(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MULTIPLEXING TDM AND PACKET DATA

(57) Abstract: Telecommunication equipment includes a TDM interface (18) operable to receive STS-n data, and a packet interface (32) operable to receive packet/cell data and filling a STS-MC payload with the packet/cell data. An n x n cross-connect (20) is coupled to the TDM interface (18) and operable to switch and assign the STS-n data to any one of n STS-1 time slots. A multiplexer (24) is coupled to the cross-connect (20) and the packet interface (32) and operable to combine the switched STS-n data and the STS-MC packet/cell data into an STS-n payload for transport, where N is the sum of n and M.
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
20 February 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
   IPC(7) : H04J 3/02
   US CL : 370/538
   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)

   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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>US 5,862,136 A (IRWIN) 19 January 1999, see Fig. 6, col. 15, lines 1-67, col. 16, lines 1-1-67.</td>
<td>1-17</td>
</tr>
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☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search: 07 September 2002 (07.09.2002)

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