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## Blackout safety paint launched

A NEW line of fast-drying photoluminescent safety coatings has been announced by Lausanne based Jalite Corp, makers of glow-in-the-dark safety products.

One type is for outdoor use, the other for indoors.

These new water-based paints are easy to apply and are claimed to be economical, due to a higher concentration of pigment.

The new coatings contain a non-toxic, non-radioactive ingredient. They are intended to prevent injury and panic during possible blackouts.

Other features are high resistance to humidity and ultra violet rays. Also, the absence of volatile substances in the paints eliminates health hazards in application and makes them easier to transport and store.

Each of the new coating systems consists of a base coat, a photoluminescent coat and a protective coat all of which may be applied by spray, brush or roller.

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## Ssh! It's the Wenger

THIS is the Swiss-built Wenger 4/1, which is claimed to be the quietest dot matrix printer of its type in the world.

Full ECMA 74 specification

tests with Wenger users throughout Europe produced a noise output level of 48.2 dbA against the German VDE requirement of 55 dbA for working offices.



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## 'People, Ideas, Machines'

THE Swiss Association of Machinery Manufacturers (VSM) has published a brochure with the title "People - Ideas - Machines".

This richly illustrated publication, takes a close look at this most important branch of the Swiss economy.

The booklet sets out to prove by examples that a number of characteristics are typical of the whole industry: quality and precision, reliability and profitability to mention only a few.

The title reflects the fact that we owe technological progress to people who, motivated by their beliefs and ideas, can translate a conviction into reality.

The fruits of their endeavours are machines and equipment, methods and processes without which modern civilisation could not function.

As a classic engineering country, Switzerland has played a key part in technological development. Its engineers and technicians have given their best to exploit new capabilities, especially important because of the country's extensive dependence on exports.

For a country with a domestic market as small as Switzerland's, top-of-the-line performance is essential to beat international competition. This is the best guarantee of value and quality, making Swiss products especially attractive to buyers.



Above: Equipment operator talks to the Swiss Embassy and at the same time typing Mr Powell-Jones' reply. In the picture are (left to right) Mr Pimie, Mr Bordoli, Miss Schwarz, Mr Powell-Jones, Mr Frambourg, Mr Schenk, Mr Muller and Mr Rampolla.

## Road tax approved

IN February 1984 the Swiss electorate approved an annual road tax for coaches, heavy vehicles and cars using Swiss motorways.

The tax, which will probably start in January, will be paid in

advance or at the frontier.

Drivers will receive a wind-screen disc.

Road tax for coaches will be Sfr 500 a year, or possibly pro-rata for shorter periods.

The tax for private cars up to 3.5 tons will be Sfr 30 a year. The duration will possibly be extended to 14 months, starting December 1 till January 31. Trailers and caravans will cost an extra 30 francs a year.

## AGIE double profits

AGIE Industrial Electronics Ltd in Losone showed an excellent result for 1983 with the highest net profit ever - Sfr 6.17 million, more than twice the net profit made the year before, Sfr 2.84 million.

Despite the unfavourable business development during the first quarter, caused by the continuing worldwide reluctance to invest, practically all performance

figures were increased compared to 1982.

The good result was mainly due to rationalisation in processing and acquisition, whereas the price level dropped somewhat in view of the continuing tight competitive situation.

The current business year while still young showed a significantly more favourable initial position than a year earlier.

## Hermes on show

THE British Ambassador to Switzerland, Mr Powell-Jones, visited the Yverdon head office of Hermes recently to see the technology behind some of this country's leading typewriter models.

During his tour Mr Powell-Jones took part in a demonstration of the Hermes Toptronic 51's ability to communicate with other similar models by sending and receiving typed messages between Yverdon and the Swiss Embassy in London.