



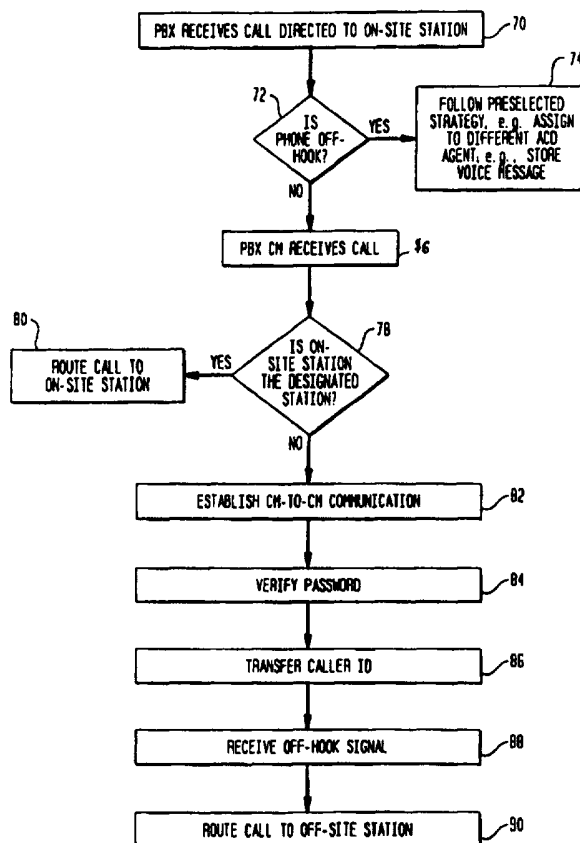
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/04406 (22) International Filing Date: 19 March 1997 (19.03.97) (30) Priority Data: 08/627,495 4 April 1996 (04.04.96) US (71) Applicant: SIEMENS BUSINESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, INC. [US/US]; 4900 Old Ironsides Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95052 (US). (72) Inventor: SHAFFER, Shmuel; 1211 Cowper Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301 (US). (74) Agents: SMITH, Darryl, A. et al.; Siemens Corporation, Intellectual Property Dept., 186 Wood Avenue South, Iselin, NJ 08830 (US).		(81) Designated States: CA, CN, JP, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 27 November 1997 (27.11.97)

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF CO-ORDINATING COMMUNICATIONS FOR TELECOMMUTERS

(57) Abstract

A system and method of providing site-to-site compatibility of telecommunications stations allow users to transparently relocate among a number of different stations, while the apparent locations of the users remain fixed. Co-ordinator modules of a private branch exchange (PBX) establish peer-to-peer communications with station-based co-ordinator modules to provide automated routing to the station at which the particular individual is located, while leaving the apparent location of the user fixed at a designated station of the PBX. In one embodiment, the compatibility of stations allows the user to operate from a home-based station, while the apparent location of the user to any calling and called parties is an office-based station that is dedicated to the user. In a second embodiment, the compatibility allows the user to operate from any one of a variety of office stations, while the apparent location remains fixed at one of the office stations. These stations preferably include computers or other equipment that support multimedia transmissions. The user logs on at one of the telecommunications stations in order to designate the station as the "primary station" for purposes of routing incoming calls. The co-ordinator module that is dedicated to a particular user acts as a virtual office that has no geographical location with respect to conventional office equipment. In the preferred embodiment, co-ordinator modules may be located on line cards of the PBX.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. Appl. No.
PCT/US 97/04406

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 H04M3/42 H04M3/50 H04M3/54 H04Q3/62

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)
IPC 6 H04M H04Q

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 493 914 A (AMERICAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH) 8 July 1992 see abstract see column 3, line 40 - column 5, line 36 ---	1-24
A	GB 2 287 610 A (MOLLER CHRISTOPHER HARDING) 20 September 1995 see the whole document see figures 1,3 ---	1-3, 7-11, 13-18, 20-24
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
E	WO 97 18662 A (DATARACE) 22 May 1997 see abstract see page 2, line 25 - page 4, line 25 see page 11, line 26 - page 12, line 26 see page 14, line 5 - line 17 see page 26, line 6 - page 28, line 11 see figures 7-10 ---	1-24
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