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Summaries and Notices

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Microclimatic Comfort Criteria for Offices and Workshops

Max Wiederkehr, Berne

Environmental climatic influences determine to a large extent the well-being and work-efficiency of people. Therefore, it is in the interest of both the employer and the employee that, in the planning and execution of buildings, the results of studies in work-hygiene about the effects of microclimatic influences on man should find practical application. The recommended comfort factors gleaned from the relevant literature are assembled for practical use.

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Relay Test Rack EPrG 1/20

André-Paul Meyer, Berne

This rack enables contact performance to be examined in endurance tests. The article describes its main features and applications, such as quality assurance and type approval of relays for switching systems. It is used by both PTT Research and Development and a number of manufacturers.

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The Alarm Facilities of the Fire and Police Departments and of the «Securitas» Guard Service Agency in Basle

Willy Moor, Basle

The reorganization of the Basle City Fire Department in 1970 presented an opportunity for the introduction of a new electronic alarm system as well as new alarm facilities into the city's fire department and medical corps. At the same time additional alarm facilities for the fire departments of the neighbouring communities in the Canton of Basle-Region were hooked up to the city's alarm centre. Because of kindred interests, and since facilities-sharing would permit a sizeable reduction in the number of central supervisory positions, the alarm system has been enlarged to serve the police department and the «Securitas» as well. The article gives an idea of the conception, layout and functioning of the system.

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National and International Information Services

Werner Jucker, Berne

The author emphasizes the importance of the information services and describes their organization in Switzerland. The requirements placed on the personnel as well as the necessary reference material are touched on. In conclusion possible future developments are considered.

News Items

Posts

In 1975, **Swiss Postbuses** travelled 40 million kilometres, the equivalent of 1000 trips around the world. The number of passengers rose by 1 pc to 53.4 million, and the operating income went up by 2.3 pc to 69.9 million francs.

Telephone

Recorded information on exhibitions, trade fairs and other events is being made available **over No 188** throughout Switzerland. The service can already be dialled in Basle, Zurich and St. Gall.

Exchange Rates, No 160, was dialled 1.1 million times, an average of 26,000 times weekly, from its opening on 15 March 1975 to the end of the year.

The Helping Hand, No 143, was opened in network groups Bienne, Solothurn, Delémont, Neuchâtel and La Chaux-de-Fonds on 2 February 1976.

At the end of last year, **international subscriber dialling** was available from 804 exchanges serving 2,521,170 customers (90.5 pc).

In 1975, 163 **new exchanges or extensions** came into operation, increasing the capacity of the system by 300,570 to 3,374,960 lines.

A total of **82,533 PBXs** with 198,976 exchange lines and 1,421,227 extensions were in operation at the end of last year.

International circuits from and to Switzerland increased by 1301 to 8083 in 1975. Of these, 342 are intercontinental, routed over cable (160), satellite (173, including 10 SPADE), and radio (9).

There was a marked **drop in the turnover of telephone operators** last year, with 437 (1974: 665) joining and 462 (716) leaving the PTT.

Telegraph, Telex

In January the **ATECO system** handled 242,742 telegrams, 18 pc less than in the same month of last year.

Telex service to Afghanistan has been opened via the Zurich operator position.

Radio, Television

In 1975, **radio transmitting licences** increased by 25 pc to 39,758 and licensees' transceivers rose by 18 pc to 95,861. **Radio-paging** receivers went up by 57 to 6299.

Last year, 8446 instances of **radio and television interference** were reported to the PTT. They concerned radio broadcast reception (2183), TV reception (6091) and other ra-

dio services (172). The number of complaints per 1000 licence holders was 1.05 for radio and 3.46 for television.

During last year's **ITU Regional Administrative LS-MS Broadcasting Conference** at Geneva the Swiss delegation made use of the PTT's **APL computer programs** to assess the effects of proposals on the operation of Switzerland's transmitters. The facility was also made available to the delegations of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Austria and Sweden, who shared 5 APL terminals between them.

During the **Winter Olympics**, Switzerland was linked to Innsbruck by 2 video, 2 sound, 8 four-wire and 2 control circuits. One video, 1 sound and 1 fourwire circuit to Zurich-Albis were rented by EBU, 6 four-wire and 2 control circuits by SBC.

A **CATV microwave supply circuit** relaying programmes France 2 and 3 as well as Germany 1 and 2 has come into operation in canton Valais.

Miscellaneous

Last year Swiss PTT Telecommunications placed with its contractors **17,283 orders totalling 706,325,213 francs**.