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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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The Swiss PTT Satellite Earth Station for Experiments and Measurements in the 20/30 GHz Frequency Bands

A. Schlaubitz, Berne

The European Olympus research satellite makes it possible for the first time to carry out transmission experiments in the 20 GHz (down link) and 30 GHz (up link) frequency bands with the most modern satellite radio equipment. The author describes the experimental ground station provided for participating in various experiments.

p. 349...354

Automatic Antenna Aiming System for Satellite Ground Stations

H. Tell and H.-P. Petry, Backnang

The author describes a computer based system for the control and tracking of the parabolic antenna of small and medium size satellite earth stations. All the programmes are conceived in such a way as to guarantee a very high level of operation security. The movement of the antenna, for example, can be shown graphically and numerically with or without envelope on a monitor screen in order to assess the aiming precision.

p. 355...364

A Typical Problem for Telephone Users and its Solution

R. Burkhard, Solothurn

A frequent problem in a new telephone installation (PABX) is described from the viewpoint of the customer. The use of hybrid equipment in a services company is then shown. The author explains by means of this practical example how the user can take advantage of the features of a particular installation. The integration of the PABX into the organizational and communications environment of the firm is then presented.

p. 365...369

The Engineer's Profile in Times of Accelerated Technology Change

M. Zellweger, Burgdorf

The change due to technical achievements which touches, determines and influences all areas of our lives is rapidly accelerating. Our society is, to a large extent, dependent on technology. It is more and more difficult to have a clear view of technology because it grows vaster and more extensive. Even a careful consideration of its advantages and its human and ecological compatibility is more and more difficult. In this setting, the profession of an engineer takes a central role which must be taken into consideration in a specific way in the education of engineers. The author shows an engineer's profile which is directed towards withstanding the change and the challenge of our time.

News Items

Telephone

The **Flims-Cassonsgrat wireless subscriber equipment** was replaced by a 1.5 GHz installation. The installation to the **Punteglias Huts of the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC)** has already been replaced.

With the introduction of the new **Telcastar pay telephones,** a remote control, maintenance and administration system (MEMO = **ME**ssage **M**anagement **O**ffice) has been set up in each regional telecommunications office in order to serve as an aid for the efficient operation and maintenance of the pay telephones. The Telcastar apparatuses report situations such as defects, money change, maintenance, etc. to the central system and, in the opposite direction, operation parameters of the terminal such as charges, acceptance or blockage of certain coins, emergency numbers, etc. can be programmed remotely.

Glass fibre cable was blown into the newly laid synthetic tubes in the Basle region in June and July. The Laufen-Breitenbach section (1500 m, laying time 40 min.) and the Rheinfelden test section (3000 m, laying time about 50 min.) were blown in **one** operation each and without intermediate blowing adapter.

Teleinformatics

Two **network transfer parts** from the **Megacom** switched wide band network into the switched **video conference network** were put into operation in the 'Service Centralisateur'. They enable the video conference customer connected to Megacom to book and switch connections to 25 countries.

Radio, Television and Radiocommunications

The **Chur–St. Moritz digital telephony radio link** on 140 Mbit/s was put into operation in July as well as the **Brissago–San Nazzaro digital rural network radio link** with a transmission capacity of 34 Mbit/s. Furthermore a radio link with 4 x 2 Mbit/s was connected between **Le Sépey** and **La Forclaz VD** for a Natel and radio paging base station.

The **Radio Data System (RDS)** was put into operation in the **Ziegelbrücke multipurpose station** on 6 July.

The **new medium wave broadcasting antenna system** was put into operation in **Sottens.** The 188 m high broadcasting tower replaces the MW antenna built in 1947. During the construction phase, the MW programmes of Radio Suisse Romande on 765 kHz were transmitted over the reserve antenna with greatly reduced output.

Miscellaneous

The **solar panels** and the **antenna** of the **Intelsat VI (F-4)** satellite which was brought into orbit on 23 June by a Titan III launch vehicle have been successfully set up in the meantime. The two-month testing period of the telecommunications equipment in orbit began on 2 July. The satellite is in the same position over the Atlantic (332,5° E) as the first satellite **Early Bird** occupied at the time.

The first of a series of **telecommunications satellites of the Eutelsat II type** was transported from the manufacturing firm in Cannes (F) by air to the space centre Kourou in French Guiana where it will undergo final testing before launch.

A **free local call service for parents of hemophiliac children** is being offered by **British Telecom** in England in cooperation with a pharmaceutical firm. This is in order that parents can be reached anytime in emergencies during the time their children are at school without having to stay at home by the telephone which was the case up to now.