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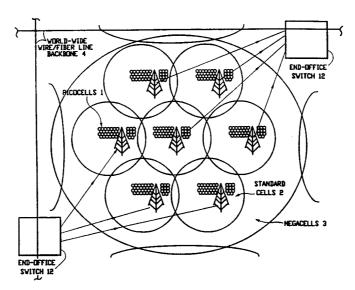
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(54) Title: HYBRID UNIVERSAL BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS USING SMALL RADIO CELLS INTERCONNECTED BY FREE-SPACE OPTICAL LINKS



(57) Abstract

Diverse communication terminals attach via broadband radio to a communications network at any of typically three hierarchical cell sizes; picocells (1), standard cells (2) and macro cells (3), increasing from, typically, a single building to a city to a region. Almost all telecommunications traffic transpires, however, within the lowest levele picocells (1) to and from low cost base stations (11) that have typically one radio transceiver (111), four optical transceivers (112) an ATM switch (11) and an ATM controller (114). Each local base station (11) is interconnected to a regional end office switch (12), where a connection to a worldwide wire/fiber line communications backbone (4), upon a multi-hop mesh network (100) via short highly-focused free-space broadband directional optical links (10). By this free-space wireless broadband access, subscriber service requirements on the order of 20 Mbps peak rate and 10 Mbps average are provided.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER									
IPC(6) :H04Q 7/20 US CL :455/422									
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)									
U.S. : 455/422, 436, 437, 439; 370/331, 256, 397									
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched									
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (na	me of data base and, where practicable,	search terms used)						
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT									
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
Υ <	US 5,539,744 A (CHU et al.) 23 July 1 col. 15: lines 54-67, col. 16: lines 1-23 16).	1-30							
Υ —	US 5,553,069 A (UENO et al.) 03 S figs. 3-6 and 9-10, col. 6: lines 58-67, col. 8: lines 1-18; col. 9: lines 30-54;	1-30							
Α ~	US 5,487,065 A (ACAMPORA et al. col. 1: lines 14-67, col. 2: lines 1-59.	1-30							
Υ ~	US 5,420,863 A (TAKETSUGU et al. 9-10; col. 10: lines 22-67; col. 11: lin	1-30							
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