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News Items

Telephone

The Telecom PTT has introduced the following *new Natel services*: '*Natel C private*', the mobile telephone for customers who wish to call mainly after business hours (with particularly favourable subscriber tariffs and call charges during the low-tariff time, 19.00 to 7.00 hours); '*Combox*', the centrally controlled automatic answering machine for *Natel C*, *Natel C private* customers and, from 1994, also for *Natel D GSM* customers; a *subscription package* for customers who have a *Natel C* as well as a *Natel D GSM* subscription; finally, a quick setting up of a *Natel* subscription within two hours.

A further *Mobile Service Switching Centre*, the *MSC Olten*, was put into operation for *Natel D GSM*. At the same time the *Base Station Controller* (BSC) was switched over from the Lausanne mobile centre to Olten. Subsequently the subscribers of the *Home Location Register* (HLR) in Lausanne were transferred to Olten. Furthermore, a *new Mobile Service Switching Centre for Natel D GSM in AXE-10 technology* was put into operation in the *Zurich-Herdern telecommunications centre* (MSC Zurich). The approximately 2000 subscriber numbers of the Zurich, Rapperswil, Winterthur and St. Gallen offices have been transferred from the Lausanne pilot installation to Zurich. The issuing offices of the *SIM* (*Subscriber Identity Module*) card have access to the authentication centre (AUC) in Zurich. Thus the quick setting up of a mobile subscriber number is possible. The digital transit centres as well as the international centers of Zurich have direct connection with the *Natel D GSM* centres.

Twelve new base stations for *Natel C* and ten for *Natel D GSM* were put into operation.

Teleinformatics

In the last two months the following digital lease lines were put into operation via the *lease line control center* (MLKZ): $28 \times 64/56$ kbit/s, 8×128 kbit/s, 4×384 kbit/s, 1×768 kbit/s, 1×1024 kbit/s, 2×2048 kbit/s, 1×34 Mbit/s and six analogue lease lines.

Radio, Television and Radiocommunications

The following *microwave radio links* were put into operation: the *Biberist-Gerlafingen, Brünggen-Weisslingen, Choulex-Mont-Salève, Dornegg-Thörigen, Elgg center-Elgg base station, Hitzkirch-Herlisberg, Isenberg-Schaffhausen, Jestetten (D)-Schaffhausen, Lucerne-Rigi, Mont-Morello-Stabio Palazetta, Mornetchohp-Nunningen, Moudon-Mont-Pélerin and Montmagny-St-Aubin* links for the supply of *Natel C* base stations with a transmission capacity of 4×2 Mbit/s each; the connection *Fribourg-Cordast-Schiffenen* (4×2 Mbit/s) and a connection in *Winterthur* for leases; the connection *Conthey-Derborence* for a remote unit and *Baden-Geissberg* for supplying a radio station.

The following *satellite links were set up in the Intelsat network* via the *Leuk satellite earth station*: 16 voice circuits of the *FDMA* (*Frequency Division Multiple Access*) type with *Brazil* and six with *Bolivia*, four voice circuits of the *SSTDMA* (*Satellite Switching Time Division Multiple Access*) type with *Malaysia* and two with the *Philippines* as well as four voice circuits of the *SCPC* (*Single Channel Per Carrier*) type with *Cuba* and three with *Zimbabwe*.

The *FM frequency of the DRS 3 program on the Tarasp station* had to be changed from 105.2 to 107.1 MHz for technical reasons.

Recently the *new S Plus television program* has been offered to the cable network operators via the *GAZ* network and is diffused via terrestrial filling transmitters. The high grade of coverage of about 80 % at the time of starting up operations was, in comparison, reached by the first, second and third program chains only after ten years of expansion.

Two new transmitters were put into operation at the *Niederhorn multipurpose station*. They transmit the first *DRS television program* (as on channel 12) on channel 53 and the *S Plus* program on channel 65. They supply large parts of the *Bernese Oberland* region from *Interlaken* to the valleys of *Kander, Simme Lütschine* and *Aare*.

The *tunnel radio* was put into operation with the *opening of the Wattwil bypass route*. Besides the different channels of the cantonal radio network, the reception of the *DRS 1* program on 99.9 MHz is guaranteed in the *Wattwil bypass tunnel*.

The following six towns are now supplied by one transmitter each for *Telepage Swiss*: *Adlemsried, Fraubrunnen, Gais, Schangnau, Welschenrohr, Zurich-Uetliberg, Grimentz, Gyon, Heimenschwand, Krauchthal, Lavigny, Linthal and Mase*.

Three new television transposers were definitely put into operation on the *Ebnet station*. They supply *Ebnet* as well as *Doppleschwand* and *Romoos* on the channels 41 (SF *DRS*), 44 (TRS) and 48 (TSI). Furthermore, three new television transposers were definitely set up on the *Moléson station*. They supply *Moléson Village* and *Crêt-de-la-Ville* on channels 23 (TRS), 26 (SF *DRS*) and 29 (TSI).

Miscellaneous

The *last expansion stage of the Basel city pneumatic post* was put into operation. The computer-controlled installation comprises 46 stations in 26 buildings. The traffic is handled via seven exchange centers and via a pipe network approximately 62 km long.

The *fully automatic pallet and container warehouse of the Telecom PTT* in the technical center in *Berne-Ostermundigen* was put into operation after a 30-day moving phase. The *Telecom central warehouse* is one of the most modern with a storage capacity for 37 000 pallets and 55 000 containers.

The *11th meeting of the CEPT working group Frequency Management (FM)* took place in *Teneriffa (E)*. Already for the third time the working group mainly dealt with the very controversial *DSI* (*Detailed Spectrum Investigation*) project, phase 1 (3400 MHz to 105 GHz). The general recommendations of the *DSI* document were adopted for the *ERC* (*European Radio Committee*). The *DSI* project has not been published outside the *CEPT* countries, as the work group could not yet agree on the future Europe-wide harmonized frequency assignment table.