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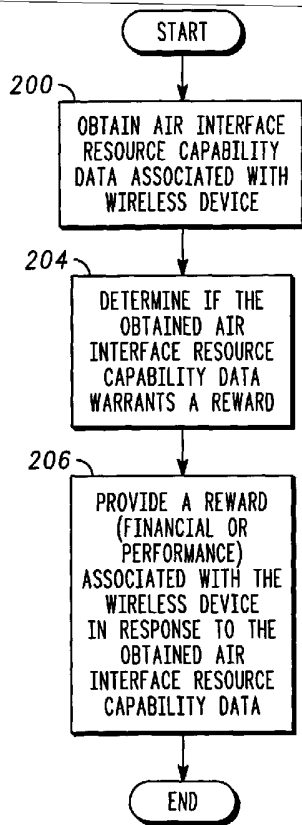
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING PERFORMANCE OF A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for improving performance of a wireless communication network (11) obtains (200) air interface resource capability data (26), from a wireless device (12) or other source, and determines (204) if the obtained air interface resource capability data (26) of the wireless device (12) warrants a reward by the wireless communication network (11). If the air interface resource capability data (26) of the wireless device (12) warrants a reward, the system operator, through a network element (16) or other suitable device provides a reward associated with the wireless device. This may include, for example, a financial reward, such as a reduction in cost for air time, billing credit or a performance improvement such as a reduction in frame error rate that is used when the wireless device (12) is in communication with the wireless communication network (11).

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
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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 practicable, 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.
Y	US 5,991,376 (HENNESSY et al) 23 NOVEMBER 1999, whole document.	1-10
Y	US 6,222,914 B1 (McMULLIN) 24 APRIL 2001, whole document.	1-10
Y, E	US 6,782,253 B1 (SHTEYN et al.) 24 AUGUST 2004, Whole document	1-10
Y	US 6,298,125 B1 (GOLDBERG et al.) 2 OCTOBER 2001, whole document	1-10
Y	US 5,937,037 (KAMEL et al.) 10 AUGUST 1999, whole document.	1-10
A	US 6,450,407 B1 (FREEMAN ET AL.) 17 SEPTEMBER 2002, whole document.	1-10

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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