

Summaries and notices

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Wireless distribution of foreign television programmes in the Alpine region

E. Schwarz, Berne, and U. Hofer, Chur

After the realization of the wireless distribution of national television programmes, there are still channels available due to the topography of the mountain regions. This allows to enlarge the supply of programmes although in a limited scope. The authors describe the criteria and the requirements necessary to the enlarged programme broadcasting. Furthermore, they show the present state of development and the future limits of such distribution efforts (DRAVAP).

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Access to directory service by videotex users

J.-J. Jaquier and B. Zürcher, Berne

Access to directory information by «electronic directory» is an application area of great interest to the general public. The authors describe the solutions for a short-term realization in the context of the Swiss videotex. The experience gained in the pilot project is based on the application of a converter between the Terco information system, which is an operator-assisted directory service via telephone number 111, and the videotex exchange. The successful demonstration allows for fast operational realization. The advantages and the limits of this approach are briefly stated.

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The comfortable teleprinter PACT 250

R. Diriwächter, Berne

The PTT selected the teleprinter PACT 250 from Philips in the autumn 1985. In an extended pilot trial, it was tested in all Switzerland at the beginning of 1986. The introduction of this elegant set is planned for the second half of 1986.

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Introduction of universal concentrators for optimal access to informatics services

A. Blum and A. Ruf, Berne

As a basis to the optimization of access technique for informatics services a solu-

tion of a universal concentrator was worked out employable to X.25, X.28, videotex as well as to future requirements. After a short problem definition, the adopted solution was presented

which is different from X.75 access technique of the telepac transport network. A brief description outlines the state of realization and the perspectives of the universal concentrators.

News Items

Telephone

On 1 October, Zurich regional telecommunications directorate took into operation a **new wake-up service equipment with a storage capacity of 21 000 requests**.

The PTT is conducting an operational trial with the **new subscriber set Tritel 'Zug'** having a built-in modem FW 1200 with an interface CCITT V.24 at the regional telecommunications directorates of Basle, Berne, Lausanne, St. Gallen and Zurich.

The PTT agreed to take over a share in the Eastern Mediterranean submarine optical cable system at an investment of 9.5 million Swiss francs. This **acquisition provides 65 channels with Greece, 61 channels with Turkey and 107 channels with Israel at a rate of 64 kbit/s per channel**.

Teleinformatics

The **bureaufax service** was extended to **Malta** on 13 October. This service is offered to 61 countries from Switzerland.

Further **180 telex subscribers from the Principality of Liechtenstein** have now access to the **telex and data switching system EDW**.

The **'Videotelex' operational trials** will provide a new PTT service for processing and transmission of telex messages via videotex. This new application will be available around the clock to all videotex subscribers in Switzerland as well as in several other European countries.

Radio, Television

The PTT and the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation issued the **2.5 millionth radio broadcasting receiving license** on 28 November.

The PTT supplied the necessary **video and sound links** for the **first direct transmission from an airline**.

The **improved transmission units developed** by the PTT up to **manufacturing quality**, allow **simultaneous transmission of two TV programmes on the CATV** basic network. These units will now be **serially** produced and can be delivered from the first half on 1987 onwards.

An **Intelsat earth station for IBS** (Intelsat Business Service) came into operation in **Geneva/Vernier** in October. It covers special requirements for digital telecommunication services only between the **USA and Switzerland** at first. The Swiss customers have access to this service via the domestic PCM network. Seven temporary circuits have been in operation since October. The PTT held recently a press conference on this topic.

On **Zurichberg**, a further **VHF simplex relay** came into operation serving radio-telephone connections between fixed and mobile stations. This service is not connected to the public switched network.

Miscellaneous

The PTT endorses the **certificate of the Swiss Association for Quality Assurance** to support the efforts in this area.

The PTT renewed the **agreement with the Swiss Press Agency for the provision of telephone service**. The lump-sum reimbursement was raised from 276 000 to 444 000 Swiss francs yearly.