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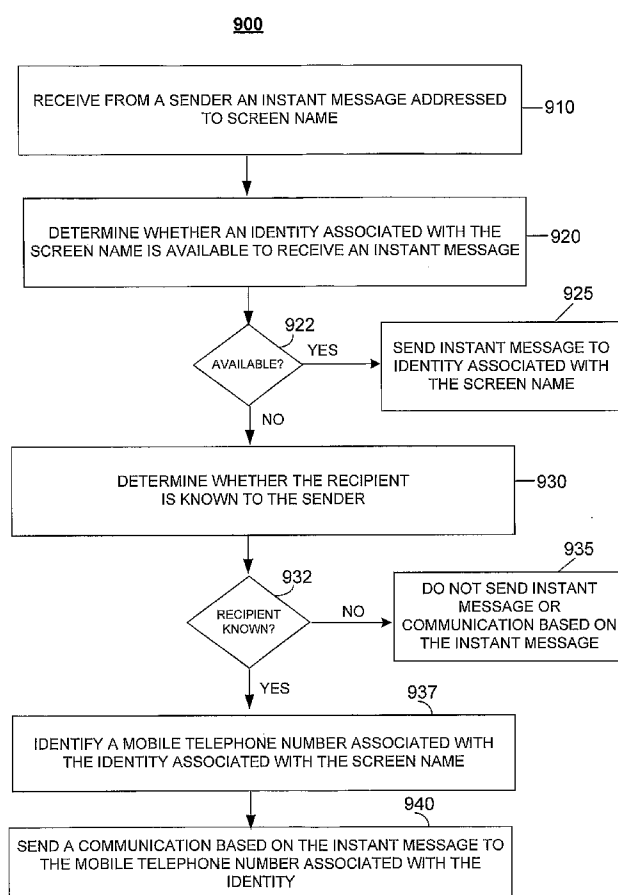
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(54) Title: AUTOMATICALLY ENABLING THE FORWARDING OF INSTANT MESSAGES



(57) Abstract: Techniques are described for forwarding an instant message addressed to an intended instant messaging recipient to the recipient's mobile telephone when the recipient's mobile telephone number is known to the instant message sender. In one example, an instant message is forwarded to the intended recipient's mobile telephone number when the instant message sender's contact information for the intended recipient includes an instant message address (e.g., a screen name or other type of instant message identifier) and a mobile telephone number, without dependence upon the intended recipient's presence on the instant message (IM) system or through actual login or registration with an IM forwarding service. In another example, an instant message addressed to an intended instant messaging recipient is forwarded to the recipient's mobile telephone when the recipient is known to the instant message sender.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 709/206,238,239 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) USPAT, USPGPUB, IBMTDB, JPO, EPO				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 2003/0018726 A1 (LOW et al) 23 January 2003 (23.20.2003), paragraphs [0004-0045], pages 1-5, Fig. 7-9.	1-30, 32-54		
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Y		31		
Y	US 2004/0179039 A1 (BLATTNER et al) 16 September 2004 (16.0932004) paragraph [0089], page 9.	31		
☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.				
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer <i>for Michelle R. Eisen</i> Andrew Caldwell Telephone No. 571-272-3581		