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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING ENHANCED SMS/EMS/MMS

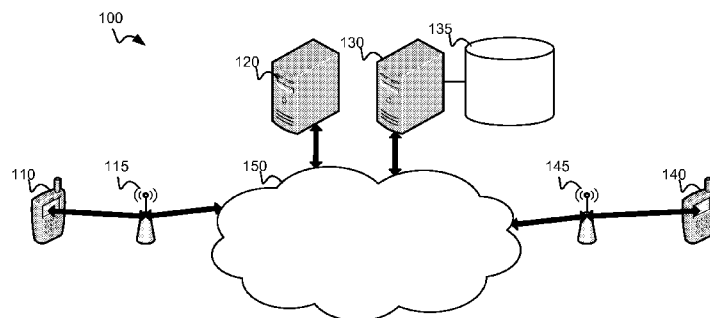


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A system and various methods provide enhanced SMS/MMS/EMS messaging services. In an embodiment, a delivery confirmation of a SMS/MMS/EMS message is provided to the originating sender's communication device. In another embodiment, a read receipt of a SMS/MMS/EMS message is provided to the originating sender's communication device. In other embodiments, a sender is provided with the ability to delete a previously sent and received SMS/MMS/EMS message from a recipient's communication device or recall/replace a previously sent and received SMS/MMS/EMS message with a new SMS/MMS/EMS message. In another embodiment, a sender is provided with the ability to send a SMS/MMS/EMS message that will automatically be deleted upon the occurrence of an expiration event. In other embodiments, a recipient may block, re-route or restrict the use of SMS/MMS/EMS message.



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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:**
27 January 2011

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2010/037107

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. H04L12/58

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)
H04L

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.
X	US 2008/182566 A1 (CAMP JR WILLIAM O [US]) 31 July 2008 (2008-07-31)	1,16,39, 49,70, 80,101, 116
Y	abstract	2,3,40, 41,71, 72,102, 103
Y	paragraph [0042] figure 6 WO 2008/147136 A1 (BIZKOREA M [KR]; CHOI SUNG-YONG [KR]; KIM SEONG-GYUN [KR]; JANG CHUL-J) 4 December 2008 (2008-12-04) page 2, line 18 - page 3, line 8 page 9, line 22 - page 10, line 2 page 15, line 8 - line 14	2,3,40, 41,71, 72,102, 103



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" 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)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to 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.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 August 2010

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/11/2010

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2010/037107

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-3, 16, 39-41, 49, 70-72, 80, 101-103, 116

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-3, 16, 39-41, 49, 70-72, 80, 101-103, 116

Providing a read receipt to a sender of a message

2. claims: 1, 4-6, 16-19, 39, 42-44, 49-51, 70, 73-75, 80-82, 101, 104-106, 116-119

Deleting a previously received message based on a received message

3. claims: 1, 7-10, 16, 20-22, 24, 25, 39, 45, 46, 49, 52, 54, 55, 70, 76, 77, 80, 83, 85, 86, 101, 107-110, 116, 120-122, 124, 125

Destruction of a received message upon expiration

4. claims: 1, 11, 12, 16, 23, 39, 47-49, 53, 70, 78-80, 84, 101, 111, 112, 116

Preventing display of a message in a particular location

5. claims: 1, 13, 16, 39, 49, 70, 80, 101, 113, 116

Deleting a message once it has been read

6. claims: 1, 14-16, 28, 39, 49, 60, 70, 80, 91, 101, 114-116

Prevention of message forwarding based on flag or sender identifier

7. claims: 1, 16, 26, 39, 49, 56, 59, 70, 80, 87, 90, 101, 116, 126

Message restriction service based on sender identifier

8. claims: 1, 16, 27, 39, 49, 57, 70, 80, 88, 101, 116, 127

Preventing message receipt based on sender identifier

9. claims: 1, 16, 29-31, 39, 49, 58, 61, 70, 80, 89, 92, 101, 116, 128-130

Message re-routing based on sender identifier

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

10. claims: 1, 16, 32, 39, 49, 62, 66, 70, 80, 93, 97, 101, 116,
131

Message restriction based on location or time

11. claims: 1, 16, 33-35, 39, 49, 63-65, 70, 80, 94-96, 101, 116,
132-134

Message alert based on location and time

12. claims: 1, 16, 36-39, 49, 67-70, 80, 98-101, 116, 123, 135-137

Message forwarding based on location and time

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2010/037107

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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