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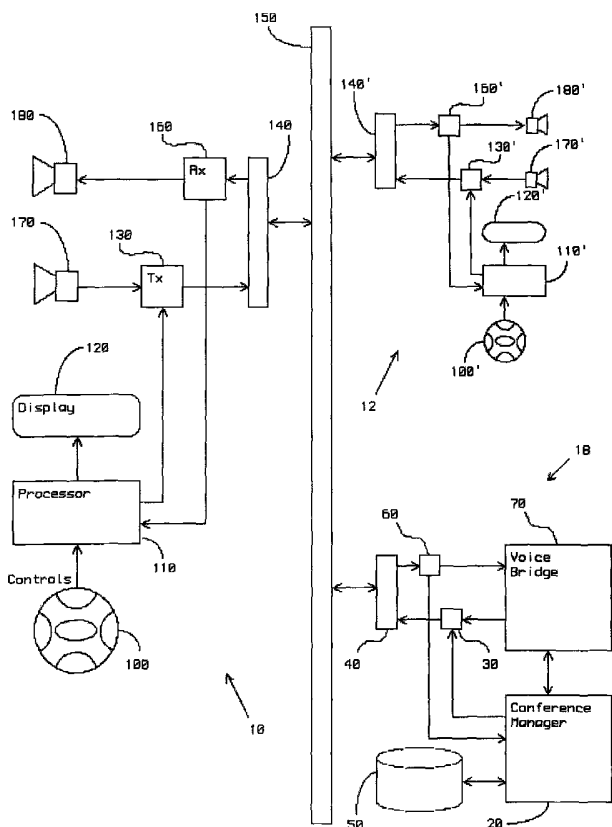
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONFERENCE CALL MANAGEMENT WITH SPEAKER DESIGNATION



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus are disclosed to allow individuals to initiate, join, manage, and participant in a conference call. Members of a community can meet and collaborate over telephones, especially cellular telephones, or computer workstations, in a way that is freeform or prescribed, automatic or moderated, spontaneous or scheduled, unassisted, and selectably anonymous. The invention provides broadly customizable degrees of collective and individual organizational control, and provides social safeguards to minimize disruptions by unruly participants.

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European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 03/28369

<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04M3/56 H04L12/18</p>		
<p>According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>		
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p>		
<p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04M H04L</p>		
<p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched</p>		
<p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal</p>		
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p>		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>US 6 304 648 B1 (CHANG YOUNG-FU) 16 October 2001 (2001-10-16) abstract column 1, line 1 - column 1, line 55 column 2, line 66 - column 3, line 60; figure 1</p>	<p>1-14, 27-37</p>
Y	<p>----- US 5 546 449 A (MURDOCK DOUGLAS R ET AL) 13 August 1996 (1996-08-13) abstract column 1, line 10 - column 2, line 41 column 13, line 31 - column 13, line 57; figure 1 ----- -/--</p>	<p>1-14, 27-37</p>
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.</p>		
<p>° Special categories of cited documents :</p>		
<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>		<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family</p>
<p>Date of the actual completion of the international search 22 January 2004</p>		<p>Date of mailing of the international search report 20. 04. 04</p>
<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016</p>		<p>Authorized officer Liebhart, M</p>

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 03/28369

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 561 649 A (FUJITSU LTD) 22 September 1993 (1993-09-22) abstract column 1, line 5 - column 4, line 13; figure 1	1-14, 27-37
A	----- WO 01/028213 A (LONGWOOD TREVOR ;CORBETT ALEXANDER JOHN (AU)) 19 April 2001 (2001-04-19) abstract page 1, line 13 - page 5, line 25; figure 1 -----	1-14, 27-37

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/28369

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

- 1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

- 2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

- 3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

- 1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

- 2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

- 3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

- 4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-14, 27-37

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-14,27-37

Conference call system and method providing for designation of at least one of the conferees as a current speaker.

2. claims: 15-26,38-59

System and method providing for designation and creation of conference calls.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/28369

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6304648	B1	16-10-2001	NONE
US 5546449	A	13-08-1996	US 5483587 A US 5903637 A
EP 0561649	A	22-09-1993	CA 2092054 A1 EP 0561649 A2 JP 3169470 B2 JP 6046055 A JP 2001290745 A
WO 0128213	A	19-04-2001	WO 0128213 A1 AU 7893500 A