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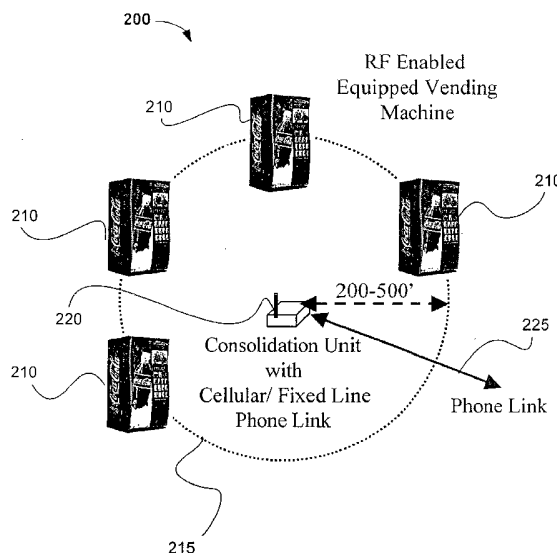
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(54) Title: WIRELESS VENDING COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract: A system includes a plurality of vending machines communicating wirelessly with a centralized consolidation unit. The consolidation unit communicates via a pre-established communications network, such as a wired or wireless telephone network with a data collection center. A method of polling a vending machine having a wireless transceiver includes sending a first wireless signal to the wireless transceiver of the vending machine, the first signal soliciting a status response from the vending machine, and receiving a second wireless signal from the transceiver of the vending machine, the second signal including the status response which includes information pertaining to a status of the vending machine. The status information may pertain to an inventory level, money deposits, maintenance status or security status of the vending machine.

WO 2004/006546 A3



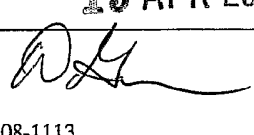
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IPC(7) : G06F 17/00		
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<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 700/236, 241, 244		
Documentation searched other 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 practicable, search terms used)		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,844,808 A (KONSMO et al.) 1 December 1998, column 6 thru column 12.	1-10, 12-14, 17-25
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Y		11, 15, 16
X	US 6,356,795 B1 (PERIN, JR. et al.) 12 March 2002, column 19, lines 55 thru column 20, line 4.	1, 10, 13, 16
A	US 6,339,731 B1 (MORRIS et al.) 15 January 2002.	1-25
A	US 6,115,649 A (SAKATA) 5 September 2000.	1-15
A	US 6,191,981 B1 (VARGA et al.) 30 January 2001	1-25
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