

2.3.2.2 Packet-switching services

Concluded in 1984 Embratel's nationwide CCITT-standard X.25 packet-switched network and service, Renpac (with dedicated and switched accesses via telephone and the telex networks) has presently over 14,000 installed port capacity and approximately 4,000 ports in service.

Typical applications are short file transfers and inquiries, and the main users are also from finance, retail and manufacturing industries. It can be said that the Renpac service has not yet realized its full market potential, due mainly to the fact that SNA connectivity has not been supported and investments have been based on the availability of local Compac technology products.

Forecasting growth in the demand for packet-switching services, (as downsizing, distribution and the microcomputer bases develop), Embratel has just contracted over 100 new centers, totaling 15,000 ports, to be operational in early 1994, featuring extensive SNA support.

Although Resolution 525/88 explicitly refers to only the decentralization of the leased-circuit service to the telcos, 6 of them are in the process of building their own state-level packet-switching networks. If their current market plans are implemented, the total number of public packet-switching ports will exceed 80,000 by 1994. These plans and the level of integration or competition with Embratel are currently being examined by Telebras.

International packet-switched access to various countries (agreements with MCI and AT&T) is provided by the Interdata service, which has been growing at an annual rate of 20% over the last 2 years.

Table 3 - Packet Switching Service Figures shows Embratel's 1991-effective and forecasted number of installed network ports and the associated investments in the 1992-1996 period.

Table 3 - Packet Switching Service Figures

<u>Year</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>
Renpac Ports (10 ³)	12.5	15.7	25.6	39.3	53.1	71.3
Investments (US\$ Million)	23	23.2	56.7	32.2	74.9	25.3