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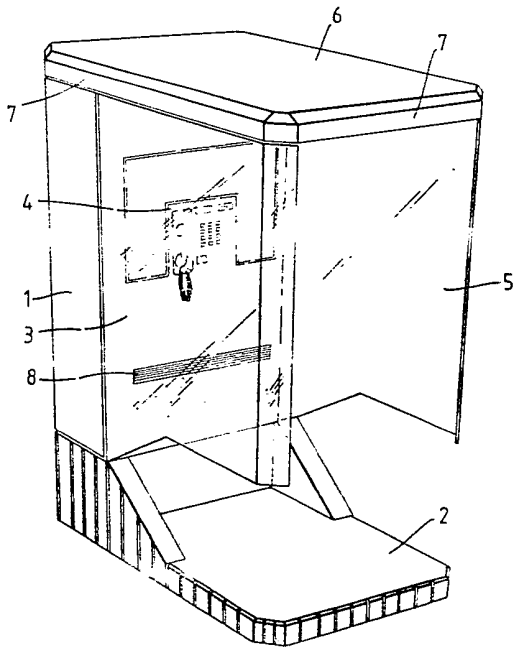
(54) Telephone kiosk with hinged panel for access to electronic equipment

(57) A kiosk housing for telephone equipment comprising a cabinet 1 having at least one substantially flat, vertical panel 3 to which is affixed a telephone equipment 4, the cabinet being adapted to house electronic equipment required to interface a fibre optic link from a telephone exchange with a plurality of individual subscriber lines, the cabinet carrying weather protective shelter means 5 for persons using the equipment affixed to the panel, the panel being arranged as a hinged access cover for the electronic equipment within the cabinet.

Fig.3.



At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

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Fig.1.

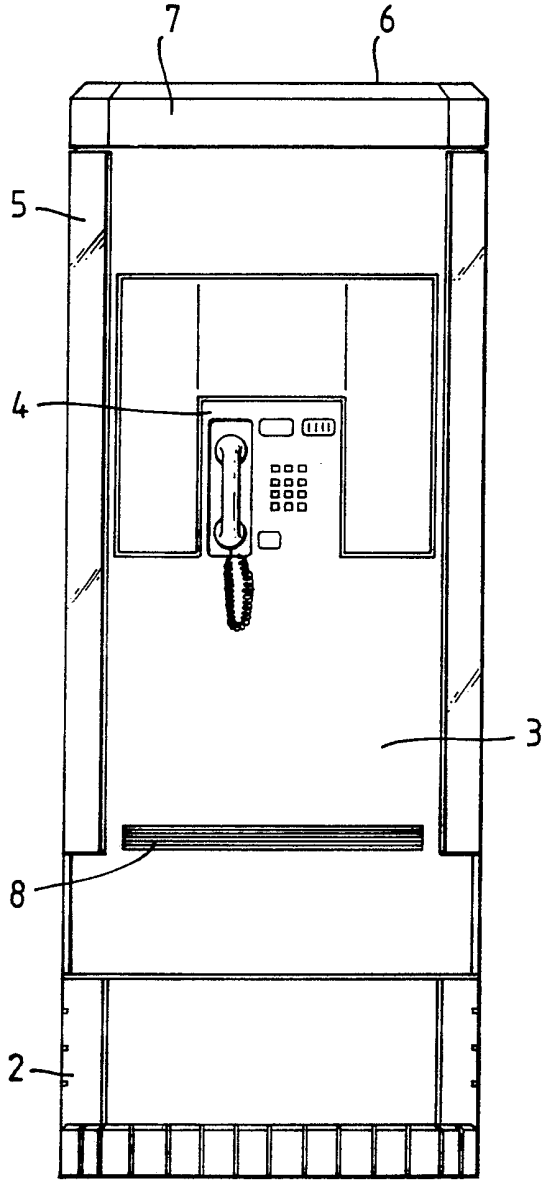

Fig.2.

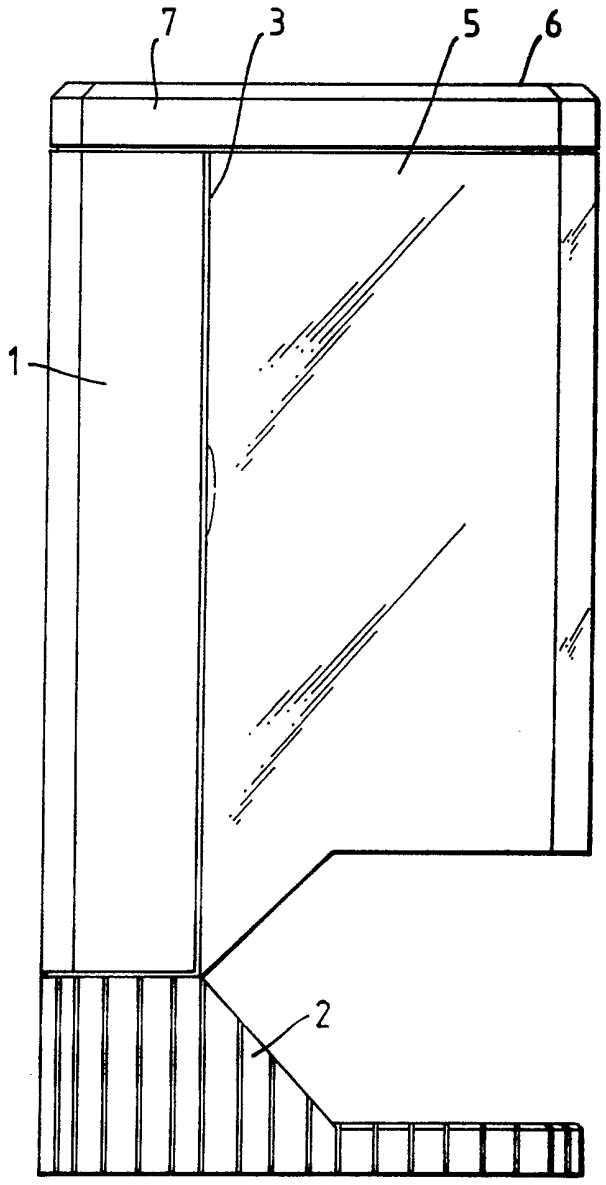

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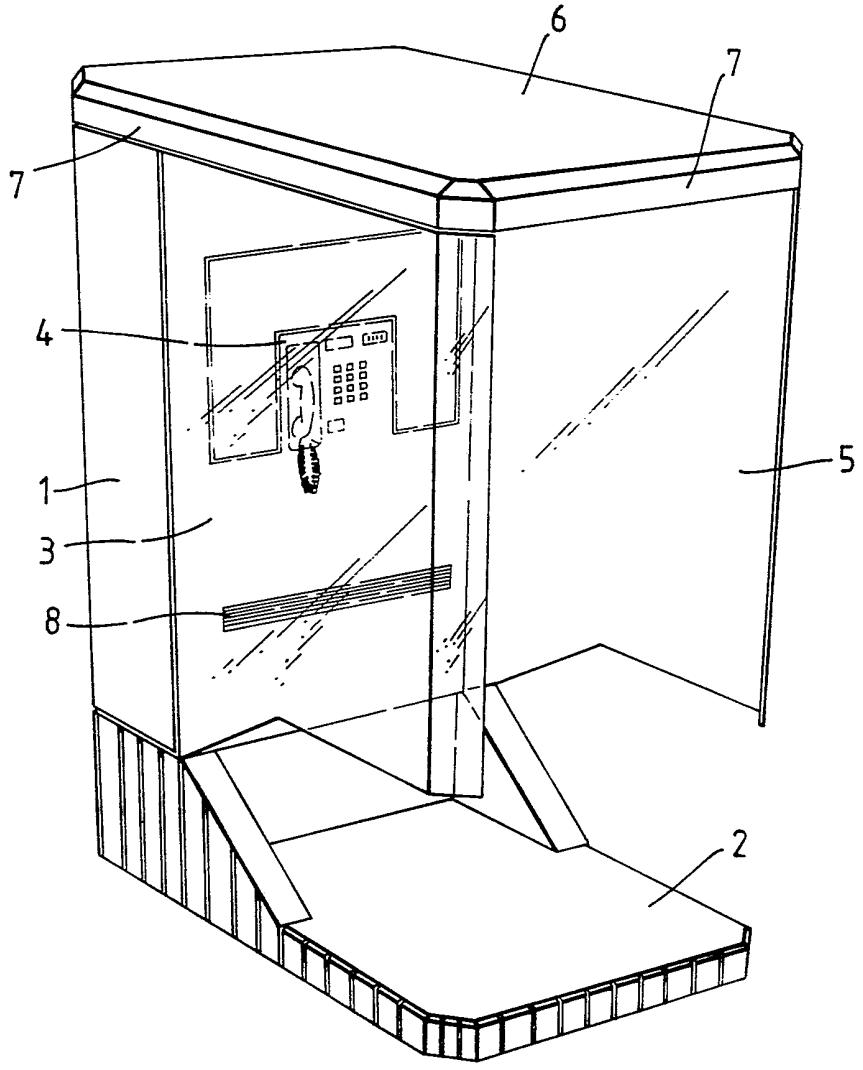
Fig.3.



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KIOSK HOUSING FOR TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT.

This invention relates to a kiosk housing for a public payphone for installation in streets or open spaces.

Traditionally individual telephone subscribers and public payphones are connected to the local exchange via copper pair cables. In practice the link from the exchange is a multi-pair cable terminated at a junction box or cabinet from where the individual pairs are led to the subscribers and payphone equipments.

Currently there is a growing use of optical fibre links for multiplexed traffic, particularly between exchanges. It is desirable to extend the use of optical fibres into the local area network as far as possible because of the benefits conferred by the fibre optic technology.

Network economics dictate the extent to which optical fibres may penetrate in the present copper network. This normally implies that where substantial numbers of circuits are co-located in the same or adjacent ducts and/or terminate in the same primary cross-connect point (cabinet) these may be economically replaced with multiplex transmission on optical fibres. The traditional cabinet will then be replaced by an electronic equivalent capable of interfacing all

affected subscribers with the optical fibre system.

Due to all the facilities required at such locations of the cabinet or housing needed to deal with e.g. 480 subscribers (a number commonly serviced from a single cabinet) the size of cabinet required is considerably greater than that required for the copper network cabinet. In numerous situations such enlarged cabinets would be enviromentally and practically obtrusive in public places.

On the other hand the modern payphone kiosk is enviromentally acceptable in urban public places.

According to the present invention there is provided a telephone kiosk incorporating an equipment cabinet adapted to house equipment required to interface a multiple link from a telephone exchange with a plurality of individual subscriber lines.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention there is provided a kiosk housing for telephone equipment comprising a cabinet having at least one substantially flat, vertical panel to which is affixed a telephone equipment, the cabinet being adapted to house electronic equipment required to interface a fibre optic link from a telephone exchange with a plurality of individual subscriber lines, the cabinet carrying weather protective shelter means for persons using the equipment affixed to the panel, the panel being arranged as a hinged access cover for the electronic equipment within the cabinet.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described with reference to the drawings, in which:-

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a kiosk housing,

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the kiosk housing of Figure 1, and

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the kiosk housing of Figures 1 and 2.

Referring to the drawings, an enclosure 1 made of e.g. steel or other appropriate material is mounted on a plinth 2, e.g. of concrete. The enclosure is basically rectangular and has a flat, vertical front panel 3 which is hinged to give access to shelves, racks or the like of printed circuit cards and associated cabling and support equipment required to interface individual subscriber's copper pairs with a fibre optic multiplex link to the exchange. The fibre optic cable and the subscriber pairs will enter the enclosure from below after passing through a hollow portion of the plinth. The plinth may also provide an enclosure for batteries and mains electricity supply equipment. The front panel 3 provides a support for a public payphone equipment 4 which may be recessed to effect protection for coinbox equipment etc. from vandalism. The enclosure 1 also carries a weather protection canopy 5 to protect the telephone user. During servicing of the equipment in the enclosure the engineer is also protected from inclement weather after opening the hinged panel 3. The canopy is normally of toughened transparent glass or plastics material. The roof portion 6 carries illuminated sign panels 7 and right-time lighting for the payphone. The bottom of the panel 3 can be formed with ventilation slots 8 and the roof portion 6 can also incorporate ventilation means for heat extraction for the equipment in the enclosure.

Because the enclosed equipment has an electricity supply it is convenient to incorporate alarm

and other anti-vandalism facilities in the enclosure. The front panel 3 may also incorporate other value-added services besides the payphone. For example a coin or credit card operated viewdata terminal which is served via the fibre optic cable can be incorporated. The front panel may also carry advertising. The concrete plinth provides protection against vehicle impact, e.g. from shopping trolleys.

CLAIMS.

1. A telephone kiosk incorporating an equipment cabinet adapted to house equipment required to interface a multiple link from a telephone exchange with a plurality of individual subscriber lines.

2. A kiosk housing for telephone equipment comprising a cabinet having at least one substantially flat, vertical panel to which is affixed a telephone equipment, the cabinet being adapted to house electronic equipment required to interface a fibre optic link from a telephone exchange with a plurality of individual subscriber lines, the cabinet carrying weather protective shelter means for persons using the equipment affixed to the panel, the panel being arranged as a hinged access cover for the electronic equipment within the cabinet.

3. A kiosk housing according to claim 2 wherein the access panel incorporates additional coin or credit card operated value added services equipment.

4. A kiosk housing according to claim 3 wherein the value added services equipment includes a viewdata terminal.

5. A kiosk housing substantially as described with refernce to the accompanying drawings.

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