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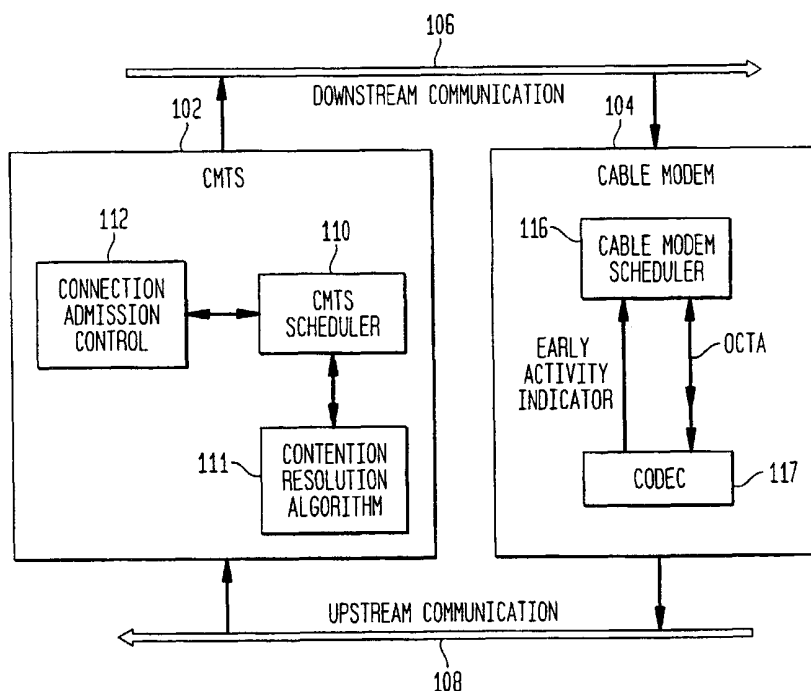
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SUPPRESSING SILENCE IN VOICE TRAFFIC OVER AN ASYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION MEDIUM



(57) Abstract: A method and system for increasing the efficiency of providing bandwidth for voice traffic to a data provider via an asynchronous communication medium are provided. This is generally accomplished by not transmitting any data during the silence periods and playing out background noise (i.e., comfort noise) at the other end, to obtain significant bandwidth savings.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H04L12/00 H04L12/56

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04L H04Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CABLE TELEVISION LABS: "Data-Over-Cable Service Interface Specifications", 'Online! 31 July 1999 (1999-07-31), XP002180985 Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://www.tcon1.com/ljkleens/DOCSIS.pdf> 'retrieved on 2001-10-23! paragraph '8.2.3! paragraph '08.3! paragraph 'OM.2!	1-23
A	EP 0 844 803 A (AT & T CORP) 27 May 1998 (1998-05-27) column 8, line 7 - line 25	1
A	EP 0 912 016 A (LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC) 28 April 1999 (1999-04-28) abstract	24

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- *Z* document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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