

Digital Teleconference

An innovative application of digital technology was introduced by Teleglobe Canada recently with the launching of Confratel, the world's first intercontinental digital teleconference service. Customers in Canada and Britain are linked through full motion, two-way colour, video and voice communication, as well as a variety of audio-visual aids. Using digital video compression, the Teleglobe service uses less satellite capacity than other services, resulting in savings for customers.

Digital Products

Commitment to state-of-the-art telecommunications has enabled Canada to achieve international recognition as a major producer of communications equipment, especially of digital switches and digital transmission systems.

Northern Telecom, the country's leading telecommunications manufacturer, is one of the largest suppliers of fully digital switching systems in the world. Northern Telecom has two major digital product lines: the Digital Multiplex System (DMS) — a central office switching and transmission system; and the

SL Family of digital business communications systems. These products are among the most advanced of their kind. The SL-1, a particularly popular private branch exchange (PBX) used to control the internal communications networks of organizations, has been sold in 40 countries. The SL-10 is a digital packet switching system for data communications. Telecom C, Canada's Datapac network, employs SL-10 machines for its switching nodes. A number of other countries, including West Germany, Austria and Switzerland, have also selected the SL-10 for their national packet switching data networks.

Northern Telecom's DMS (Digital Multiplex Systems) Family of central office switches are widely used by telephone companies for local, long-distance and international switching.

Another Canadian company with an international reputation in telephones and switching systems is Mitel Corporation of Kanata (near Ottawa). Mitel recently introduced its first fully digital switching system, the SX-2000, a private automatic branch exchange (PABX), which can support from 150 to 10 000 lines. The SX-2000 has already met the rigorous standards of British Telecom, the principal operator of the United Kingdom's public telecommunications services, and has been approved for use in the UK — a sign that the system is likely to be well received elsewhere abroad.

AEL Microtel, a subsidiary of the British Columbia Telephone company, is another major producer of digital switching equipment. The company was selected to install what is described as the largest local digital network in the world, near Quebec City, on behalf of Quebec Telephone Company.

The Government of Canada Switches to Digital -Enhanced Exchange Wide Deal Service (EEWD)

The government of Canada is upgrading its telephone service in the national capital region to state-of-the-art digital technology through what is called Enhanced Exchange Wide Deal Service (EEWD). The service involves modern digital switching equipment, 100 per cent Canadian, that will permit integrated office communications systems to meet both voice and data requirements.

Early in 1984, three SL-100 private branch exchanges, manufactured by Northern Telecom Ltd., were installed in the Ottawa-Hull government exchanges, significantly improving the switching, transmission quality, reliability and administration of inter-city services. Local improvements such as call transfer, consultation hold and three-party conference are being phased in. The full range of EEWD station features, including touchtone sets and call-forward, will be available by the end of 1985. Through the new service, calls can be processed more efficiently, internal communications are improved and service to the public is enhanced.

