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- (71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US):** **THE DIRECTV GROUP, INC.** [US/US]; 2250 E. Imperial Highway, El Segundo, CA 90245 (US).
- (72) **Inventors; and**
- (75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only):** **JAMES, Thomas, H.** [US/US]; 1010 Fiske Street, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 (US). **SHAH, Dipak, M.** [US/US]; 8666 Brooke Avenue, Westminster, CA 92683 (US).
- (74) **Agent:** **GRUNEBACH, Georgann, S.;** The DirecTV Group, Inc., CA/LA1/A109, P.O. Box 956, El Segundo, CA 90245 (US).

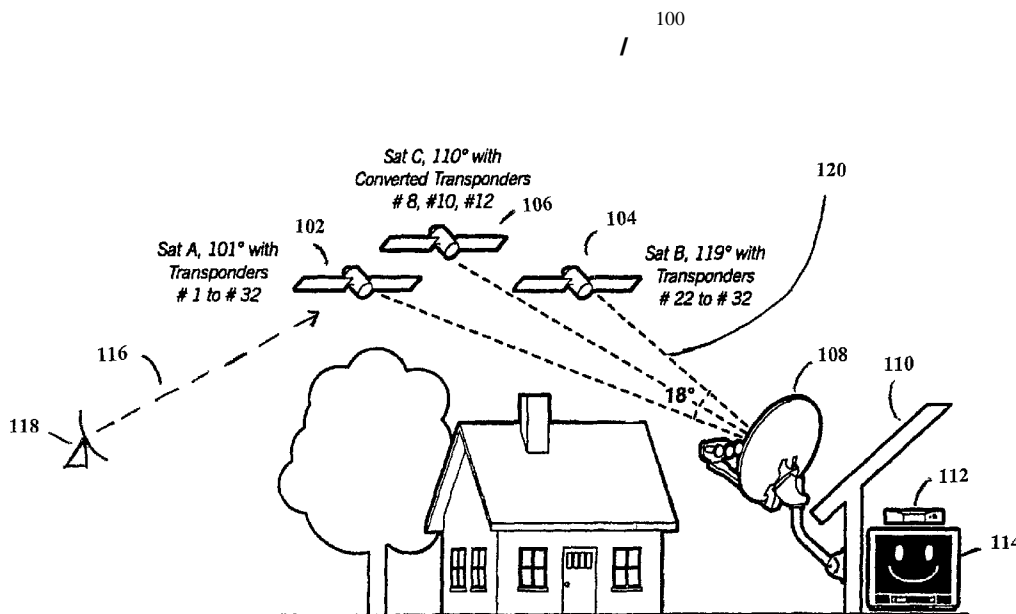
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(54) **Title:** NETWORK FRAUD PREVENTION VIA REGISTRATION AND VERIFICATION



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for controlling fraud in a satellite signal delivery system. An apparatus in accordance with the present invention comprises a receive antenna for receiving at least one satellite signal, and a module, coupled to the receive antenna, for selectively delivering the at least one satellite signal to at least one receiver via an output of the module, wherein the module creates an association between the module and the at least one receiver upon installation of the at least one receiver to the output, such that the module delivers the at least one satellite signal to the at least one receiver only when the association is present.

WO 2007/027626 A1

## AMENDED CLAIMS

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1. An apparatus for controlling fraud in a satellite signal delivery system,  
5 comprising:  
a receive antenna for receiving at least one satellite signal;  
a module, coupled to the receive antenna, for selectively delivering the at least one  
satellite signal to at least one receiver via an output of the module, wherein the module creates a  
pairing between the module and the at least one receiver upon installation of the at least one  
10 receiver to the output, such that the module delivers the at least one satellite signal to the at least  
one receiver only when the pairing is present, and the receiver can only be paired with one  
module at a time within the satellite signal delivery system.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one receiver comprises a plurality of  
15 receivers, and the output of the module is an interface.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising at least a second output of the  
module for coupling a legacy receiver to the module.
- 20 4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the module also creates a legacy association  
between the module and the legacy receiver, such that the module delivers the at least one  
satellite signal to the legacy receiver only when the legacy association is present,
5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the module further comprises a controller,  
25 coupled to the interface, for controlling signal flow between the interface and the at least one  
receiver.
6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the controller monitors a signal strength of the  
output of the interface and a signal strength of the legacy output.

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12. An apparatus for controlling fraud in a satellite signal delivery system by selectively delivering satellite video signals to at least one receiver, comprising:

- 5 an antenna for receiving the satellite video signals;  
a plurality of amplifiers, coupled to the antenna, each amplifier receiving and amplifying specific satellite video signals based on an originating satellite for each of the satellite video signals;  
a multswitch, having a plurality of inputs and a plurality of outputs, wherein at least  
10 some of the inputs are coupled to the plurality of amplifiers in a respective fashion;  
a controller, coupled to the multswitch, for controlling commands delivered to the multswitch by the receiver; and  
an interface, coupling the receiver to at least one output of the multswitch through the interface on a single cable, wherein the interface selectively controls the flow of signals from the  
15 receiver to the multswitch and controls the flow of satellite signals to the receiver, the selective control based on at least the identification (ID) number of the receiver, the receiver ID number being paired with only one interface within the satellite signal delivery system at a given time.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the interface is a network interface,

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14. The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising an automatic gain controller, coupled between the multswitch and the interface, for controlling a signal strength of the satellite signals.

25 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller monitors the signal strength of the satellite signals and selectively controls delivery of the satellite signals based on a change in the signal strength of the satellite signals.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the multswitch further comprises a legacy  
30 output separate from the interface.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the controller monitors at least a legacy signal strength of the legacy output, and selectively delivers satellite signals on the legacy output based  
5 on a change in the legacy signal strength.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein a plurality of receivers are coupled to the interface, and the interface is a single output.

10 19. A fraud controlled satellite signal delivery system, for selectively delivering satellite video signals to at least one Integrated Receiver Decoder (IRD), comprising:  
a multiswitch, having a plurality of inputs and a plurality of outputs, wherein at least some of the inputs receive satellite video signals from a plurality of satellites; and  
an interface, coupling the IRD to at least one output of the multiswitch through the  
15 interface on a single cable, wherein the interface selectively controls the flow of signals from the receiver to the multiswitch and controls the flow of satellite signals to the receiver, the selective control based on at least the identification (ID) number of the receiver, the receiver ID number being paired with only one interface within the satellite signal delivery system at a given time.

20 20. The fraud controlled satellite signal delivery system of claim 19, wherein the interface is a network interface.