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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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ETSI – European Telecommunications Standards Institute

Part 1: History, Mission, Structure and Working Methods

J.-J. Jaquier, Berne

With the establishment of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute in the year 1988, the standardization in the field of telecommunications in Europe received an important impulse. The aim of the author is to show the position of the ETSI within the European standardization organizations and to explain the reasons which have led to its founding. The structures and working methods of the Institute as well as the differences vis-à-vis the earlier harmonization groups are dealt with here.

p. 285...291

Long-term Planning for the Telecommunications Services of Swiss PTT

F. Rosenberg, Berne

The future will definitely bring with it more competition for the Swiss PTT. On the increasingly open market, multinational electronics and informatics companies, domestic industry and trade and also service enterprises are competing alongside the PTT. The PTT are exposed to greater pressure from international competition also within their remaining monopoly areas, because, through the opening up of the borders, the users are able to increasingly chose between the various telecommunication centres in Europe.

p. 292...296

A Weak and Protectionist European Community Benefits Neither Itself nor its Trade Partners

P. Lévy, Basel

The author presents the European Community from a Swiss point of view. He explains the important connections and fringe conditions for Switzerland with relation to the domestic market which will become a reality by the end of 1992 and points out the problems arising thereof in comparing the EFTA countries including Switzerland to the EG.

News Items

Telephone

An **optical 2.5 Gbit/s pilot installation** was ordered from **Siemens Albis** and one from **AT&T Network System.** The installations were set up on the Lausanne—Geneva and the Geneva—Palexpo stretches and are intended for operation on the Telecom 91.

The **subscriber direct dialing** was recently established with **Bhutan,** the **Democratic Republic of Jemen (Aden)** and **Wallis and Futuna islands (Oceania).**

A total of **six** further phase 3 **Natel C base stations** were put into operation in May.

Teleinformatics

The first **international trunk line** between the Swiss **Megacom Network** and the Danish, Swedish and Finnish **MegaNet** was connected at the end of April. The network connection enables the setup of 2 Mbit/s subscriber direct dialing connections between the partners concerned. It can be considered as the first expansion step towards the Europe-wide EBIT Network.

The **ten thousandth Telepac customer** was registered in May.

ArCom 400 traffic contracts were mutually signed with **Bezeq (Israel), Radio Austria** and **ATTMail (USA).**

Radio, Television and Radio Communications

In May the **Schwarzsee** and **Serpiano FM broadcasting stations** with three transmitters each were officially put into operation. They supply the Schwarzsee basin with the DRS 1, DRS 2 and DRS 3 programmes in stereo and Morcote, Vico-Morcote and Melide with the RSI 1, RSI 2 and RSI 3 programmes respectively. The stations had already been on trial operation for a long time. Also in May the **Salen-Reutenen FM station** officially began operating. It broadcasts the DRS 1 programme in stereo with RDS and ARI signals to the western part of the canton of Thurgau. The **Suen FM station** and the **La Forclaz transponder** now transmit the «Couleur 3» programme in stereo throughout the Val d'Hérens.

In the St. Gall **Rosenberg** and **Stephanshorn road tunnels,** the existing tunnel radio installations were expanded to include **Eurosignal.**

For the **B radio paging system** (Ortsruf B), three further stations – **Lachen SZ, Pfäffikon SZ** and **Stäfa** – were set up and put into operation.

Miscellaneous

The **INTELSAT VI F-2** satellite was put into operation by the end of April as the first of the INTELSAT VI series on the 335.5° E orbital position. The change over from the previous INTELSAT VA F-10 satellite to the new one – up to now the world's largest and most powerful type – was effected with practically no interruption. On this occasion 318 carriers with over 35,000 channels were transferred worldwide.

609 delegates from 154 countries assembled at the **Intelsat Global Traffic Meeting** in **Washington, D.C.,** USA. They compiled the traffic previsions for telecommunications via Intelsat satellites. Besides the 5-year plan (1990 to 1994), a long-term forecast until 2004 was drawn up. According to these plans the demand for satellite capacity clearly exceeds the earlier forecasts. Similarly, the change over from analogue to digital services will take place considerably faster than earlier planned.

The **42nd meeting of the technical committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** took place in Stockholm in April. Besides the financial reports from the technical study groups, the discussion regarding the future role of the EBU in the European Common Market after 1992 took special priority. Furthermore, the coding of the Eurovision programmes, the future relationship with the private stations as well as the increasing worldwide cooperation with the other broadcasting unions were dealt with. Moreover the conclusion was reached that High Definition TV (HDTV) will most probably not receive a worldwide standard before the specifications for the fully digitized studios exist.

Credit Cards which have become invalid (e.g. Postomat and Postcheque) can be given in to any Swiss post office. In this way the PTT expects four or five tons of PVC material annually for recycling.