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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

p. 218...235

Centralized operation of IFS digital exchanges

J. Röthlisberger, Berne

The exchanges of the future telecommunications network IFS are based on the systems AXE 10, EWSD, and System 12 supplied by Hasler, Siemens-Albis, and Standard Telephone and Radio in Switzerland. The author describes the proposed measures at the PTT regional telecommunications directorates who will ensure operation of these new digital exchanges. He deals especially with the aspects of change from local to centralized operation of IFS digital exchanges such as task area, organization, personnel employment and requirement as well as duration of training.

p. 236...242

Protocol of group 3 telefax

R. Stadler, Berne

On the basis of a simple example, the author presents the protocol procedures between stations of group 3 telefax service. The five phases required for transmission of documents are mentioned.

p. 243...255

The digital exchange AXE 10 for Switzerland

W. Kreis, Berne

Besides a description of the most important system parameters and applications of the digital exchange AXE 10, the article illustrates the future development of the noteworthy system structure and the modular characteristics. It deals further with the basic methods and organization of the operating and maintenance system. It ends with a preview on the new functions planned for the next years.

p. 256...261

Equipment for technical operation in the warehouse for store and transport services

R. Remund, Berne

The new warehouse was constructed at the Lucerne regional telecommunications directorate at Kriens at the end of 1986 for store and transport services. The article describes different operating equipment and some problem areas of project management.

News Items

Telephone

In **Lucerne**, the **first Swiss digital local exchange** cut in on 27 March. It connects 7000 digital subscribers telephone circuits.

Swiss subscribers exchanged last year **151 087 or double as many plug-in telephone sets as in 1985 over the sales counter** at the PTT regional telecommunication directorates.

The **International Direct Dialling** (IDD) was extended **to Solomon Islands** on 1 April.

In the first quarter of 1987, a capacity of **12 390 new subscriber lines** with new equipment and extension were procured for the telephone exchanges.

Teleinformatics

Publifax is the new name for the public facsimile service (until now Bureaufax) from 1 April onwards. This is due to increased difficulty with the former name.

In **most of the telgram offices, telefax booths** are available to the customers for self-service from 1 April.

Publifax came into operation **with New Caledonia, Trinidad, and Tobago** on 1 April. Thus the number of countries participating with Switzerland increased to 63.

The **telepac (packet switching network) service** was recently opened from Switzerland to **Argentina, the USA, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Puerto Rico and Taiwan**.

Teletex service was extended **to Netherlands** in the month of February.

The PTT introduced for the first time successfully **14 videotex terminals at the Engadine Ski marathon**. The participants at the competition received quickly their running time and rank after submitting their start number or name at the terminals thanks to the computer evaluation of the score by Helvetia insurance.

Radio, Television

The Swiss federal transport communications and energy department permitted distribution of the **Satellite TV programmes «The Arts Channel», «Life-Style» and «Screensport»** to the Swiss CATV networks. Also, the radio programme «Voice of America» is released. Thus, already 14 radio programmes are allowed for CATV distribution.

From 1 July **rates will be much reduced for the reception of broadcast programmes via telecommunication satellites**.

The second session of the **World Administrative Radio Conference** for the planning of the HF bands allocated to the broadcasting service – **HFBC** (2) took place from 2 February to 6 March 1987 **in Geneva**. The recommendation of the conference to the administrations is to install only transmitters suitable for single sideband (SSB) from 1990 onwards. From the year 2015 radio programmes shall be transmitted only with the SSB technique at the HF bands. A further conference in 1992 will decide whether and to what extent an improved, computer supported planning system can be employed.

Miscellaneous

In 1986, the **volume of PTT business** increased by 4.1 pc, **telecommunications service** with a record increase of 5.4 pc, but **postal service** with a decrease of 2.7 pc. The highest rate of increase just as in the previous year was in the telephone traffic with foreign countries (9.9 pc). The **cost coverage index** reached 108 pc overall, telecommunication services 119 pc (1985: 120 pc) which includes telephone 120 pc, teleinformatics 121 pc, wire radio broadcasting 74 pc, radio 109 pc, television 109 pc and postal service 90 pc (1985: 87 pc).

Since mid-March the PTT has been offering its customers with **Telegiro** (remittance via data transmission) a new service free of charge. It permits **transfers to around 4.5 million postcheque accounts in the Federal Republic of Germany and to West Berlin**.