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## Summaries

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### The family of all-electronic customer premises exchange HTZ 540

H. Leder and P. Wieland, Solothurn

The customer premises exchange (CPE) is the central piece of the telephone service for business. Numerous members of an organization can be reached by one call number. The operator assistance is no more necessary in the family of electronic CPE, such as HTZ 1/6, 2/7 and 3/10. The CPE offers an optimum of convenient telephone service with several features and with the PTT's modern assortment of sets. The sets HTZ 2/7 and 3/10 as well as the micro-recorder MR 540 for call-charge meter will be available from the autumn 1986 onwards.

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### Measurements of water vapour and gas diffusion at cable sheaths

R. Fischer, Th. Staub, Berne and V. Horak, A. Küng, Cortaillod

The water vapour permeability test is an interesting feature of the quality test for telecommunication cable of type ALT-sheath. The existing measuring principle, the direct gravimetric determination of water diffusion, is very expensive. Therefore, it is not suitable for serial tests. In cooperation with Cortaillod Cable factory, new methods were tested with the use of carbon monoxide and methane as diffuser and with infrared photometry or gas chromatography as diffusion types. The measurement results show that the water vapour permeability of the ALT-sheaths can be proven with these methods. The most important advantages of these new methods are the remarkably shortened measurement time and the increased measurement sensitivity by the application of atmospheric-external test gases.

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### Store of cable drums in paternoster warehouses

R. Remund, Berne

This article describes new ways of storing cable drums. A large number of cable drums is stored in the recently constructed rotational warehouses, so-called paternosters, for the store departments of the Berne and the Lucerne regional telecommunication directorates.

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### Electronic message handling for the nineties

J. PITTELOUD, Berne

The 10th IFIP World Congress of 1986 stresses the need for transfer of awareness between customer expectations and research and development work, in order to achieve a certain degree of cross-fertilization. This paper would like to contribute to this transfer of awareness in the area of *electronic messaging* for the nineties. In the first four chapters, the engineer's point of view is presented: After a definition of what is understood by

electronic mail and electronic messaging, the author presents major developments up to January 1987 in the universities and the private and public sectors. The major impact of the IFIP-initiated and CCITT-standardized ways of interconnecting Message Handling Systems (CCITT MHS X.400) is shown. Some current research beyond these recommendations is also outlined. In chapter 5, the author changes hats and presents emerging customer expectations and likely reactions to this small but powerful technological revolution. The conclusion will be an attempt to fix some cross-fertilization principles between the supplier and the user camps.

## News Items

### Telephone

The «Omnitel Service», a service with «green numbers» for national and international call forwarding, was taken into operation at the exchanges of **Geneva and Lausanne** as well as at the main exchange of Lucerne. The subscriber can undertake own call forwarding configurations within the PTT's given directives.

At the end of the first half-year of 1986, 4577 (1985: 4006) telephone customers are on the **3-month-plus waiting list**. The reasons are due either to the customers or the licensed installation firms (2153) or with the PTT who lacks available cable and exchange capacity or overhead cable installations.

The **operational trial** with the **first digital IDN exchange** started with 1500 switched subscriber lines in **Berne/Ittigen**.

The **first digital broadband equipment** (140 Mbit/s link) came into operation for real traffic with 26 repeaters between **St. Gall and Rapperswil** and with 22 repeaters between **St. Gall and Vaduz**.

The **telephone number 160 (foreign currency rate)** was extended recently to provide the currency rate of **ECU**. But the

announcement of rates for traveller cheques in Austrian currency had to be waived.

In August, for the **first time permanent telephone circuits via Leuk earth station** were established in the **Eutelsat network**: 52 circuits with Turkey and 10 with Scandinavian countries. An additional circuit was opened with Ecuador in the **Intelsat network**.

### Radio, Television

All **CATV** stations and transposers connected with radio-relay links have been receiving the **ARD programmes with two channel stereophonic sound** since 1 August.

The PTT replaced a **video control** equipment which provides a video mixer with 24 source inputs as main component at the **production studio in Zurich** and **3 video cameras** for the **french programmes of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SBC)**.

The **international TV, radio and HiFi fair (FERA)** took place from 27 August through 1 September in **Zurich**. The PTT supplied information on the **UHF/FM sound broadcasting**, on the common funds of PTT/SBC for improving radio and television programme reception as well as for the possibilities of videotex and wire broadcasting.