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Summaries

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Consideration of VHF/FM crosstalk signals for the frequency plan of broadband distribution networks

B. Nold, Berne

A careful plan is necessary to transmit a large number of VHF/FM radio broadcast channels on a broadband distribution network. Frequency and signal level of radio channels define the large signal characteristics intermodulation and crosstalk. The article describes a method of calculation. It allows to determine interfered radio channels due to crosstalk. A relation is derived between off-air field strength of radio signals and the minimum necessary RF level of wanted signal in board-band network with the help of screens, wall attenuation and protection radio values of average VHF/FM receivers. An example illustrates the calculation of interfered and non-interfered VHF/FM channels. The evaluation of the example shows that around 25 pc of 204 available VHF/FM channels are interfered due to crosstalk.

p. 435...442

Possible benefits of electronic message services

H. Steinger, Berne

The messages can be exchanged among computers and terminals of different suppliers. Also access to existing telecommunication and postal services can be provided with the offer of the PTT's message service based on the CCITT X.400 Recommendations. After a brief introduction on a few basic features of message exchange, the main point of the article stresses the application in order to facilitate understanding of the characteristics and the benefits of message services especially for the less informed reader.

p. 443...450

Message switching system DSX-40

R. Schenk, Berne

The message switching system DSX-40 serves the modern office communications by decentralized message processing. It allows to combine different teleinformatic terminals and to connect them to the public networks such as telex, teletex or to a stand.

p. 458...463

The technical introductions of new Telematic services — A challenge for the telecommunication industry — highlights of some Swiss PTT solutions

J.-J. Jaquier, Berne

The author describes the present means by which the Research and Development Department of the Swiss PTT contributes to the technical introduction of telematic services. These services, being on the borderline of or beyond the present PTT monopoly, require new evolutionary concepts for the working methods in the introductory phase. The usual type ap-

proval and standard acceptance tests carried out on the PTT's own equipment as well as the standard approval tests for private equipment are no longer sufficient. After a few general remarks, emphasis is laid on the new forms of cooperation between PTT and the EDP industry. The institution of interest groups is shown with the examples of the Teletex Group and the Message Handling Group (telematic services X.400, Comtex). The need for setting up an efficient test infrastructure required for the approval of private equipment as well as for the installation and fault repair services is also shown.

News Items

Telephone

Since 1 August, lower telephone charges have been implemented for the domestic calls over 20 km as well as for international calls. This will reduce the PTT's revenue by around 240 million francs.

The federal government decided on the partial liberalization of the market for telephone sets starting from 1 January 1988. The first set remains within the PTT's responsibility. The PTT as well as private firms can offer the additional sets (without switching functions), but they must meet the technical test. An export sales accountability will be introduced to combat the gray market of illegal imports.

This year for the first time the change in tariff classes was carried out with the assistance of the Terco system phase 2.1, a computer-based information system. It handled the process faultlessly within the time-frame given.

In Zurich, the PTT was handed over by Ericsson the first Natel C exchange of extension phase 1.

At the end of June, the specifications were issued for the 3rd extension stage of digital exchanges for IDN. These include the requirement for the digital exchanges and the central operating equipment for the regional operating centre to be delivered from the end of 1988.

The Zurich regional telecommunication directorate accepted the first subscriber switching equipment ECS 10 000 G suited to ISDN-PABX from Siemens-Albis Co. It is connected with the Baden and the Zurich-Herdern exchanges via glass fibre cable.

Two-way 3 and 4 satellite circuits were connected with Doha (Qatar) and Muscat (Oman), via Leuk earth station.

Teleinformatics

Several tariffs were reduced for telex connections on 1 August. There are now only two tariff zones within Europe and only three to overseas. This lowers the PTT's revenue by 22 million francs.

Radio, Television

The PTT finally had to ask the International Frequency registration Board (IFRB) of the ITU to intervene because of the numerous illegal French private radio transmitters in the regions of Basle und Geneva lake. They hinder the planning and the reception of Swiss VHF/FM radio channels. The IFRB found 28 cases of violation against the VHF/FM Geneva plan from 1984 and the Article 11 of the Radio Regulations.

Miscellaneous

Hewlett Packard brought into operation two earth receive stations. They will receive, among others, training programmes from the American headquarters via the French Telecom 1B at Meyrin/GE and at Widen/ZH.

The 59th international TV, radio and HiFi fair (Fera) took place under the motto 'Fera mobile' from 26 to 31 August in Zurich. It demonstrated the introduction of radio data system and two channels audio signals in television for broadcast in Switzerland.

Severe thunderstorms and heavy precipitations led to numerous landslides and floods in Western parts of Switzerland as well as in the Cantons of Berne, Grisons and Tessin in July. This caused many interruptions of railways, streets and telephone connections.