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SWITZERLAND'S BIG EXPORTS OF MACHINE TOOLS

Switzerland accounts for about 8.5% of the world's total exports of machine tools, coming 4th therefore in this field, of all industrialised countries. In 1967, Swiss exports of machine tools totalled a value of 620.5 million francs compared with 584.8 million in 1966. The four main buyers were West Germany (87.7 million), the United States (82.5 million), France (76.6 million) and Great Britain (69.3 million).

[O.S.E.C.]

A GENEVA FIRM RECEIVES BIG ORDER

The "Union for 50-Cycle Traction", a consortium comprising the Sécheron Engineering Works in Geneva as well as a Swedish and an Austrian firm, received an order from the Yugoslav Railways for 104 5550 h.p. locomotives for single-phase current, 25 kV., 50 cycles. After conclusive trials of the first locomotive, the Yugoslav Railways recently decided to place a further order with the same consortium for 91 identical locomotives. Sécheron's share in this future delivery amounts to over 9 million francs and confirm this Geneva firm's success in the field of electrical traction.

[O.S.E.C.]

A SWISS FIRM PLANS ATOMIC PLANT IN TURKEY

The Swiss engineering consultants firm of Motor Columbus, at Baden, has just signed a contract with the Turkish Ministry for Energy and Natural Resources for the study and drawing up of plans for the first Turkish atomic power plant. The Swiss firm was acting on behalf of a group of engineers comprising a second Swiss firm as well as American, Turkish and German firms. The nuclear power station in question is to develop a power of 300 to 400 MW and to be put into operation in 1976/77.

[O.S.E.C.]

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HYDRAULIC MACHINES

An international Symposium will take place in Lausanne from the 8th to 11th October on the theme "Topical Research on Operational Problems of Hydraulic Machines". This important gathering is organised under the patronage of the Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects, by the "commission for hydraulic machines, equipment and cavitation" of the International Association for Hydraulic Research (IAHR). It will interest above all consultant engineers concerned with projects for hydro-electric schemes, manufacturers of water turbines and pumps, electricity undertakings that are operating or planning hydro-electric schemes, professors in the faculty of hydraulic machines, publishers of technical reviews and representatives of government departments responsible for the utilisation of water power.

[O.S.E.C.]

TEXTILE INSTITUTE JUBILEE AWARD

We have pleasure in announcing that the Council of the Textile Institute has unanimously decided that this year the Jubilee Award of the Institute should be made to Sulzer Brothers Limited for the successful development of the Sulzer Weaving Machine.

This award is presented for outstanding research and invention by teams or groups of research workers, working within any appropriate organisation.

The citation to be inscribed on the Award itself will read: "This Textile Institute Jubilee Award is presented to all members of the staff, both past and present, of Sulzer Brothers Limited, who have contributed to the successful development of the Sulzer weaving machine."

The Award will be handed over to General Director M. Steiner, with Vice-Directors W. Schneider and E. Pfarwaller in attendance. Mr. Mackenzie, Manager of the Weaving Division London, will also be present. This will take place on Friday, 22nd November at the Convocation of the Textile Institute, Friends' Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester 2.

SWISS-AMERICAN CO-OPERATION IN CRYOGENICS

500 Incorporated at Cambridge (United States) — an affiliate of Arthur D. Little Inc. — and Sulzer Brothers Inc., New York — an affiliate company of Sulzer Bros. Ltd., Winterthur — have just signed a collaboration agreement covering the joint development, engineering and sale of liquefiers and closed cycle cryogenic systems throughout the United States and Canada. The Swiss company is backed by decades of experience in the manufacture of conventional refrigerating plant and, since 1952, has been successfully engaged in the construction of cryogenic systems. For example, in the United States it erected the biggest helium liquefier in the world, which, since 1966, has been producing over half a million litres of liquid helium a month, virtually without interruption. As a result of this new agreement, the two firms are in a position to offer the North American market the entire range of cryogenic equipment, from the smallest laboratory unit to the biggest industrial plant.

[O.S.E.C.]

SWISS INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EQUIPMENT OF A FRENCH NUCLEAR POWER STATION

The French Electricity Company "Électricité de France" asked Sulzer Bros. Co. Ltd., at Winterthur, to design a steam generator and a CO₂ blower of semi-axial type with a radial diffuser for the fourth French nuclear power station, at present under construction at St. Laurent-des-Eaux. Once the plans were completed, the actual execution of the project was entrusted to a consortium, of which the Sulzer Process Engineering Company (CCM) in Paris is a member. This order, for which the parent concern in Winterthur will supply the regulating valves, includes the delivery of the same equipment for a second nuclear power station of the same type, to be built at the same place. It should be added that Sulzer is also co-operating in the building of a third station of this kind at Vandellós, in Spain.

[O.S.E.C.]