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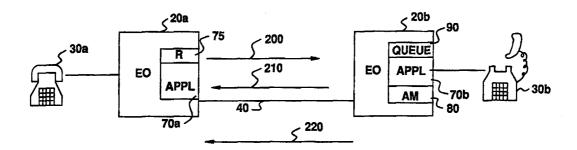
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(54) Title: HOLDING PARTY CALL BACK SUBSCRIBER FEATURE



(57) Abstract

A first subscriber (30a) activates a hold call back subscriber feature in response to a second subscriber (30b) placing the first subscriber on call hold. After the activation, the first subscriber goes onhook. When the second subscriber later wishes to take the first subscriber off of call hold, a first end office (20a) serving the first subscriber recognizes the second subscriber's action and accordingly alerts the first subscriber back. Upon answering the ring back, a call connection is re-established between the first subscriber and the second subscriber. A connection-less signal is communicated between the first end office and a second end office (20b) serving the second subscriber to queue, monitor, and inform the second subscriber's action. Upon receiving a connection-less signal from the second office indicating that the second subscriber wishes to take the first subscriber off of call hold, the first end office originates another call setup request towards the second subscriber.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
-IPC 6 H04M3/48 H04M H04M3/42 H04M3/00 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 6 H04M 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) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Category ^o Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 5 436 967 A (HANSON THOMAS C) 25 July 1-5, X 8-12,17,1995 18 see column 2, line 19 - line 55 X PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1-3,11,vol. 010, no. 376 (E-464), 13 December 12,17,18 1986 & JP 61 167258 A (SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD), 28 July 1986, see abstract χ WO 95 17790 A (GTE LABORATORIES INC) 29 1-3, 1112,17,18 June 1995 see page 1, line 22 - page 2, line 12 US 4 834 551 A (KATZ JAMES E) 30 May 1989 Α Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the citation or other special reason (as specified) document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of theinternational search Date of mailing of the international search report 6 May 1998 13/05/1998 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Vandevenne, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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Information on patent family members

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