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News Items

Telephone

Six more *Natels C base stations* of the phase 3 were put into operation.

The *standardized computer connection (NORA)* was put into operation for the *charge data transmission* between the district operational centre of the Berne telecommunications office and the PTT computer centre (ERZ). Thereby the charge data of all EWSD centrals of the Berne region are sent to the ERZ via Swissnet. It is planned to connect the operational centers of the other seven districts which run EWSD centrals by the beginning of October 1991.

Teleinformatics

The *CORONA System* for the automatic telegramme transmission is now fully operational. It replaces the *ATECO System* which was set up in Zurich-Wiedikon in 1971 as one of the first such systems in Europe for telegramme transmission. After 20 operational years, this takeover was necessary due to technical reasons. During this time, over 50 million telegrams were transmitted, somewhat more than half of which abroad.

The *Telematic Access Processor (TAP)* of the *Telepac* packet-switched system was equipped with a new network and management software. The TAP processors form a common basis in order to offer the telematic services *Videotex*, *CLNS* (Connectionless-mode Network Service), *X.25-SSP* (X.25 Standard Service Profile) and *MAS* (Managed Access Service).

Radio, Television and Radiocommunications

The temporary *Uetliberg-Boswil microwave radio link* was put into operation. It will remain operational until about the middle of 1992 with a transmission capacity of 8 Mbit/s. A radio link (2 Mbit/s) from Roggwil was put into operation for feeding the *Natels C base station in the Belchen tunnel*. This will remain operational until about the end of 1993.

Three permanent speech circuits were set up in the *Intelsat network*: one (TDMA) with *South Africa* via the

Leuk-3A satellite earth station and *Intelsat-Satellite* (60° east) and two with *Uganda* via the *Leuk-2A* earth station and satellite on 335.5° east. 13 permanent speech circuits were set up in the *Eutelsat-network* via the *Leuk-4* satellite earth station and satellite (21.5° east), 12 with *Portugal* and one (TDMA) with *Turkey*.

The *Span-control measuring system* was installed at the *Zurich/Herdern* satellite earth station. It periodically tests the transmitting power (EIRP), the signal to noise ratio on the receiving side as well as the RF spectra of the individual modems. The *national control centre* in Leuk can carry out these measurements by remote control via a telephone line.

The *Beromünster national broadcasting station* began operation 60 years ago.

At the *Brione* and *Monti di Motti* stations three new FM transmitters each were put into operation. They transmit the *RSI 3*, *DRS 1* and *RSR 1* programmes on the 103.7 MHz, 94.7 MHz and 99.4 MHz frequencies or 103.5 MHz, 95.8 MHz and 101.0 MHz frequencies respectively for the *Verzasca* valley. The *Visp-Eggerberg* FM station was also put into operation. Three new transmitters supply the *DRS 1*, *DRS 2* and *DRS 3* programmes on the 88.6 MHz, 94.6 MHz and 108.8 MHz frequencies to *Visp*, to the *Vispertal* up to *Stalden* and to the left side of the *Rhone* valley from *Gamsen* to *Turtig*. Furthermore the newly installed *Cordast* station was inaugurated. It transmits the *DRS 1* (95.7 MHz) and *RSR 1* (89.8 MHz) programmes for the *Freiburg*, *Düdingen*, *Tafers*, *Courtepin*, *Cormondes* agglomeration and further regions along the *N 12* national motorway.

Three further stations for the *local call B* radio paging system were put into operation in the *Laufental*, that is in *Laufen*, *Grellingen* and *Liesberg*. Additional stations were put into operation during the course of the month in *Hölstein*, *Rheinfelden* and in *Wallbach*. Thus the region is almost completely supplied.

Miscellaneous

The *transpacific cable NPC* (North Pacific Cable), over which also the PTT glass fibre link Switzerland-Japan run, is the

shortest connection USA-Japan and has the largest capacity of all the cables in the Pacific, that is to say 17,010 circuits (equivalent to 64 kbit/s each). Over 30 international network operators use this cable.

The *ETSI sub working group TM4* (Digital Radio Relay) met for the fifth time in Venice. Standard outlines for the radio relay system in the 55 and 58 GHz bands were adopted as well as a standard outline for a *SDH* (Synchronous Digital Hierarchy) suitable radio relay system with a 30 MHz channel pattern ratio. No important progress was achieved regarding the *SDH* specifications apart from the fact that some administrations want to use the «section overhead» for the transmission of a 2 Mbit/s service channel. Furthermore, it was determined that under certain conditions the synchronous transmission of 51.8 Mbit/s would be possible.

For the new transmission mode of the *Tour de Suisse*, which was worked out on the occasion of the 700-year anniversary, new mobile transmitting and receiving antennas were developed in the research and development department. Type 1 with a lobe of from 110°...120° will be used on the relay helicopter and enables it to receive at the same time the signal from two cameras on motorcycles and the helicopter camera. Type 2 is a radiator for existing dish antennas and will be used for the stationary reception of the signal transmitted from the relay helicopter.

A «Technical Week» of the *RACE project TELEMED* took place in *Montpellier*. First scientific studies in the field of diagnosis with screen material which is transmitted over international wide band network were presented and results explained. The Swiss *MEGACOM System* has a function as international turntable.

The *ERC* (European Radiocommunication Committee) ad hoc working group *WARC 92* met in *Jukkasjärvi/Kiruna* (S) for the fourth time in order to prepare for the coming *World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 92)* in *Torremolinos* beginning in February, 1992. The *EPC* (European Common Proposals) introduced in Paris in February, 1991, were completed, improved where necessary and prepared for approval for the first week in September, 1991.