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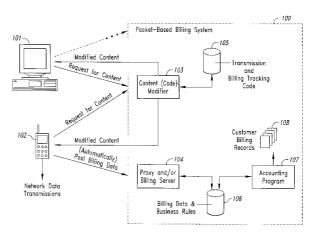
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TRANSMISSION-BASED BILLING OF APPLICATIONS



(57) Abstract: Computer- and network-based methods and systems for transmission-based billing are provided. Example embodiments provide a Packet-Based Billing System ("PBBS"), which enables application providers, such as carriers and content providers, to bill subscribers for the use of content on mobile subscriber devices, such as wireless devices, on a per-application, per-user basis based upon the extent of the usage. Embodiments of the present invention can also be used to bill subscribers for the use of content on a per-application, per-user basis for wired subcriber devices as well, using the same techniques. In operation, the PBBS provides modified content by inserting billing and tracking code into content returned to a requesting device. The modified content, when executed, tracks the amount of data sent and received between the content and a network and posts the accumulated data to a proxy/billing server according to business rules for an interval/frequency to post such data. The proxy/billing server stores the raw billing data and an accounting program retrieves the billing data to generate customer (call) data records. Business rules that specific different charges for different content or users can be incorporated into the system.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



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CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
PC 7 G06F17/60 H04L12/14 G06F1/00 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 7 GO6F HO4L 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) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ US 6 141 652 A (REEDER ANTHONY ANDREW) 1 - 9831 October 2000 (2000-10-31) column 2, line 11 -column 17, line 3: figures 1,2A,B,C Α WO 99 31610 A (BRITISH TELECOMM ; LEVERIDGE 1,32,50, PHILIP CHARLES (GB)) 81.93 24 June 1999 (1999-06-24) page 8, line 20 -page 11, line 24 page 14, line 17 -page 15, line 11; figures 2,3,9 Α US 6 073 124 A (OYLER SCOTT ET AL) 1,32,50, 6 June 2000 (2000-06-06) 81,93 abstract; figures 4,6 column 10, line 14 -column 12, line 3 -/--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. .er the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 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 document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or 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 the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 10 October 2002 05/11/2002 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, Hopper, E Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016



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