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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LOCATION-SENSITIVE, SUBSIDIZED CELL PHONE BILLING

(57) Abstract: A method and system for determining a billing rate of a telecommunications connection is disclosed. The method and system may be used in a location aware telecommunications system that can determine the location of a telecommunications unit (TU) being used within the system. The geographic location of a mobile unit (MU) is determined, and compared to a list a predetermined subsidized zones. When the MU initiates or receives a call from within a subsidized zone, and the MU is otherwise responsible for paying a predetermined billing rate associated with the call, the predetermined rate is subsidized for at least the portion of the call made while the MU is located within the subsidized zone.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 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 7 H04M H04Q

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, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

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	US 5 568 153 A (BELIVEAU ANDRE) 22 October 1996 (1996-10-22) column 6, line 25 - line 58 column 1, line 39 - line 45 claims 1-11 ---	1-33
A	US 6 044 261 A (KAZMI MUSTAFA A) 28 March 2000 (2000-03-28) claims 1-8 --- -/--	1-33

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	WO 98 36585 A (NORTHERN TELECOM INC) 20 August 1998 (1998-08-20) claims 1-10 -----	1-33

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Information on patent family members

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