SWITCH

Address:
SWITCH Geschaeftsstelle
ETH-Zentrum
CH-8092 Zurich
SWITZERLAND

E-mail: ch-zone-contact@verw.switch.ch

Phone: +41 1 261 8188

Description

SWITCH is a foundation, sponsored by the government and the Swiss universities, providing teleinformatics services to all Swiss universities and to various research institutes by connecting to national and international resources. SWITCH started operation in October 1988.

SWITCHlan is a national backbone network which connects all universities using leased lines with speeds between 128kbit/s and 2Mbit/s. For routing on these national leased lines SWITCH uses CISCO router-bridges. The protocols supported are DECnet, TCP/IP, X.25 and ISO IP.

All Swiss supercomputers are connected to SWITCHlan. Access to some library catalogs will become available later on.

International connections on the network level will go into operation in January 1990:

- IP connection to CERN with 128kbit/s.
- IP connection to the Internet/NSFnet with 64kbit/s through INRIA, France to Princeton University, USA.

A connection to the COSINE/IXI pilot X.25 network will be realized in the first quarter of 1990.

SWITCHmail is the national X.400 MHS network which connects the universities and research institutes to the ADMD of the Swiss PTT and through RARE MHS to research MHS networks in 19 countries. Gateways to EARN/BITNET, EUnet/UUCP and Internet are offered by SWITCH too.

In RARE (Reseaux Associes pour la Recherche Europeenne, European research network organisation), SWITCH is an active partner in the RARE MHS pilot project and it will participate in the pilot X.500 Directory Service project and in the COSINE Information Service project.

Network Access

Any host on the network of a member organization may access the network.

Who Can Use the Network

SWITCH networks can only be used for academic and research traffic.

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Miscellaneous Information

Fax number: +41 1 261 8133