected. The

introduction of digital exchanges will take place in three phases. Maintenance and operation costs will be lower in the long term, although the demand for personnel will increase at the initial phase.

News Items

Telephone

The subscribers are immediately offered the choice of four **new PTT special telephone sets**: the compact Sils, the oval deskset New York, the Model 29 and the antique Siena.

Swiss PTT is the first European Administration providing customers with **cordless telephone sets** in accordance with certain CEPT standard from autumn 1984 onwards. 7000 sets have been ordered for the transition period. The monthly fee is fixed at 34 Swiss francs.

The **optical recording** of about 3.2 million visual cards of the **customer services for the Terco** (telephone rationalization with computer) project is progressing according to the plan in both telecommunication districts, Fribourg and Winterthur. From the beginning of 1986, the prerequisites will be met for the computer-supported billing of subscriber fees of all Switzerland.

The modified **Leuk 1 antenna** was carrying 208 telephone circuits with 19 countries for the **Indian Ocean Region** after opening operations at the end of June. Thus, the three Intelsat antennas at the Leuk earth station were supporting 870 fixed circuits with 49 countries as well as 18 SPADE channels on demand assigned basis.

A **mobile satellite receive station** is available to the PTT mainly for the reception of signals from ECS-F1 and Intelsat. This station helps to clarify reception condition in Switzerland, for temporary use and for instruction.

Teleinformatics

The new Swiss **subscriber directory for facsimile** service has been recently published. It contains around 1700 user addresses of facsimile groups 2 and 3.

Bureaufax service has been extended to **Turkey** since 1 July 1984. Thus, 12 European and 23 overseas countries are now served from Switzerland.

The demand for the **music telegram** remains steady. Since the introduction of this service on 1 February 1984, 85,421 birthday greetings with music have been delivered. This amounts to an average of 623 telegrams per day.

The **Datetel** service will probably be withdrawn due to financial reasons at the end of 1984. This service, consisting of 3 overseas circuits for data transmission to the USA, is now provided by Radio Suisse Ltd on contract from the PTT. The **Data-Link** of Radio Suisse Ltd and **Telepac** of the PTT are available as substitutes.

The PTT installed 100 telephones, 8 telex and 2 telefax sets as well as 9 four-wire data circuits of 9600 bit/s in Winterthur on the occasion of **Swiss women gymnastic days** and **70th federal gymnastic festival** in June 1984.

Radio, Television

During the **Pope's visit** to Switzerland from 12 to 17 June 1984, the services of 50 mobile TV video links and 400 temporary circuits for sound transmission were required for domestic and foreign studios of several **radio and television transmissions** from 25 locations as well as from press centres at Fribourg and Einsiedeln. Also, both press centres were equipped with 25 telephone stations, 32 telex and 12 facsimile terminals, whereas temporary telecommunication offices were provided at other visiting centres.