

Summaries and notices

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Summaries

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Durability of Stationary Lead Accumulators under Constant Voltage

Th. Gerber, Ittigen

The present article submits results of comparative tests on the tubular plate and large surface accumulators. The tests are run to determine the storage capacity, the current and the water consumption at various constant voltages. Further, the paper discusses the implications of several lead alloys, acid concentration and synthetic material. Special consideration is given to the cell voltage differences and fluctuations.

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Integrated Telecommunication System (IFS): The Status of the New Project

R. Trachsel, P. Bachofner and J.-F. Bütikofer, Berne

The transition of the analogue to digital technique in the Swiss telecommunication network started with the introduction of PCM transmission links at the end of 1960s. The adaptation of the digital exchanges is the next step starting from 1986. The newly defined IFS project is based on three systems: EWSD from Siemens, 1240 from ITT and AXE from LM Ericsson. They are represented by Siemens-Albis, Standard Telephone and Radio, and Hasler. These systems have to be coordinated to meet specific national requirements. The main emphasis shift to manufacturing for the Swiss telecommunication industry. The users are offered new services, including the possible benefits of ISDN. Better quality and somewhat lower tariffs are expected. The introduction of digital exchanges will take place in three phases. Maintenance and operation costs will be lower in the long term, although the demand for personnel will increase at the initial phase.

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The first Digital Switching Exchange EWSD in Switzerland

P. Lauper, Berne

In October 1981, the PTT signed a contract for an intercontinental exchange of digital switching technique to be located at Zurich-Herdern. It is the first digital exchange in the public telephone network in

Switzerland. The main EWSD design of Siemens Co in Munich was adapted to the national requirements by Siemens-Albis Co, Zurich. The system was installed,

tested and handed over to Swiss PTT in its modified form in December 1983. The EWSD exchange was taken into operation on 27 August 1984.

News Items

Telephone

The PTT has introduced the **first digital 565 Mbit/s transmission system** over ordinary coaxial cable. The equipment supports simultaneous transmission of 7680 telephone calls between Zurich and Winterthur.

A private company in Geneva has taken into operation the **first digital PABX SL1** with 100 main lines for 800 subscriber sets.

Three telephone circuits with **Egypt** as well as with **Peru** were connected in September via **Leuk earth station**. Thus, 883 satellite circuits are in regular operation over Leuk.

Teleinformatics

The **bureaufax service** was extended to **Antigua** and **Iceland**. It is offered to 43 countries from Switzerland.

In the first half of 1984, subscribers were provided with 2928 **telex SP 300 sets** by the PTT district offices. 2617 are employed in the telex network. 83 pc of SP 300 are equipped with message storage capability. About 51 pc of electronic sets are used in the telex network.

Telex traffic was opened with **Diego Garcia** island in Indian Ocean over the manual exchange of Radio-Suisse Ltd.

The **2nd Swiss Videotex Congress** took place in September in Basle. It was attended by 600 participants while 49 firms exhibited their products.

Radio, Television

Swiss PTT concluded an agreement with the respective organizations of **German Democratic Republic** and **Yugoslavia** to tentatively provide the **Monte Ceneri-Cima** station for medium frequency broadcasting for 24 hours a day during half a year (formerly from 06.00-01.00). This is agreed on condition not to interfere in the 558 kHz transmission of night programmes of these two countries.

The radio-relay equipment of the **Basle-Stuttgart** link was transferred to the new **multipurpose Saint-Chrischona station**. This removes the last of 16 stations for telephone, television and CATV connections.

Miscellaneous

At the end of September, the PTT gave two **press conferences** in Zurich. The technical press was introduced to the first **EWSD exchange Zurich-Herdern** and the **first digital 565 Mbit/s transmission system**. The daily press was presented with the new series of telephone set **TS 85**, the radio telephone **Radiotel** as well as with the **mobile customer service van**.

Several **storms and wet snow falls** at the end of August and the beginning of September influenced the radio and TV reception quality as well as the telephone traffic in the canton of **Grisons, Valais and Neuenburg**.