



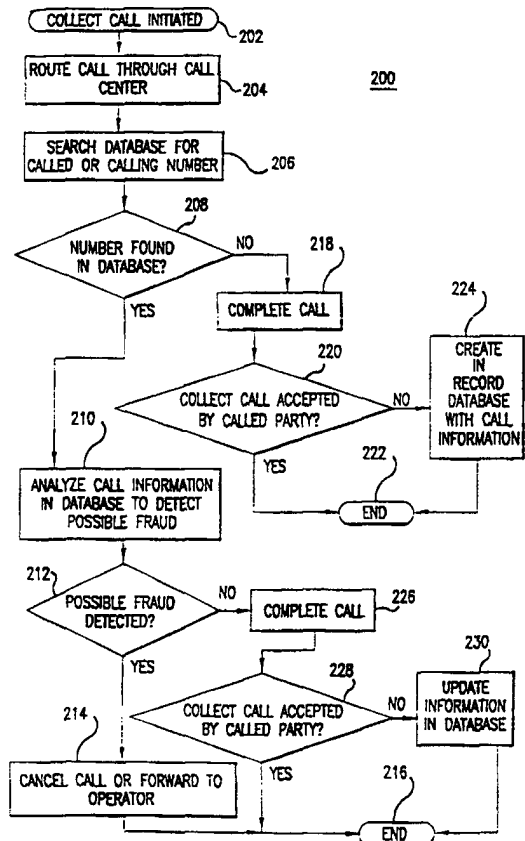
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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/21291 (22) International Filing Date: 25 November 1997 (25.11.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/758,024 27 November 1996 (27.11.96) US (71) Applicant: MCI COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION [US/US]; 1133 19th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036 (US). (72) Inventor: HE, Jingsha; 7212 High Plains Drive, Plano, TX 75024 (US). (74) Agents: KESSLER, Edward, J. et al.; Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C., Suite 600, 1100 New York Avenue, Washington, DC 20005-3934 (US).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, MX, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 16 July 1998 (16.07.98)</p>	

(54) Title: A MECHANISM FOR A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DETECTING FRAUDULENT USE OF COLLECT CALLS

(57) Abstract

A method and system for detecting and preventing the fraudulent use of phone services in which the recipient of a telephone call is responsible for charges only after they agree to accept the telephone call is disclosed herein. The system and method includes a mechanism for detecting the initiation of a telephone call, wherein associated with the telephone call is a telephone number. The present invention searches a database for a prior occurrence of the telephone number. If the telephone number is found in the database, the information in the database associated with the telephone number is analyzed to determine if the telephone call is fraudulent. The system and method compares the information in the old record with a threshold to determine if the telephone call is fraudulent. The system and method completes the telephone call if the step of comparing determines the telephone call is not fraudulent in response to the step of comparing. The present invention updates the old record with the information for the telephone call if the step of searching finds an old record of a prior occurrence of the telephone number and the telephone call is rejected by the telephone call recipient. The present invention creates a record of the telephone call if the telephone number is not found in the database, and the telephone call is rejected by the recipient.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US 97/21291

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 6 H04M3/50 H04M3/36 H04M15/00

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

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WO 96 08907 A (MCI COMMUNICATIONS CORP) 21 March 1996 see abstract -----	1-5
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 20 May 1998	Date of mailing of the international search report 29/05/1998
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