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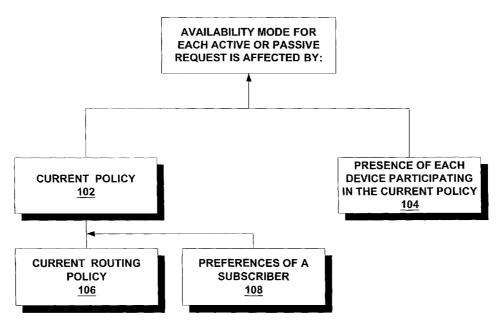
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(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS AVAILABILITY



(57) Abstract: Subscribers are able to selectively reveal their availability for communication to various entities, based on the interaction of one or more customizable policies, preferences and active status of communicating devices. Availability status software comprising one or more agents determines and indicates the availability mode of specifically identified entities. Subscribers are able to establish a personal agent and control policies and preferences remotely using, for example, an internet connected computer-based device. Alternatively, service providers are able to modify the content of the agent of behalft of their subscribers in accordance with predetermined communication preferences (automatic or defined by subscribers).



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