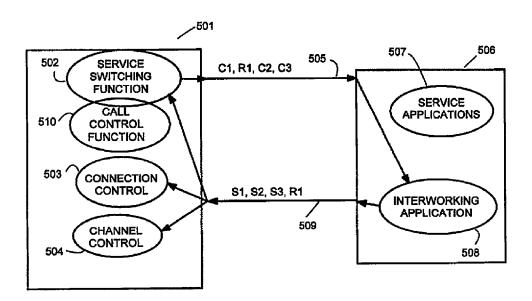
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- (54) PROCEDE DE GESTION DES COMMUNICATIONS ET DES CONNEXIONS
- (54) METHOD OF COMMUNICATION AND CONNECTION CONTROL



(57) Une architecture de système permet une gestion des connexions, une gestion des services et une gestion des sessions de communication. Un logiciel d'adaptation spécial réalise une description de la configuration logique de la communication entre les parties du service et une description de l'état des organes de connexion, qui indique la connexion physique entre les abonnés ou entre un abonné et un central hérité. En réponse à la demande de service du système faite par le réseau de télécommunications, la gestion des services donne une description de l'état de communication souhaité qui correspond au service demandé de l'état de

(57) A system architecture offering services comprises a Connection Management, a Service Management, and a Communication Session Management CSM. A special adaptation software forms a description of the logical configuration of the communication between the parties of the service, and a description of the status of the connection organs, which describes the physical connection between the subscribers or subscriber and a legacy exchange. In response to the system service request by the telecommunication network, the Service Management gives a description of the desired communication status which corresponds to the



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communication et la description de l'état des organes de connexion. La gestion des sessions de communication détermine quel type de statut de communication correspond à l'état des connexions donné, en utilisant la description de l'état des organes de connexion qui lui a été transmise. En réponse à l'état des connexions, la gestion des connexions réalise les connexions de manière à ce qu'une connexion correspondant au service souhaité soit créée.

requested service of the communication status, and the description of the state of the connection organs. The Communication Session Management CSM determines what kind of communication status corresponds to the given connection status, utilizing the description of the status of the connection organs that has been transmitted to it. In response to the connection status, the Connection Management makes the connections in such a way that a connection corresponding to the desired service will be created.

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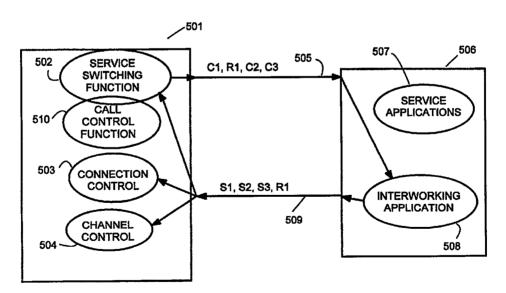
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(54) Title: METHOD OF COMMUNICATION AND CONNECTION CONTROL



(57) Abstract

A system architecture offering services comprises a Connection Management, a Service Management, and a Communication Session Management CSM. A special adaptation software forms a description of the logical configuration of the communication between the parties of the service, and a description of the status of the connection organs, which describes the physical connection between the subscribers or subscriber and a legacy exchange. In response to the system service request by the telecommunication network, the Service Management gives a description of the desired communication status which corresponds to the requested service of the communication status, and the description of the state of the connection organs. The Communication Session Management CSM determines what kind of communication status corresponds to the given connection status, utilizing the description of the status of the connection organs that has been transmitted to it. In response to the connection status, the Connection Management makes the connections in such a way that a connection corresponding to the desired service will be created.

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TITLE OF INVENTION

Method of Communication and Connection Control

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to controlling the connections and communication in a telecommunication network.

BACKGROUND ART

The demands for supporting and producing different services has directed the development of the data communication networks to the direction of a so-called intelligent network IN. The intelligent network is an architecture the purpose of which is to offer modular operations independent of the service used, which operations can be connected to each other as components when creating new services, whereby the determining and planning of the new services is easier. The second object is to be independent of telecommunication network in the supply of the services. The services would be separate from the lowest physical network structure, in which case they can be distributed.

The so-called Basic Call State Model has been defined for the intelligent network. It is a description of the functions of the call control function CCF, which are needed for the setting up and maintaining of the connection route between the users. Thus BCSM offers the framework for the description of those basic call and connection events which can lead to the IN service logic to become active; in other words it detects those detection points DP in a call process and connection process in which the call control can be in the interaction with the IN service logic object and in which the transfer of the control can take place.

Also other network architectures have been presented in which the objective is to separate the network control from the telecommunications network. One of such architectures has been described in the PCT application WO93/05599. The control system of the network has been separated from the call control, but the solution requires to construct the network from the outset according to the presented

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operating principle and it does not provide information as to how the present public switched telephone network PSTN could be connected to the network in accordance with the application.

The architecture idea that has been presented in the PCT application can be developed further. Architecture, in which various traditional call processing functions, such as switching fabric or channel control, call control, and connection control are separated into distinct application processes, is described in the patent applications EP-0631456 and EP-0631457.

Architecture similar to that described in EP-applications, i.e. architecture, in which the handling of connection means and other network resources possibly needed by the call is totally separated from the handling of the transmission of messages between the parties of the call (end-users) and service itself, has been proposed by Telecommunications Information Network Architecture Consortium, TINAC. The parties of the call first discuss what kind of network resources they need and the network resources are reserved and given to use only when they are really needed. This makes separate development of transmission resources and connection resources and services possible. Then the network control can use services irrespective of the network technology. The same service can be produced with different techniques, for example the voice message service can be produced using ATM VC or narrow band ISDN network. In the proposed architecture the services comprise a group of interactive service components. Some components are service specific and can use services offered by the general service components. The general service components offer services which are related to the processing of different types, communication services, for example audio and video, and special resource services, for example conference rings.

In this architecture, the connections are handled by Connection Management, the control software called Communication Management is responsible for the communication, and the control software called Service Management carries out the service.

The proposed operation is of such nature that when a service is used, the

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Service Management gives to the Communication Management the description of the desired communication status which corresponds to the requested service. The Communication Management determines what the connection status must be in order to reach the given communication status. It provides the Connection Management with the description of the connection status, in which case the Connection Management makes the connections so that the desired connection will be established. The concepts of communication status and connection status are briefly described in the following. The communication status is based on the concept called Logical Connection Graph, LGC. The Service Management specifies the communication resources needed as "Logical Connection Graph" terms, irrespective of the network structure and technique.

The information model in figure 1 presents in a simplified manner what the communication status refers to. The stream interfaces represent the abstractions of the devices, and the binding interfaces represent the abstractions either of the local connections or of the long distance connections. Both are controlled through the corresponding operational interface, which offers functions for the beginning, modification and deletion of the objects. The figure represents the parties of the communication and their interfaces, when the parties are engaged in the communication session. The stream is a unidirectional bit flow having a given frame structure (format, coding) and the quality of service parameters QoS, which determine the time alignments of the frames, synchronizing demands between the steams etc. The communication session management CSM provides the interface for specifying the bindings of the stream interfaces explicitly and for the control of the bindings. A stream binding object defines relationship between stream interfaces. Virtual devices are abstractions of actual physical devices. Streams are unidirectional point to point or point to multipoint, that is, they consist of one or more branches. A stream branch is defined between the producer and each customer. Logical Connection Graph LCG is equivalent with stream binding. It comprises logical vertexes connected by the logical lines through a logical gate.

Figure 2 shows the contents of figure 1 as LGC concepts. LCG is not

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interested in the location of the resources in the network. It is needed for the defining of the operations which control stream bindings in order to specify the interface offered by the CSM. In other words, it must know the communication status as LGC concepts so that the communication session management CSM could operate.

To be able to operate perfectly, CSM needs the description of the connection status. The concepts of physical connection graph PCG, which represents the network connections, and the nodal connection graph NCG, which represents the configuration of the resources of the nodes have been derived from the LGC. The term "physical" refers to the network and the term "nodal" refers to the nodes between which the network establishes the connections.

The difference of the physical and logical graph lies in the fact that the logical configuration of the connection resources does not pay attention as to where the resources are, whereas the physical configuration is aware of their location. The logical connection graph LCG represents an end to end connection between computational interfaces and the physical connection graph PCG represents a connection between network termination points. The computational interfaces can be in this context of current type or functional. The essential point of the new architecture is that they can be of stream type. There is a conversion from the logical addresses of the logical connection graph into a physical address of the physical connection graph. The conversions from the logical lines into physical lines exist likewise. Several LGC elements can be grouped as one element by multiplexing or a few LGC elements can be converted into several physical elements by decomposition.

When the new network architecture presented above is brought into use, a problem will arise as how to adapt the new architecture to the existing network such as the intelligent network. One solution is to bring the described network architecture into use in some overlay network, such as an ATM or another broad band network, and to match this new network with an existing network without changing the architecture of either one. The integrated use would be carried out possibly by means of a separate adaptation program and separate hardware. The

adaptation program can be inserted in the new architecture, in which case changes in existing systems are not needed.

A drawback of the solution presented above is that with the integrated use of the networks it is not possible to utilize the software technology, which would open the network to an open software competition. Thus, the integrated use does not offer alternative ways to utilize in the best way the proposed new architecture and the existing architecture. The solution based on the integrated use leads to the fact that the standardization of the existing networks and the proposed new network would have to be pursued side by side.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention proposes a solution which does not have the drawbacks of the integrated use and which can be used to connect the new architecture to an existing telecommunication network. According to the first embodiment of the invention, the basic call state model BCSM of the service switching point SSP in the existing intelligent network IN is utilized. The desired detection point or points are set to the BCSM of SSP so that after the call process has proceeded to some detection point, three information structures required by the new architecture are formed, namely the description of the communication status that has been presented as a logical connection graph, and the description of the state of the connection means that has been presented as a nodal graph and as a physical connection graph. These information structures are formed by the special adaptation software. It can be carried out either at the new architecture's side or at the legacy network's side. In both cases the legacy network can be seen as one object as seen from the side of new architecture, and the communication status and connection status comprehensively describe SSP and status of the network behind it. These information structures are transmitted to the program's "Service Session Management" and/or "Communication Session Management CSM, which from this moment on take responsibility for processing the service required. The software of the new architecture approves the communication status and the connection status which have been transmitted from the

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detection point DP, and after this proceeds as it desires.

The SSP approves the transfer of responsibility to the software of the new architecture by shifting to a special call hold state. In this state, the SSP is not responsible for the statuses of the connection resources of the call, even though the state machine of the call (BSCM) still exists. In this state, the new architecture can, for example, connect the call to an another call, a message device or a conference ring. To do this, the SSP offers a new interface (Cm) to the service systems which are in accordance with the new architecture.

When the call or a part of it in the legacy network is to be released, the BSCM which is in the hold state, will notify the new architecture of this. The new architecture returns the state of the connection means of the part of the call in question to such which BSCM knows, and gives the BSCM permission to continue releasing normally.

According to the second embodiment of the invention the exchange of the legacy network does not include the operations of the SSP of the intelligent network. However, such an exchange is able to terminate a call to the service system which is in accordance with new architecture, too, i.e. the legacy exchange contains the functions of the end point exchange. The starting point is of such nature that the network of the new architecture is the outcome as a result of, for example, the normal routing that has been defined to the legacy network, on the basis of the dialed number conversion or as the result of a call forwarding. The special adaptation software can be located at the exchange of the legacy network which contains the functions of the end point exchange or in the service system of new architecture. The call machine of the aforementioned legacy exchange can be commanded to the hold state, and the exchange offers the interface Cm in accordance with the first embodiment. The service system of the new architecture takes as its starting information the graph information structure it has received, and can now proceed with the call as it desires.

When a call or part of it in the legacy network has to be released, the call automatic machine of the legacy exchange, being in the hold state, will inform of this

to the new architecture with a message allowed by the interface between the networks. The new architecture returns the connection means of the part of the call to such a state which is known by the call automatic machine, and gives the legacy exchange permission to continue the releasing normally.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

figure 1 represents the information model of the communication state in the new network,

figure 2 depicts the information model as LGC concepts,

figure 3 represents the networks of the first embodiment, and

figure 4 represents the networks of the second embodiment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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THE FIRST EMBODIMENT

In the solution according to the first embodiment, the starting point is that in the intelligent networks the service switching point SSP must send to the service control point SCP, as is well known, a certain communication state between the parties of the call and a certain state of the connection means. Using the information of these states as a basis, the special adaptation software forms the descriptions of the states of a communication status and connection status required by the new architecture. The adaptation software can be a part of the SSP of the legacy network, or it can be in the new architecture entirely.

When said special adaptation software is a part of the SSP, it will contain the description of the network resources according to the Network Resource Information Model, NRIM, of the new architecture. At the least, the legacy network has been described using the model so that it has all the endpoints of the legacy network from which the new network can be accessed and connection points in the SSP from which the call can be connected further. Likewise, the model must describe the special resources of the legacy network, the use of which one wants to make

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possible from the new architecture. These can, for example, be conference rings, voice generators and message devices.

When the special adaptation software has been implemented within the new architecture, SSP must answer those inquiries which the adaptation software makes when searching for information to form logical, nodal and physical connection graphs. Alternatively, the SSP can offer necessary information in the message to the adaptation program, which uses the information received to form the necessary information graphs. The message informs at least the point in SSP to which the call is connected at that moment, and the A-subscriber data.

In the solution according to the first embodiment, such a change must be done in SSP, that it approves the transfer of responsibility to software of the new architecture by going to the special hold state of the call. In this state SSP does not have a responsibility for the states of the connection resources of the call, even though the state machine of the call BSCM exists, too, and operates as will be described below. In this state, the new architecture can connect, for example, the call to an another call, a message device or a conference ring. For this purpose SSP offers a new interface (Cm) for the service systems which are in accordance with the new architecture. The interface can be described in two different ways.

Firstly, this interface can be given the desired physical connection which one wishes to make. The ISDN exchanges usually know this operation and provide the possibility to make it, for example, on the MML (Man Machine Language) command, which is used for control of the exchange. This feature can be used either as such or it can be offered by new software through a special protocol, which does not load the operation and maintenance function of the exchange. The latter way is better, because it offers a better load capacity of the SSP.

Secondly, this interface can be given the physical connection graph, which one wishes the SSP to carry out. However, it must be noted that if the legacy network has been described to such an extent which the placing of the special adaptation software as part of SSP requires, the new architecture sees the connection from the subscriber to SSP as one undivided wholeness, and it does not try to change

this connection. The new architecture can change call connections only by adding new links to the call. This restriction is a natural consequence of the need to restrict the changes in the legacy network to be minor. However, this invention allows that the legacy network is described more thoroughly in NRIM (information content of the model is wider) so that the new architecture can also handle switchings between the subscriber and SSP connection. Then, the software in the new architecture must first command the state machines also in other exchanges than in the SSP to the hold state, i.e. the changes required of the legacy network are more extensive.

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When the new architecture has received the communication status and the connection status, its software approves the initial state which is in accordance with the description it has received and proceeds as it desires when generating a call, however, within the time limits of the present BCSM that have been set to the hold state.

When one wants to release a call, or part of it, in its legacy network, the BSCM in the hold state will notify the new architecture of this. The new architecture returns the state of the switching means of the part of the call in question to such known by the BSCM and gives the BSCM permission to continue the releasing normally.

Fig. 3 illustrates the first embodiment i.e. interworking with the intelligent network IN. In the IN specifications Q.1214 of ITU-T or Intelligent Network Capability Set 1 Core INAP ETS 300 374-1 the SSP is said to have at least the Service Switching Functions containing, for example, the Detection Points and the trigger tables and the Call control functions. For modelling purposes only, functions 503 and 504 have been added in the drawing. In IN implementations, these may be embedded in the Call Control Function. Numeral 501 refers to the Service Switching Point SSP and numeral 506 to a Service System based on the new architecture. Between SSP 501 and the service system 507 are used protocols according to the followin tables:

Operation	Class	Events
Break-out	С	C1, S1,C4
Release-initiated-by-SSP	U	R1
Release-initiated-by-SS	U	Ri
Connect-Channel	С	S2,C3
Connect-Route	С	S3,C3
Pass-info	U	C2

Mapping of INAP events:

10	Event	INAP	Notes
	C1	Initial_DP	SSP initiates a session
			with SCP
	R1	Abort	Abort session initiated by
			SSP or SCP
	C2	All existing INAP events	
		except C1,R1	

15 New Events

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Event	Direction	Destination	Explanation
S1	SS->LE	Call Control	Hold-call-pass-control- to-SS
S2	SS->LE	Channel control	Connect Channel to Channel
S3	SS->LE	Connection Control	Connect Channel to Termination Point Pool
C3	LE->SS	Interworking function	Acknowledge S2 or S3

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LE->SS	Interworking	Incoming Channel id,
	function	Incoming route id,
		Incoming Termination
		Point Pool, Switch id
	LE->SS	

A variation of this protocol is suggested: in the initial Detection Point where the Initial_DP message is generated by the SSP, the DP itself has been marked as an entry point to the New Architecture Service System. Consequently, the SSP immediately enters the call-hold-wait-for SS takeover state (cf. the same state which the SSP enters after having received the S1 event in the above protocol) and sends the modified "Initial_DP" message to the SS. The modified Initial_DP will carry additional information which is in the C4 event of the above protocol. After that the SS can manipulate the state of the connection resources by S2 and S3 events.

We have marked any other INAP messages with C2. This means that one embodiment of this invention is implementing it as an add-on to the existing INAP protocol.

In the above examples, the *connection status* of the legacy network is described by the following parameters: incoming channel id, incoming termination point pool id, incoming route id, Switch id.

The objects identified by these parameters are managed objects for which the management application is in the preferred embodiment implemented in the new architecture of the Service System or in a separate management system which is part of the new architecture. By management, we mean that objects can be created, their parameters modified and they can be deleted by the manager.

THE SECOND EMBODIMENT

The second embodiment is the application of new architecture to the legacy network without intelligent network functions. In that case, the exchange of the legacy network which does not contain the SSP functions will be examined. However, such an exchange is able to terminate the call to the service system which is in accordance

with the new architecture, too, i.e. the legacy exchange contains the terminal exchange functions.

Fig. 4 shows an example of the second embodiment. Note that the legacy system need not be composed of the named functions call conrtol402, connection control 403 and channel control 404); those functions have been adopted for modelling purposes only. In the figure numeral 401 refers generally to a legacy exchange and numeral 406 to a Service System based on the new architecture which wants to take over the control of legacy network resources for specific services.

Protocols are in the following table:

10	Operation	Class	Events
	Break-out	C	C1, S0, S1,C4
	Release-initiated-by-LE	С	R1, R2
	Release-initiated-by-SS	С	R1, R2
	Connect-Channel	С	S2,C3
15	Connect-Route	С	S3,C3
	Pass-info	U	C2

Mapping of DSS1 and CCSS#7 events is depicted in the following table:

	Event	DSS 1	ISDN User
			Part
20	C1	Set-up, Alerting	IAM
	R1	Disconnect, Release	REL
	R2	Release, Release	RLC
		complete	
	C2	All except C1,R1,R2	All except
		,	C1,R1,R2
	S0	Call proceeding	CPG
25			I

Protocol in case of new events is shown in the following table:

Event	Direction	Destination	Explanation
S1	SS->LE	Call Control	Hold-call-pass-control- to-SS
S2	SS->LE	Channel control	Connect Channel to Channel
S3	SS->LE	Connection Control	Connect Channel to route
C3	LE->SS	Interworking function	Acknowledge S2 or S3
C4	LE->SS	Interworking function	Incoming Channel id, incoming route id, Incoming Termination Point Pool switch id

The description above and the figures relating thereto are only intended to illustrate the present invention. Various variations and modifications of the invention will become obvious for a person skilled in the art, without departing from the scope and spirit of the attached claims.

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Claims:

1. Method for adapting a system offering services to a telecommunication network comprising at least one telephone exchange including a basic call state model BCSM associated with a service switching function SSF of an intelligent network IN, the BCSM detecting those points in the call establishment process in which the call control function CCF of the exchange can be in co-operation with the service switching function SSF, in which method:

at least one special detection point is set to the basic call state model 10 BCSM,

in response to the fact that the call establishment process has proceeded to the special detection point, a special adaptation software forms a description of the communication status which describes the desired communication status between the parties of the service in accordance with the service, i.e. the logical configuration of the communication of the parties of the service, to the extent it is known to the SSF, and a description of the status of the connection organs which describes a physical connection between a subscriber or subscribers and the SSP, and of the resource configuration of the nodes which are related to the network,

the description of the communication state and the description of the state of the connection organs are transmitted to the control software of the services of the system which offers services (Service Control of the Session) and, if necessary, also to the control software CSM of the communication session,

in response to a system service request by the telecommumumication network, the Service Management gives a description of the desired communication status corresponding to the requested service, utilizing the description of the status of the communication state that has been transmitted to it, and said description of the status of the connection organs, as well as its service logic,

the Communication Session Management determines what kind of connection status corresponds to the given communication status, utilizing the description of the status of the connection organs that has been transmitted to it,

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in response to the connection status, the Connection Management of the system offering services makes the connections, so that a connection corresponding to the desired service will be created.

- 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the special adaptation software is implemented as part of the service switching function SSF, all end points of the telecommunications network from which the system offering services is accessed and the connection points of the service switching function SSF from which the call can be connected further being described to the adaptation software.
- 3. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the special adaptation software is incorporated as part of the system offering services, the special adaptation software requesting the necessary information for forming a description of the communication status and the connection status from the service switching function SSF.
- 4. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the special adaptation software is incorporated as part of the system offering services, the service switching function SSF giving to the special adaptation software a message containing the necessary information for forming a description of the communication state and the connection state.
- 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the service switching function SSF accepts transfer of responsibility to the system offering services by going to hold state and by offering an interface Cm to the system offering services.
- 6. A method as claimed in 5, in which the Connection Management CM in the system offering services provides to the interface Cm the physical connection that the system desires the service switching function SSF to carry out.
- 7. A method as claimed in claim 5, in which the Connection Management CM in the system offering services provides to the interface Cm a description of the status of the connection organs, in response to which the service switching function SSF determines and carries out the physical connection which corresponds to the description.
 - 8. A method as claimed in claim 5, in which when a call or a part of a call

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in the telecommunication network is released, the basic call state model BCSM in the hold state notifies thereof the system offering services which, in response to such notification restores the description of the status of the connection organs to be such as is known to the basic call state model BCSM and gives it permission to continue with the call release in the normal way.

9. A method for adapting a system offering services to a telecommunication network at least one telephone exchange of which includes a terminal exchange function, in which method:

the terminal exchange gives a service request to the system offering services when the predefined identification condition which is related to the call is fulfilled,

in response to the service request, a special adaptation software forms a description of the communication status, which describes the desired status of communication between the parties of the service, i.e. the logical configuration of the communication between the parties of the service, and a description of the status of the connection organs, which describes the physical connection between the subscribers or subscriber and a legacy exchange, and a description of the resource configuration of the nodes that are related to the telecommunication network,

the description of the communication status and the description of the status of the connection organs are transmitted to the Service Management SM of the system offering services and, if necessary, also to the Communication Session Management CSM,

in response to a system service request by the telecommunications network, the Service Management SM gives a description of the desired communication status corresponding to the requested service, utilizing the description of the communication status and the description of the status of the connection organs that were transmitted to it,

the Communication Session Management determines what kind of connection status corresponds to the given communication status, utilizing the description of the status of the connection organs that has been transmitted to it,

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in response to the connection status, the Connection Management in the system offering services makes the connections so that a connection corresponding to the desired service will be created.

- 10. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the predetermined identification condition is a result of one of the following events: routing that has been performed in the telecommunication network, digit conversion, or call transfer.
- 11. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the special adaptation software is incorporated as part of the operations of the terminal exchange, all end points of the telecommunications network from which the system offering services is accessed and the connection points of the exchange from which the call can be connected further being described to the application software.
- 12. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the special adaptation software is incorporated in the system offering services, the special adaptation software requesting the necessary information from the terminal exchange for forming the description of the communication state and the connection state.
- 13. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the special adaptation software is incorporated in the system offering services, the terminal exchange giving to the special adaptation software a message containing the necessary information for forming the description of communication state and the connection state.
- 14. A method as claimed in claim 9, in which the terminal exchange accepts transfer of the responsibility to the system offering services by setting the call automatic machine to a hold state and by offering a interface Cm to the system which offers services.
- 15. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the Connection Management CM in the system offering services provides to the interface Cm the physical connection that the system desires the terminal exchange to carry out.
- 16. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which the Connection Management CM in the system offering services provides to the interface a description of the status of the connection organs, in response to which the terminal exchange determines and carries out the physical connection corresponding to the

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description.

17. A method as claimed in claim 14, in which when a call or a part of a call in the communication network is released, the call automatic machine in the hold state notifies thereof the system offering services which, in response to such notification returns the description of the status of the connection to such as is known to the call automatic machine and gives it permission to continue with the release of the call in the normal way.

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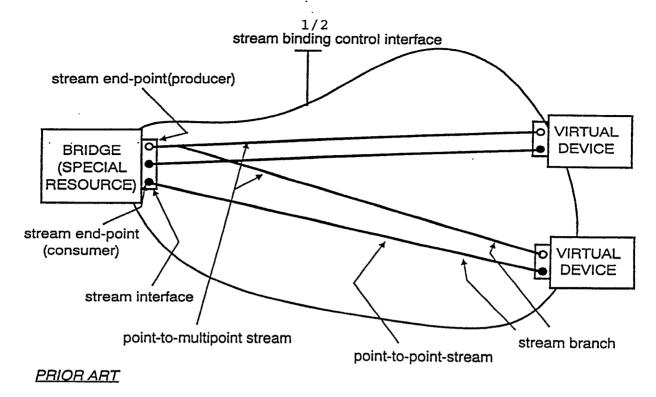


Fig. 1

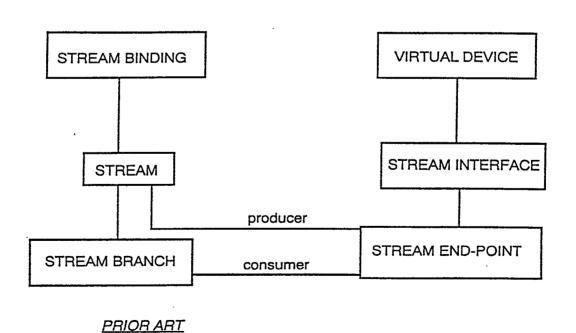


Fig. 2

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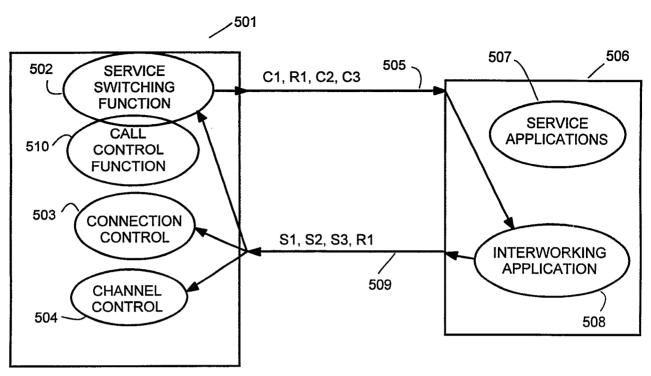


FIG. 3

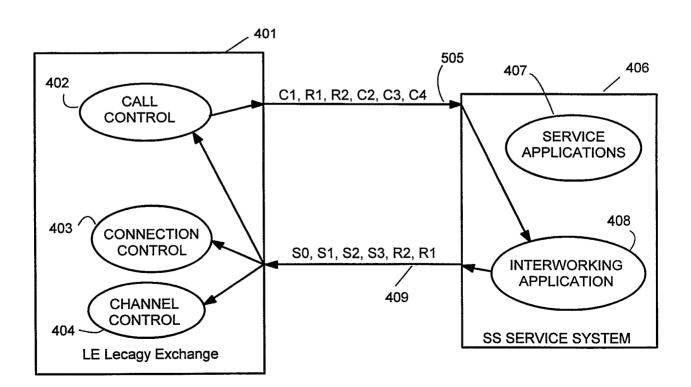


FIG. 4

