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News Items

Telephone

The *Welschenrohr–Zuchwil* microwave radio link was opened for the *district network* with a transmission capacity of 34 Mbit/s, and for the *feeding of Natel C base stations* the *Osterfingen–Trasadingen* and *Dorneck–Langenthal* (4 × 2 Mbit/s each) links were put into operation.

Teleinformatics

For the first time a data transmission leaseline has been set up for a *tunnel supervision* at the *Wattwil detour* with 512 kbit/s throughput for data and image. The in-plant test of the whole network was recently carried out, and the opening of the section is planned for 1 October 1993.

The following leaselines were put into operation via the *leaseline control centre* (LCC): 21 × 64/56 kbit/s, 1 × 128 kbit/s, 2 × 256 kbit/s, 1 × 384 kbit/s, 2 × 512 kbit/s and two analog leaselines.

Radio, Television, Radiocommunications

The following *Intelsat connections* were put into operation via the *Leuk satellite earth station:* one voice circuit of the SSTDMA (Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access) type with *the Arab Emirates* (60° E) and one data circuit of the FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access) type with *Jordan* (335.5° E).

Eleven further *Natel C* and six *Natel D GSM base stations* were put into operation.

Three new *television converters* were put into operation at the *Intschi* station. They supply the village of the same name on the channels 21 (SF DRS), 24 (TSR) and 34 (TSI).

At *Sörenberg,* three further *FM broadcasting stations* were definitely put into operation. They supply the above-mentioned town and the valley between Flühli LU and Sörenberg on the 88.5-MHz (DRS 1), the 90.7-MHz (DRS 2) and the 105.1-MHz (DRS 3) frequency.

The Operation Centre of the *European Broadcasting Union (EBU)* is being transferred from Brussels to Geneva in the course of a restructuring and is accommodated there in a newly constructed building. For this reason the Telecom PTT set up *four microwave radio links for television between the Albis multipurpose station and the operation center of the Union in Geneva,* three of which from Zurich to Geneva and one in the opposite direction, as well as two links for the *supervision of the international Eurovision connections from and to Paris.* Altogether 26 radio link sections were set up for this and put into operation. The definite operation by the EBU has been set for 1 September 1993.

An up-link satellite earth station was put into operation in *Lugano* in order to feed the Italian radio programme *'Radio Maria'* with headquarters in Varese via a Eutelsat satellite (10° E) into the Italian radio network or to be diffused via transposers to the Italian territory, respectively. The transmission capacity of the channel is 256 kbit/s, which enables mono- or stereotransmission.

During the *Television Symposium in Montreux,* the American television broadcast company CNN produced a daily programme in a mobile studio in the Palace Hotel. This was transmitted with Swiss Telecom PTT's 'Flyaway' earth station and the Intelsat satellite (325.5° E), respectively. At the same event two *satellite receivers* were put into operation for demonstration purposes for an exhibitor. Thus two different compressed digital radio signals were received from the Intelsat-K and the Panamsat satellites.

Tunnel radio installations were put into operation at *Martigny (Mont Chemin),* in *Neuenburg (N 5)* and in *Geneva (N 1).* The installations serve the respective cantonal radio services, transmitting the radio programmes RSR 1 with ARI and RDS and assuring the Natel C connections.

The following six towns were equipped for the *Telepage Swiss* radio paging service: *Bibern SH, Engi, Hemmental, Hettlingen, Rueyres* and *Trasadingen.*

Miscellaneous

The problems with the CEPT Tph 28 access for foreign enquiry services were solved in the *electronic telecommunications directories* project. Recently, *Italy* and *Portugal* as well as a *USA telephone company* began using this interface, too. The whole of Western Europe with the exception of Ireland are now making use of it.

The fourth meeting of the *CCIR Study Group TG 8/1* took place in *Montpellier (F).* It dealt with the future worldwide mobile communications systems FPLMTS (Future Public Land Mobile Telecommunications Systems) of the third generation which are to be put into operation from the year 2000. At the meeting a first draft recommendation was produced concerning the application of the frequency bands (1885 to 2025 and 2110 to 2200 MHz), assigned by the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC 92) for this purpose, which leaves many possibilities open.

The responsibility for the *Swiss X.400 directory* and the operation of the X.400 address servers changed hands from Eurosinet Switzerland to the Telecom PTT. The directory contains all known addresses of arCom 400 mailbox users and private management areas PRMD. For the time being, the address server will operate from a platform of the conformity test laboratory OSI-LAB. With the new possibility of self-registration, private administrations can now change their X.400 address records. Besides inquiries with X.400 messages, a X.500 access for directory services is also planned.

An extraordinary meeting of the *CEPT working group FM (Frequency Management)* took place in Reykjavik (Iceland). The aim of the meeting was to discuss the DSI (Detailed Spectrum Investigation) project. This project plans a European harmonization of the spectrum 3.4 to 105 GHz. All comments and suggestions made will be submitted to the ERC (European Radio Communication Committee) in the form of a report.

After more than two years of negotiations, an agreement was signed in *Carcassonne (F)* between *Germany, France, The Netherlands* and *Switzerland* which regulates the distribution and utilization of frequencies in the border areas. It concerns in particular partial areas from the spectrum 440 to 470 MHz. Belgium and Luxembourg were also present at the negotiations.