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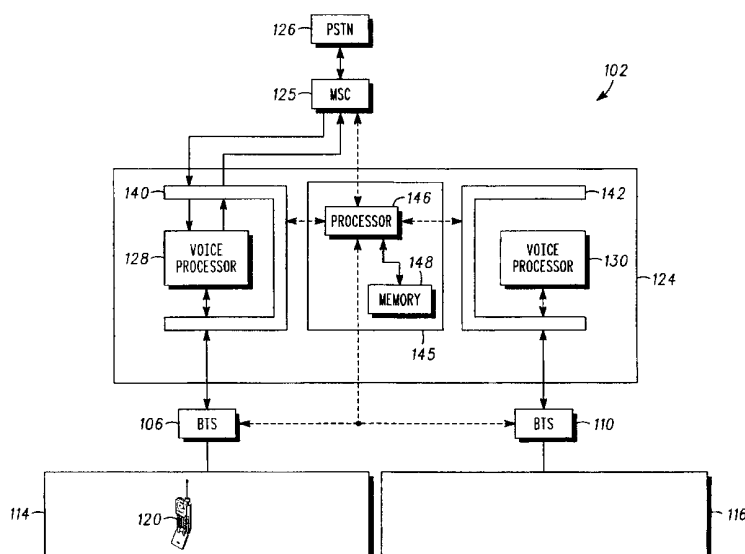
(43) International Publication Date  
20 December 2001 (20.12.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 01/97431 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: H04Q 7/20
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/16732
- (22) International Filing Date: 21 May 2001 (21.05.2001)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
09/591,166 9 June 2000 (09.06.2000) US
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
30 May 2002
- 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.

(54) Title: REDUCING AUDIO GAPS DURING A COMMUNICATION NETWORK HANDOFF



(57) Abstract: A method of reducing an audio gap in a connection between communication hardware and a mobile unit (120) during a handoff between a first cell (114) and a second cell (116) in a communication network (102), wherein a first voice processor (128) is communicatively coupled to a mobile switching center (125) that services the first cell, is disclosed. The method includes the steps of determining when the mobile unit is likely to move from the first cell to the second cell, establishing inbound and outbound communicative coupling between the mobile switching center and a second voice processor (130) that services the second cell when the mobile unit is likely to move from the first cell to the second cell and determining that the mobile unit has moved from the first cell to the second cell.



WO 01/97431 A3

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US01/16732

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : H04Q 7/20  
 US CL : 455/436, 442, 444

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)  
 U.S. : 455/436, 442, 444, 439, 440,441

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)  
 US Patent, Derwent, JPO, EPO

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,471,644 (SCHATZ) 28 November 1995 (28.11.1995), see figures 1-2, column 2, lines 26-36.	1-6
Y	US 6,002,933 (BENDER et al.) 14 December 1999 (14.12.1999), see figure 2, column 4, lines 26-84.	1-6

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	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
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"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)	"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
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

02 July 2001 (02.07.2001)

15/JAN 2002

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