Zeitschrift: Technische Mitteilungen / Schweizerische Post-, Telefon- und Telegrafenbetriebe = Bulletin technique / Entreprise des postes, téléphones et télégraphes suisses = Bollettino tecnico / Azienda delle poste, dei telefoni e dei telegrafi svizzeri

Herausgeber: Schweizerische Post-, Telefon- und Telegrafenbetriebe

Band: 64 (1986)

Heft: 4

Rubrik: Summaries and notices

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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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Introduction of the cordless telephone

R. von Allmen, Berne

In the cordless telephone, a duplex radio link replaces the connecting cable between the set and the microtelephone. It allows the user to establish telephone calls with the portable handset (microtelephone) to a distance of 200 m from the base set. The article shows the problems evolving from the introduction of such a set by the PTT. The performance characteristics of the provisional model Radiotel are given. The final Portatel set is also described.

p. 166...182

Digital coding of speech and music signals and their qualitative assessment by computer

R. Mury, Berne

In a concise form the article presents a general view of the essential processing technique for digital compression of speech and music signals. It refers to the speech synthesis that can be used in the automatization of the PTT's customer information service. Also, a brief description is presented concerning the basic concepts of coding methods most often used in telecommunications. Then, an outline is given of the hardware and software structures on which this study of signal compression algorithms is based. The article concludes with a partial description of specifications for subjective tests and the conditions of recording, processing and listening to the qualitative assessment of speech samples.

p. 183...214

Standardization of protocols for data communications: the OSI reference model for the interconnection of open systems

J.-J. Jaquier, Berne

The author describes the basic characteristics of the International Standards Organization's (ISO) Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Reference Model. The historical origin and the basic principles of the model are presented after a short description of the problems of ensuring compatibility between teleinformatics systems. The seven layered structure and the corresponding protocols are briefly treated. The status of the work at the end of 1984 is outlined.

p. 215...222

Teletex service and its communications protocols

R. Stadler, Berne

The teletex service is well exemplifying the application of the basic principles of the ISO reference model. All the seven layers of the model must be treated by both communications partners in order to transmit a text. The network specified layers from 1 to 3 support the transportation and the service specified layers from 4 to 7 the terminal.

News Items

Telephone

The **first automatic trunk-line announcement service** (Atlas), developed by Standard Telephone & Radio Co and Zellweger Uster Co, came into operation in Zurich. In case of a **change of the telephone number, it announces automatically the new number to the calling party.**

A **comparison** of the **lowered international tariffs,** introduced since 1 February in Switzerland, **with corresponding foreign tariffs** shows that the call charges are still rather high considering the exchange rate. But they are generally lower than in foreign countries if the cost of labour is taken into account.

The **International Direct Dialling** (IDD) was extended to **Rumania, Sudan, Mauretania.**

Teleinformatics

With the inclusion of further seven insular states, Switzerland is connected via **automatic telex service** with a **total of 204 countries and territories,** of which 168 in overseas. The PTT provides Columbia, Jordan and Uruguay with telex service. These were till now switched by Radio Suisse Ltd.

The **public Bureaufax service** was introduced to Kaiman islands and Papua New Guinea, the 60th and the 61st country, respectively.

Radio, Television

The regional **radio for the German and Raeto-Romansch languages** (DRS) of the **Swiss Broadcasting Corporation** transmitted a **world-novelty,** a **quadrophonic programme**, on 23 March. This was at the occasion of a HiFi evening when the two stereo programmes of DRS-1 and DRS-2 were jointly broadcast.

From mid-1986 onwards, the **4th foreign TV programme** of «rai uno» transmitted via satellite will be distributed to the **Upper Engadine** by the private Tele Raetia Co.

Miscellaneous

The **PTT's 1985 accounts** closed with a **profit of 360 million francs,** of which 190 million francs shall be kept in the PTT's reserve account and 170 million francs will be turned over to the federal treasury. The **investment of 2094 million francs** will be self-financed.

In 1985, the **17 PTT regional telecommunication directorates** employed **16 306 personnel**, 293 more than the year before.

Since 1980, the PTT Research and Development Division had conducted **measurements on transmission quality of several digital radio relay links**. The evaluated statistics will provide guidance to the planning and to the technical specification of the equipment.

In January, a **baseline specification** was issued for the **1st stage of the Swissnet,** which will be the precursor from 1988 onwards to the future ISDN. It characterized the functional requirements and it will constitute, among others, the basis for the preparation of detailed specifications.

The PTT made available a videoconference system to the **International Management Symposium.** The videoconferences took place with Moscow, Washington and Geneva, among others. Further, the symposium drew a busy telecommunications traffic.

A **blizzard** caused numerous impairment and interruptions in telephone lines as well as radio and television transmission mostly to the **southern part of Switzerland** and several valleys at the end of January/beginning of February.