

Mobile quality assurance in telecommunications and data networks

■ Productronica 2001, Munich — Rohde & Schwarz has concluded a sales agreement with PLLB, the Italian manufacturer of test and measurement products. In future, Rohde & Schwarz will market PLLB's equipment for communications and networks in both Germany and Spain. The products involved focus on mobile and stationary test, measurement and monitoring systems for telecommunications networks and their components. In the case of roaming agreements or cooperations between various operators, these products enable the quality of the entire transmission link and any weak points to be determined immediately.

The mobile measurement systems from PLLB complement the range of Rohde & Schwarz products for fixed networks. The systems from PLLB can monitor the service quality of the entire network, including the fixed network, thus supplementing the coverage measurement systems, which primarily measure radio-network quality at the air interface. The new range of products – which is currently marketed in Germany and Spain – extends from measurement systems for GSM, ATM, SDH/PDH, right through to monitoring systems for fiber-optic cable networks. The products are aimed mainly at mobile radio and network operators, infrastructure providers, and manufacturers.

The portable systems with PJ platform are used to monitor faults or weak points in telecommunications networks such as GSM or PDH/SDH/OTN networks, and determine the service quality of the entire transmission link. This is particularly important where several networks belonging to different providers are interlinked, as is the case with roaming agreements or cooperations. Thanks to the multiport and multichannel capability of the PJB system, critical situations can also be simulated on network components. In addition, systems are available which allow worldwide uniform, ITU-conformal checking of such interlinked networks for synchronism with rubidium accuracy. In this way, coverage

bottlenecks can be determined and eliminated at an early stage so that users do not have to suffer poor quality.

Measurement systems for data transmission networks are another key element in the new range of products. The Fibersafe early-warning system now provides a unique monitoring system for fiber-optic networks. It signals and localizes transmission errors during operation and represents them graphically on a map, thus ensuring error-free operation. Another new measurement solution is the QSA, a cross-manufacturer monitoring system for ATM networks, which determines the current performance in realtime, enabling optimized planning of network resources.

PLLB Elettronica SpA

PLLB Elettronica Spa is a leading European company supplying solutions for testing, monitoring and measurements of optical and wireless networks service quality. Its systems and instruments are chiefly utilized by telecom operators, who use them to qualify, test and maintain their networks, by manufacturers, who use them in their laboratories and test lines, and by value added resellers. With 190 employees, PLLB registered a turnover of 20 million Euro in 2000. The company invests about 20% of its annual turnover in research and development. Recently the ETF Group, the venture capital company founded by Giorgio Ronchi, become part of the capital of PLLB in order to improve the company's penetration in international markets.

Rohde & Schwarz

The Rohde & Schwarz group of companies with headquarters in Munich develops, produces and markets communications and T&M instruments and systems with the emphasis on mobile radio, broadcasting, EMC measurements, general-purpose and RF test equipment, radiomonitoring and radiolocation, radiocommunications as well as communication security. Rohde & Schwarz has subsidiaries and representatives in over 70 countries. The group with its 5.000 employees achieves an annual turnover in excess of 800 million Euro worldwide.

All press releases are available on Internet at <http://www.press.rohde-schwarz.com>.