



US009271144B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Julka et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,271,144 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Feb. 23, 2016**

(54) **EVENT NOTIFICATION IN A HYBRID NETWORK**

(75) Inventors: **Vibhor Julka**, San Diego, CA (US);
Erik Colban, San Diego, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Telefonaktiebolaget L M Ericsson (publ)**, Stockholm (SE)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 634 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/551,073**

(22) Filed: **Aug. 31, 2009**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**
US 2009/0323623 A1 Dec. 31, 2009

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 11/094,951, filed on Mar. 31, 2005, now Pat. No. 7,606,197.

(60) Provisional application No. 60/603,694, filed on Aug. 23, 2004, provisional application No. 60/652,585, filed on Feb. 14, 2005.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H04L 12/50 (2006.01)
H04L 12/54 (2013.01)
H04L 1/18 (2006.01)
H04L 12/64 (2006.01)
H04W 8/24 (2009.01)
H04Q 3/00 (2006.01)
H04W 68/12 (2009.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **H04W 8/245** (2013.01); **H04Q 3/0045** (2013.01); **H04Q 2213/13098** (2013.01); **H04Q 2213/13296** (2013.01); **H04Q 2213/13396** (2013.01); **H04W 68/12** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 370/328, 331, 352-353, 356, 360;
455/560
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

7,492,728	B1 *	2/2009	Stephens et al.	370/260
7,526,289	B2 *	4/2009	Schwarz et al.	455/439
2001/0050907	A1 *	12/2001	Madour et al.	370/329
2002/0057658	A1	5/2002	Lim	
2003/0081592	A1 *	5/2003	Krishnarajah et al.	370/352
2004/0120283	A1 *	6/2004	Rezaiifar et al.	370/328
2006/0003772	A1 *	1/2006	Semper	455/452.1

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP 1318684 A1 6/2003

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

3RD Generation Partnership Project 2, "Interoperability Specification (IOS) for High Rate Packet Data (HRPD) Access Network Interfaces", 3GPP2 A.S0008-0 v3.0, May 2003, pp. 1-128.
3RD Generation Partnership Project 2, "cdma2000 High Rate Packet Data Air Interface Specification", 3GPP2 C.S0024-A, Version 1.0, Mar. 2004, pp. 1-1083.

* cited by examiner

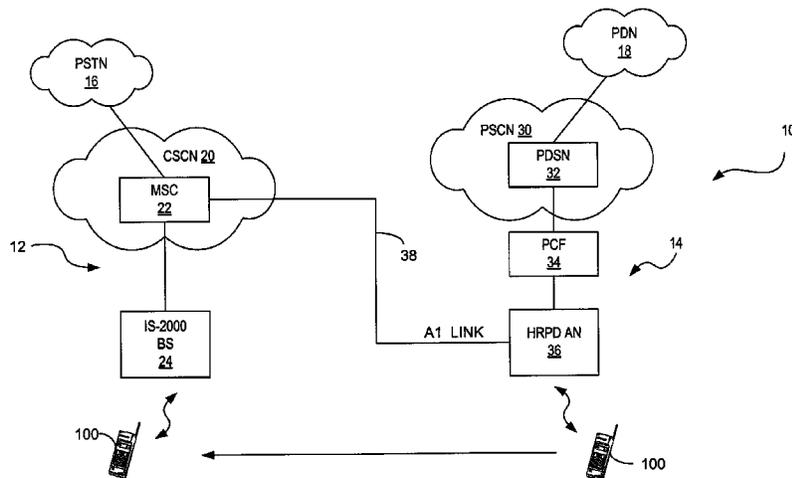
Primary Examiner — Brandon Renner

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Coats & Bennett, PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

When a mobile station requests circuit services notifications through a packet switched network, a mobile switching center sets a forwarding indicator. When the MSC detects an event indicative of a change in the status of the mobile station, the MSC sends an event notification to the packet switched network if the forwarding indicator is set to true. In the packet switched network, the base station can use the event notifications to manage communication resources used for packet data communications with the mobile station.

21 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



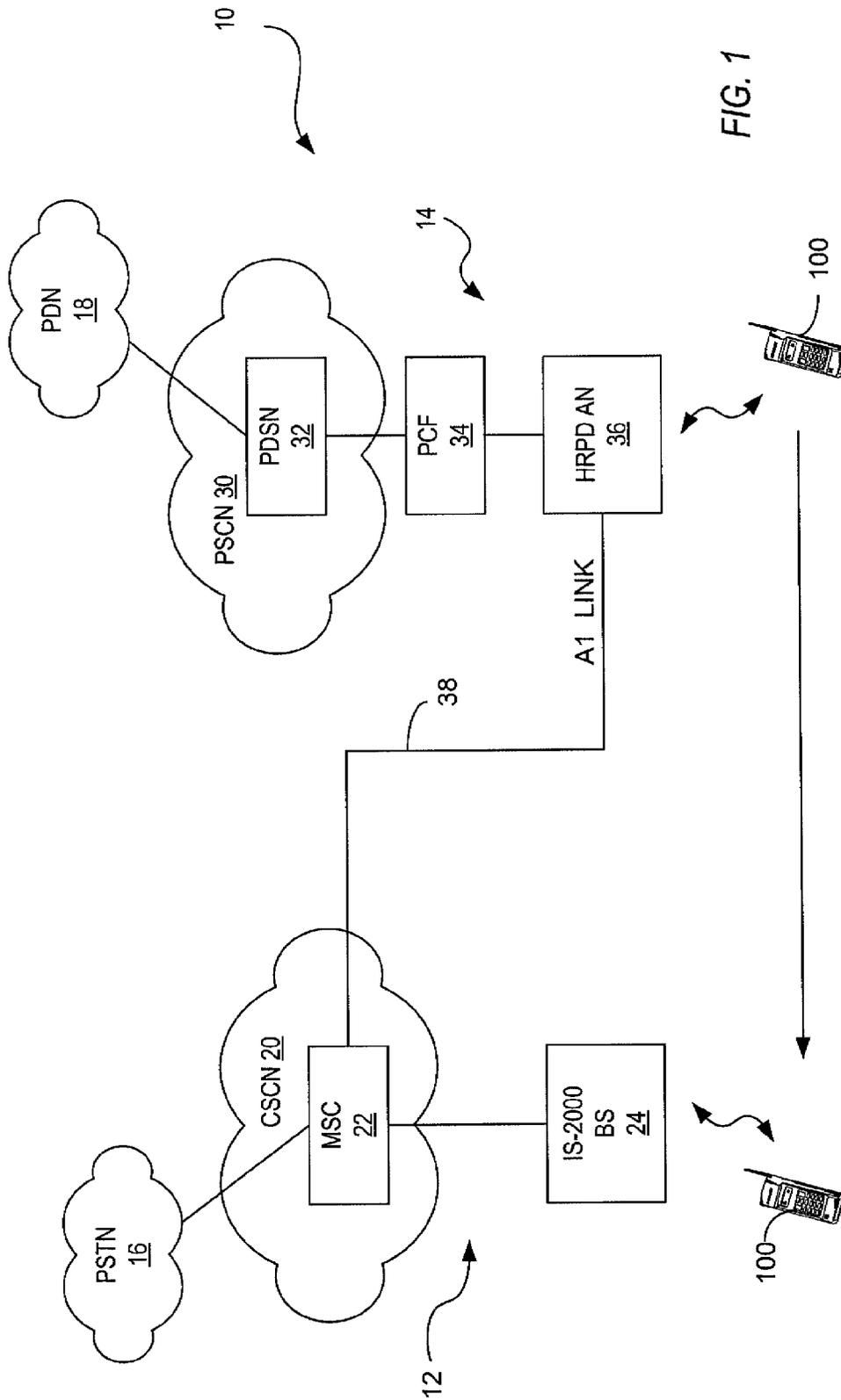


FIG. 1

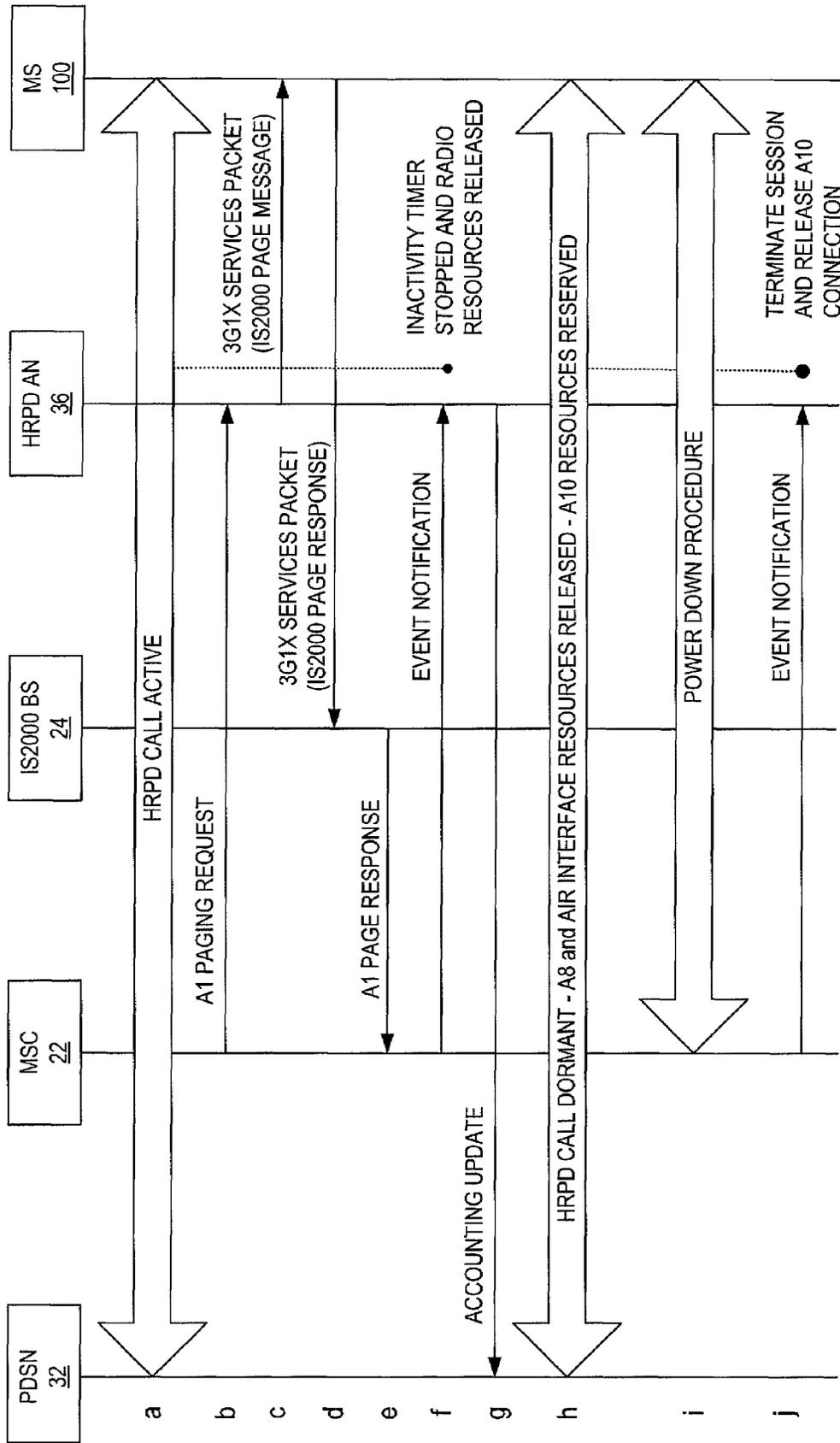


FIG. 2

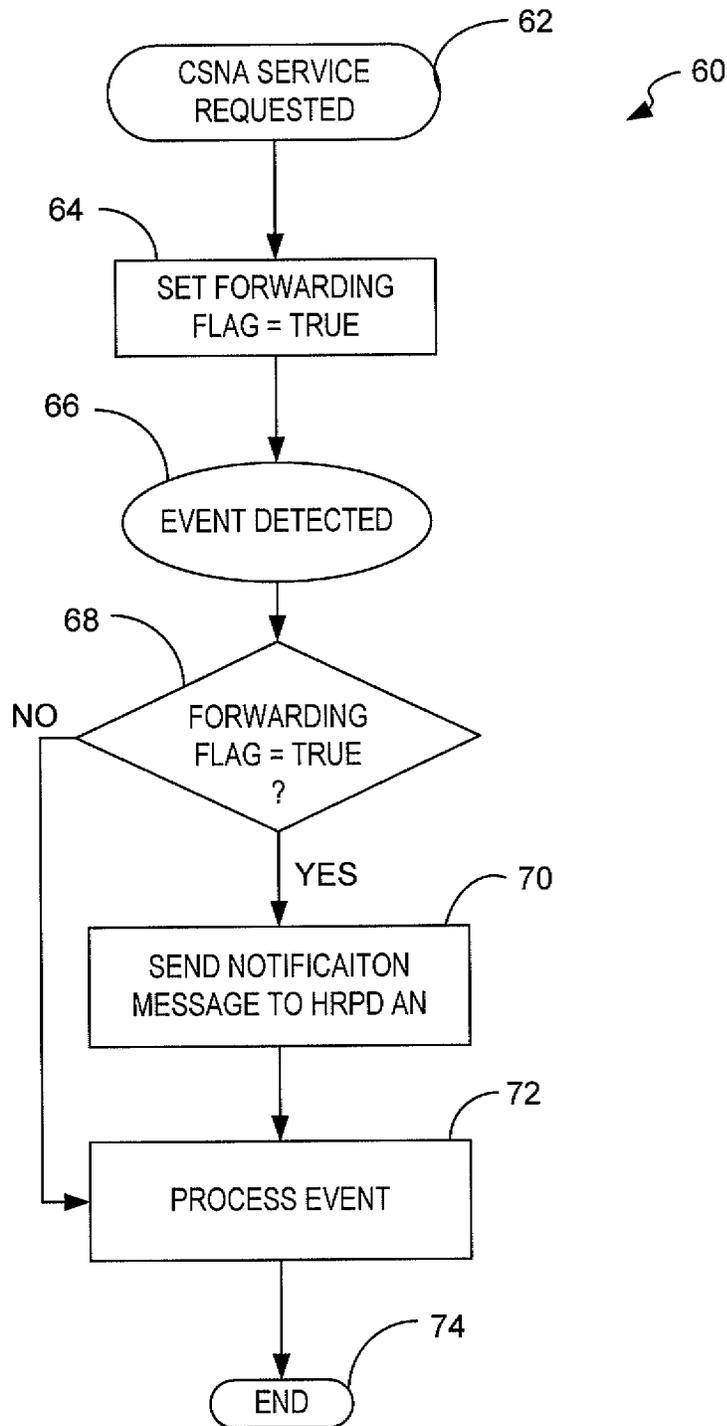


FIG. 3

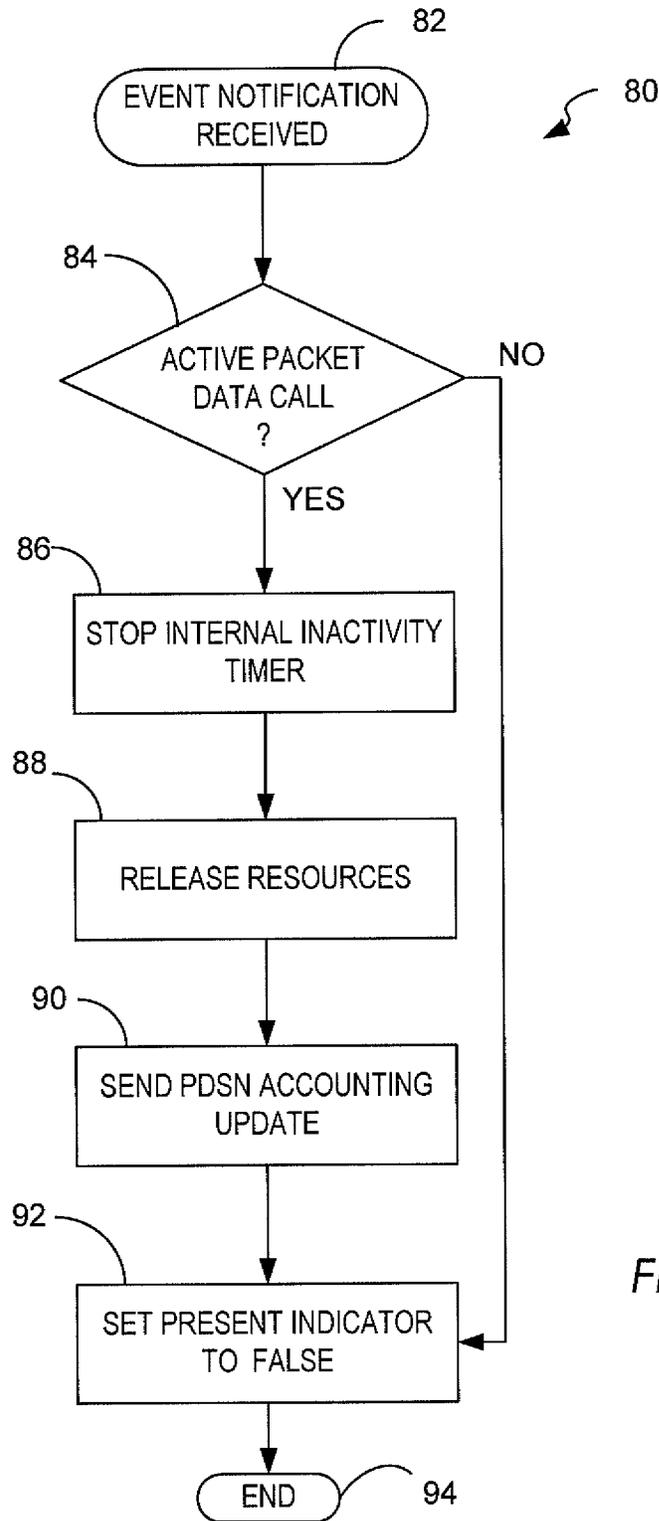


FIG. 4

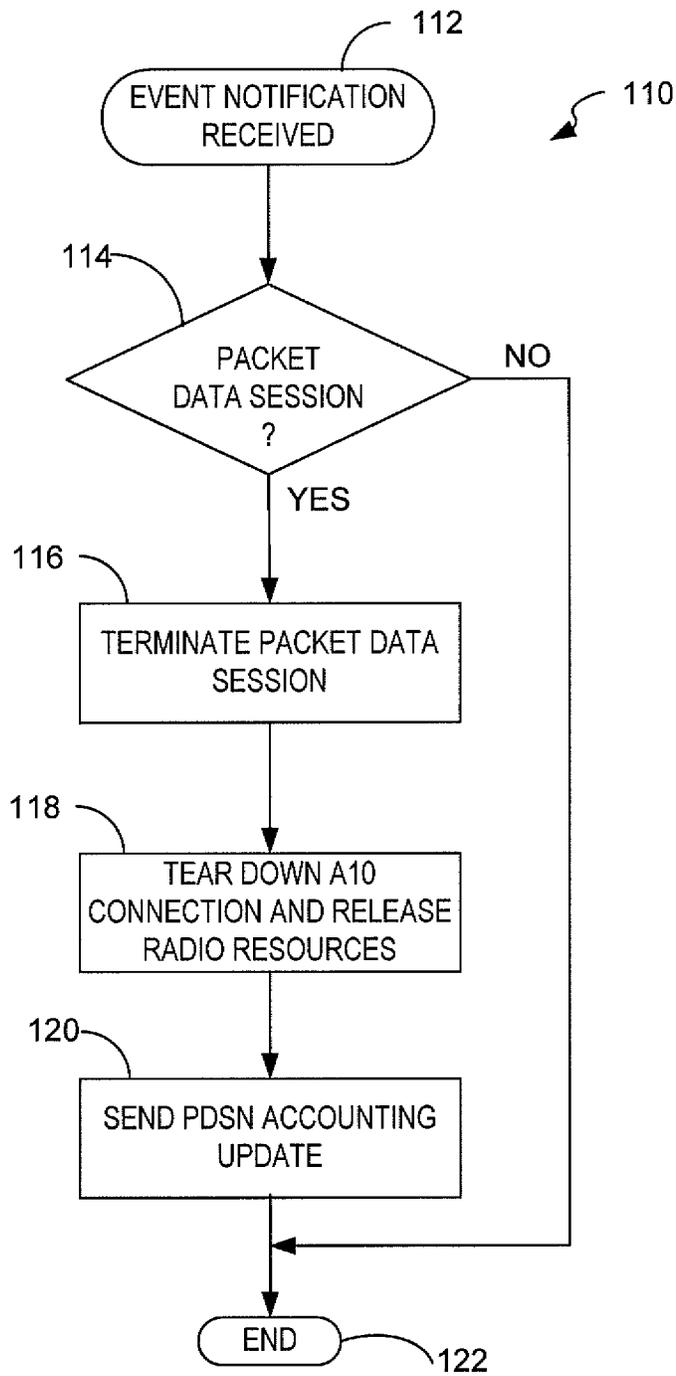


FIG. 5

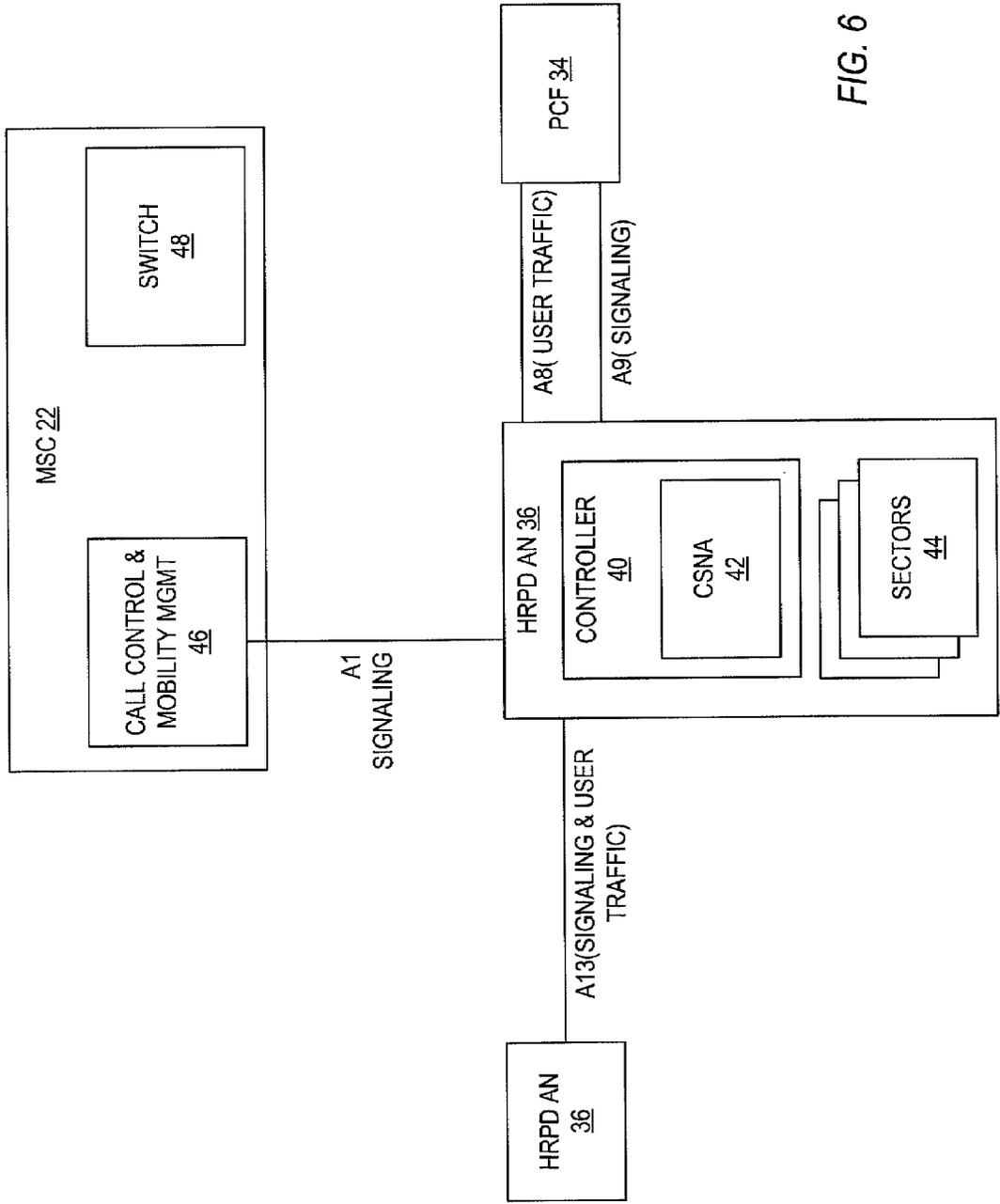


FIG. 6

EVENT NOTIFICATION IN A HYBRID NETWORK

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/094,951, filed Mar. 31, 2005, which claims priority to Provisional U.S. Patent Application 60/603,694 filed Aug. 23, 2004 and to Provisional U.S. Patent Application 60/652,585 filed Feb. 14, 2005, and which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the operation of mobile stations in a hybrid wireless communication network, and more particularly, to an event notification procedure to make more efficient use of network resources.

Cellular networks were originally developed to provide primarily voice services over circuit switched networks. The introduction of packet switched 2.5G and 3G networks enables network operators to provide data services as well as voice services. Eventually, network architecture is expected to evolve toward all-IP networks providing both voice and data services. However, network operators have a substantial investment in existing infrastructure and would therefore prefer to migrate gradually to an all-IP network architecture to allow them to continue to use their existing infrastructure. At the same time, network operators recognize that there is a demand for high rate packet-data services. In order to provide high-rate packet data services, network operators may deploy hybrid networks wherein a high data rate (HDR) network is overlaid on an existing circuit switched or packet switched network as a first step in the transition to an all IP-based network.

A hybrid network that combines two or more networks with different signaling protocols and different air interfaces complicates signaling and session management. One example of a hybrid network combines an IS2000 radio access network providing voice and packet data services with a data only network, such as an IS-856-A High Rate Packet Data (HRPD) access network, providing high rate packet data services. A mobile station with an active packet data session in the HRPD access network may need to switch to the IS2000 network to perform some task, such as answer a voice call. The mobile station may stop listening to the base station in the HRPD access network and, under current standards, is not required to inform the HRPD access network. After switching from the packet switched network to the circuit switched network, the mobile station could power down without returning to the packet switched network. In either scenario, the HRPD access network may assume that the mobile station is still present and listening, or that it may return, and consequently reserve resources to serve the no longer present mobile station. If the HRPD access network receives incoming packet data for the mobile station, the HRPD access network may attempt to deliver the data to the mobile station, which is no longer present. The attempt to deliver the packet data will fail and the HRPD access network will eventually deduce that the mobile station is no longer listening. At that point, the HRPD access network will release resources and update the packet data serving node for accounting purposes. The packet switched network may send a request to a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) to page the mobile station in the IS2000 network before releasing resources. If the mobile

station has powered down, the attempts to page the mobile station will be futile and will unnecessarily consume network resources.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method of managing a communication session with a mobile station in a hybrid network including a circuit switched network and a packet switched network. While operating in the packet switched network, the mobile station may request circuit services notifications through the packet data network. A mobile switching center (MSC) in the circuit switched network stores an indication that the mobile station is operating within the packet switched network and sends circuit services notifications to the mobile station via the packet switched network. According to various embodiments of the present invention, the MSC sends event notifications to the packet switched network responsive to predetermined events, such as a presence event or a power down event, indicating a change in the status of the mobile station. The packet switched network uses the event notifications to better manage network resources.

One event that may trigger the event notification procedure is the presence event. A presence event is an event that indicates that the mobile station is present in the network. A mobile station operating in the packet switched network may receive a circuit services notification, such as a page message, from the circuit services notification application (CSNA). In this case, the mobile station may switch to a carrier in the circuit switched network and send a page response or other message. When the MSC detects the mobile station in the circuit switched network and the mobile station has requested forwarding of circuit services notifications via the packet switched network, the mobile switching center sends an event notification message to the packet switched network indicating that the mobile station has been detected. If resources had been reserved for the mobile station, for example, to support an active packet data call, the packet switched network can release those resources, making them available for others to use. Further, the packet switched network may send an accounting update to a packet data serving node to update the accounting. Thus, the present invention facilitates early release of communication resources, which will increase system throughput and, therefore, system capacity.

Another event that may be useful to report is the power down event. After switching from the packet switched network to the circuit switched network, the mobile station may power down without returning to the packet switched network. The packet switched network may continue to reserve resources, such as A10 connections, and store information for the mobile station in the event that the mobile station returns to the packet switched network. In this scenario, the MSC may send an event notification to the packet switched network to notify the packet switched network that the mobile station has powered down. The packet switched network can then release any resources reserved for the mobile station, such as A10 connections.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a hybrid network according to the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a call flow diagram illustrating an exemplary scenario using the event notification procedure according to the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a flow chart illustrating a procedure executed by the MSC to implement the session management procedure of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a flow chart illustrating a procedure implemented by an HRPD access network to implement the session management procedure according to the present invention.

FIG. 5 is a flow chart illustrating another procedure implemented by an HRPD access network to implement the session management procedure according to the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a block diagram illustrating exemplary details of a mobile switching center and HRPD access network.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now to the drawings, the present invention will be described in the context of a hybrid network 10 providing both voice and data services to mobile stations 100. In the exemplary embodiment shown herein, the hybrid network 10 comprises a combined network incorporating both an IS2000 radio access network (IS2000 RAN) 12 and an HRPD access network (IS856-A) 14. The exemplary embodiment is intended to be illustrative only and those skilled in the art will appreciate that the present invention may be used in networks based on other network standards.

The IS2000 RAN 12 comprises one or more base stations 24 connected to a circuit switched core network (CSCN) 20. The CSCN 20 provides primarily voice services and low rate data services, such as facsimile services, to the mobile stations 100. The CSCN 20 includes a mobile switching center (MSC) 22 that provides a connection to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) 16. The MSC 22 routes traffic between the PSTN 16 and the base stations 24. The base stations 24 communicate with the mobile stations 100 over the air interface. The base stations 24 forward downlink traffic and signaling from the MSC 22 to the mobile stations 100, and forward uplink traffic and signaling from the mobile stations 100 to the MSC 22. In some embodiments, the IS2000 may also provide packet-switched services, though this capability is not material to the present invention and is not discussed further herein.

Also shown in FIG. 1 is an HRPD RAN 14. The HRPD RAN 14 is a high data rate (HDR) network and may be combined with an IS2000 network to provide high speed packet data services. The IS856 standard is generally known as 1xEV-DO. The HRPD RAN 14 comprises one or more access networks (ANs) 36 for communicating with the mobile stations 100, and a packet core function (PCF) 34 connecting the HRPD AN 36 to a packet switched core network (PSCN) 30. The PSCN 30 includes a PDSN 32 that connects to a packet data network 18, such as the Internet. The PDSN 32 establishes communication sessions with mobile stations 100 using, for example, the point-to-point protocol (PPP). The HRPD AN 36 forwards mobile terminated packet data from the PDSN 32 to the mobile stations 100, and forwards mobile-originated packet data to the PDSN 32.

When a mobile station 100 is operating within the IS856 network 14, the mobile station 100 may still want to receive notifications from the MSC 22 relating to circuit switched services without having to periodically return to the IS2000 RAN 12 to receive such notifications. For example, mobile station 100 may want to receive paging messages over the IS856 air interface alerting the mobile station 100 to incoming voice calls. To that end, the HRPD AN 36 includes a 3G1x Circuit Services Notification Application (CSNA) 42, which may be seen in FIG. 3. Alternatively, the CSNA 42 could be located in the PCF 34. The CSNA 42 provides circuit services notifications to mobile stations 100 over the IS856-A air

interface. The CSNA 42 uses the Circuit Services Notification (CSN) protocol. The CSN protocol also ensures that the mobile station 100 stays registered with the CSCN 20 even when it is monitoring the IS856 packet data channel. The CSNA 42 is described in *cdma2000 High Rate packet Data Air Interface Specification*, 3GPP2 C.20024-A, Version 1.0 (March 2004), which is incorporated herein by reference. The mobile station 100 may request circuit services notifications from the HRPD RAN 14, causing the CSNA 42 to notify the MSC 22 to send notification messages to the mobile station 100 via the HRPD RAN 14. The CSNA 42 and mobile station 100 may configure a filter that allows notifications associated with only certain circuit switched services to be sent over the IS856 air interface.

When the mobile station 100 requests circuit services notifications from the IS856 network, the MSC 22 will be informed that the mobile station 100 has requested CSNA services and will send circuit services notifications to the mobile station 100 via the HRPD AN 36. The CSNA 42 in the HRPD AN 36 receives the circuit services messages from the MSC 22, and the CSNA 42 in turn provides circuit service notifications to the mobile station 100.

In some scenarios, the circuit services notification sent to the mobile station 100 may cause the mobile station 100 to transition to the IS2000 RAN 12. As one example, the CSNA 42 may receive a paging request message from the MSC 22 and send a page message to the mobile station 100 responsive to the paging request message causing the mobile station 100 to transition to the IS2000 RAN 12 to receive a voice call. In other scenarios, the mobile station 100 may autonomously transition to the IS2000 RAN 12. For example, the mobile station 100 may transition to the IS2000 RAN 12 to originate a voice call.

Under the current IS856 standards, the mobile station 100 is not required to notify the HRPD AN 36 when it transitions to the IS2000 RAN 12. If the mobile station 100 is engaged in an active packet data session, the HRPD AN 36 will continue to reserve radio resources for the active packet data session with the mobile station 100. The PDSN 32 will forward packet data to the HRPD AN 36, which will attempt to deliver the packet data to the mobile station 100. The HRPD AN 36, through the use of internal mechanisms such as inactivity timers, failed delivery attempts, etc., will eventually determine that the mobile station 100 is not longer listening on the IS856 carriers and will release the radio and communication resources that have been reserved for the mobile station 100. The HRPD AN 36 may request the MSC to page the mobile station in the IS2000 RAN 12 and wait for a response from the mobile station 100 before releasing resources.

When the mobile station 100 transitions from the HRPD RAN 14 to the IS2000 RAN 12, the radio and communications resources reserved for the mobile station 100 are not being used. Releasing reserved radio and communication resources as early as possible would improve overall throughput of the network, and therefore, increase system capacity. Further, releasing resources when the mobile station 100 transitions to the IS2000 network can reduce accounting discrepancies.

According to the present invention, a method is provided for sending event notifications between the IS2000 RAN 12 and the HRPD RAN 14 to more efficiently manage resources. When the mobile station 100 registers with the HRPD RAN 14, it may request forwarding of circuit services notifications through the HRPD RAN 14. When the HRPD AN 36 receives a request for circuit services notifications via the HRPD RAN 14, it notifies the MSC 22 via an A1 signaling link 38 that the mobile station 100 is operating within the IS 856 RAN 14.

5

The MSC 22 stores an indication, referred to herein as the forwarding flag, indicating that the mobile station 100 is operating within the HRPD RAN 14. This flag indicates that circuit services notifications should be forwarded to the mobile station 100 through the HRPD RAN 14. The forwarding flag is also used to determine when event notifications should be sent by the MSC 22 to the HRPD RAN 14. When the forwarding flag is set, the MSC 22 sends event notifications to the HRPD RAN 14 responsive to certain predetermined events.

One event that may trigger an event notification is a presence event. A presence event occurs when the IS2000 RAN 12 detects the mobile station 100 after the mobile station 100 has transitioned from the HRPD RAN 14. When the MSC 22 detects the presence of a mobile station 100 after it has transitioned to the IS2000 RAN 12, the MSC 22 sends an event notification to the HRPD RAN 14. This situation may occur for example when the mobile station 100 involved in an active packet data session in the HRPD RAN 14 receives a circuit services notification, such as a page message. Responsive to the page message or other circuit services notification, the mobile station 100 transitions to the IS2000 RAN 12. The mobile station 100 could also transition to the IS2000 RAN 12 on its own initiative, for example, to initiate a voice call. When the MSC 22 detects that the mobile station 100 has transitioned to the IS2000 RAN 12 and the forwarding flag is set, the MSC 22 sends an event notification message to the HRPD RAN 14 to notify the HRPD RAN 14 of the presence event. Upon receipt of the notification message from the MSC 22, the HRPD RAN 14 can release resources reserved for the mobile station 100 and send an accounting update to the PDSN 32 to update accounting. In one exemplary embodiment, the HRPD RAN 14 places the packet data session in a dormant state responsive to the event notification. Thus, the HRPD RAN 14 may tear down its A8 connection and release any air interface resources reserved for the mobile station while maintaining the A10 connection to the PDSN 32.

Another event that may trigger an event notification is referred to herein as the power down event. If the mobile station 100 powers down after transitioning to the IS2000 RAN 12, the MSC 22 may send an event notification to the HRPD RAN 14 to notify that the mobile station 100 is no longer reachable. In response to the power down event notification, the HRPD RAN 14 terminates the packet data session and tear down the A10 connection to the PDSN 32. Similarly, the HRPD RAN 14 may send an event notification to the IS2000 RAN 12 when the mobile station 100 powers down while present in the HRPD RAN 14.

FIG. 2 is a call flow diagram illustrating how event notifications may be used. The call flow diagram is meant to be illustrative. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the present invention may be implemented in other procedures. The mobile station 100 establishes an active packet data call with the HRPD RAN 14 (step a). It is assumed that the mobile station 100 has requested CSNA services and that the MSC 22 has set the forwarding flag as previously described. While the mobile station 100 is involved in an active packet data call, the MSC 22 sends an A1 paging request to the HRPD AN 36 (step b), and the HRPD AN 36 sends an IS2000 page message to the mobile station 100 encapsulated within a IS856-A air interface message (step c). The mobile station 100 transitions to the IS2000 RAN 12 and sends an IS2000 page response encapsulated within a IS856-A air interface message (step d). The IS2000 BS 24 receives the page response from the mobile station 100, reformats the page response, and sends an A1 paging response to the MSC 22 (step e). The MSC 22 sends an event notification to the HRPD AN 36 indicating that the

6

mobile station 100 has been detected in the IS2000 RAN 12 (step f). The HRPD RAN 14 stops its inactivity timer and releases radio and communication resources assigned to the mobile station 100. The HRPD AN 36 also sends an accounting update to the PDSN 32 to update accounting for the packet data call (step g). At this point, the packet data call goes into a dormant state (step h). In the dormant state, the HRPD RAN 14 maintains a connection with the PDSN 32 for the packet data call but there is no communication channel established between the HRPD RAN 14 and the mobile station 100. As is well known to those skilled in the art, the communication channel for the packet data call can be re-established at the initiative of either the HRPD RAN 14 or the mobile station 100. Procedures for re-establishing the packet data calls are not material to the present invention.

The mobile station 100 powers down without returning to the HRPD RAN 14. Before shutting down, the mobile station 100 and MSC 22 execute a power down procedure (step i). In one exemplary procedure, the mobile station 100 sends a power down indication to the IS2000 BS 24, which in turn sends a Clear Request message to the MSC 22 to initiate call clearing. The MSC 22 sends a Clear Command message to the IS2000 BS 24, which releases the resources allocated to the mobile station and sends a Clear Complete message with a power down indicator to the MSC 22. In response to the Clear Complete message, the MSC 22 sends an event notification to the HRPD RAN 14 (step j) and the HRPD RAN 14 terminates the packet data session and releases the A10 connection to the PDSN 32.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram illustrating an exemplary notification procedure 60 implemented by the MSC 22. The procedure 60 begins when the MSC 22 receives a request from the HRPD RAN 14 to send circuit services notifications to the mobile station 100 via the HRPD AN 36 (block 62). The MSC 22 sets a forwarding flag to true (block 64). When the MSC 22 subsequently detects an event (block 66), it determines the setting of the forwarding flag (block 68). The detected event may, for example comprises a presence event, power down event, or some other event. If the forwarding flag is set to true, the MSC 22 sends the HRPD RAN 14 an event notification (block 70). The event notification includes an indication of the type of the event. The MSC 22 responds to the event normally as specified in applicable standards (block 72) and the process ends (block 74). If the forwarding flag is set to false (block 68), the MSC 22 processes the received message from the mobile station 100 normally (block 72).

FIG. 4 illustrates an exemplary resource management procedure 80 implemented by an HRPD RAN 14 for responding to a presence event. It is assumed that the mobile station 100 has requested CSNA services and that the presence flag at the HRPD AN 36 is set to true. The procedure begins when the HRPD AN 36 receives a notification that the mobile station 100 has been detected in the IS2000 RAN 12 (block 82). The HRPD AN 36 determines if a packet data call is active (block 84). If so, the HRPD AN 36 stops its internal inactivity timer (block 86) and releases resources assigned to the mobile station 100 (block 88). Additionally, the HRPD AN 36 sends an accounting update to the PDSN 32 (block 90) and sets a presence flag equal to false (block 92). The presence flag indicates whether the mobile station 100 is present and listening in the HRPD AN 36. The HRPD AN 36 can use the presence flag to determine if it should attempt delivery of packet data over the IS856 air interface, or send a request to the MSC 22 to page the mobile station 100. The HRPD AN 36 sets the presence flag to false (block 92) and the procedure ends (block 94).

FIG. 5 illustrates an exemplary procedure 110 implemented by the HRPD AN 36 for responding to a power down event. The procedure begins when the HRPD AN 36 receives an event notification from the MSC 22 indicating that the mobile station 100 has powered down (block 112). The HRPD AN 36 determines if a packet data call session exists (block 114). If so, the HRPD AN 36 terminates the packet data session (block 116), tears down the A10 connection to the PDSN 32, and releases radio resources (block 118). Additionally, the HRPD AN 36 may send an accounting update to the PDSN 32 (block 120) and the procedure ends (block 122).

FIG. 6 illustrates an exemplary MSC 22 and HRPD AN 36 in more detail. The MSC 22 includes a call control and mobility management circuit 46 for call control handling and mobility management functions, and a switch 48 for routing user traffic. The AN 36 includes a controller 40 and one or more sectors 44. The sectors 44 contain the radio equipment for communicating with the mobile stations 100. The controller 40 comprises the control portion of the AN 36. The controller 40 processes call control signaling and manages the radio and communication resources used by the sectors 44. The controller 40 includes the CSNA 42, which may be implemented in a processor programmed to carry out the functions of the CSNA 42. The CSNA 42 exchanges signaling with the MSC 22 and provides the circuit services notifications to mobile stations 100 over the IS856 air interface. Signaling traffic between the controller 40 and the MSC 22 is carried over the A1 interface. The A8 and A9 interfaces carry user traffic and signaling, respectively, between the HRPD AN 36 and PCF 34. The A13 interface transfers user traffic and signaling between HRPD ANs 36.

In any case, those skilled in the art should appreciate that the present invention is not limited by the foregoing discussion, nor by the accompanying figures. Rather, the present invention is limited only by the following claims and their reasonable legal equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing communication resources in a hybrid network including a circuit switched network and a packet switched network, the method performed in a node within the packet switched network, the method comprising:

establishing packet data communications between said packet switched network and a mobile station over an access network that is distinct from an access network used for circuit switched communications between said circuit switched network and said mobile station, wherein said hybrid network combines said packet switched network and said circuit switched network with different signaling protocols and different air interfaces;

receiving an event notification at said node from said circuit switched network indicative of a change in the status of the mobile station; and

managing communication resources used for said packet data communications with the mobile station based on said event notification from said circuit switched network.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the event notification indicates a presence of the mobile station in the circuit switched network.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the event notification indicates that the mobile station has powered down.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein managing communication resources comprises releasing communication resources used for packet data communications with said mobile station.

5. The method of claim 4 further comprising notifying an accounting application accounting for the packet data communications that the communication resources were released.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a request from said mobile station for circuit services notifications through said packet-switched network, and invoking a circuit services notification application responsive to said request to provide circuit services notifications to said mobile station.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the circuit-switched network and the packet-switched network include distinct radio access networks.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said node is within the packet switched network's access network, and wherein said receiving comprises receiving the event notification at said node from the circuit switched network's core network.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said node is within the packet switched network's access network, as distinct from the circuit switched network's access network, and wherein said receiving comprises receiving the event notification at said node from a mobile switching center in the circuit switched network's core network.

10. An access network for a packet-switched network included in a hybrid network that also includes a circuit switched network, comprising:

a radio base station supporting packet data communications with a mobile station; and

a controller including a signaling processor configured to route circuit services notifications from the circuit switched network to a mobile station while the mobile station is in the packet switched network, by encapsulating the circuit services notifications within messages conforming to an air interface for said packet switched network, as distinct from an air interface for said circuit switched network, wherein said hybrid network combines said packet switched network and said circuit switched network with different signaling protocols and different air interfaces,

receive an event notification indicative of the status of the mobile station from the circuit switched network; and

manage communication resources used for said packet data communications responsive to said event notification.

11. The access network of claim 10 wherein the event notifications comprise a notification message indicating that the mobile station is present in the circuit switched network.

12. The access network of claim 10 wherein the event notifications comprise a notification message indicating that the mobile station has powered down.

13. The access network of claim 10 wherein the signaling processor is further configured to release communication resources used for packet data communications with said mobile station responsive to said event notification.

14. The access network of claim 13 wherein the signaling processor is further configured to notify an accounting application accounting for the packet data communications that the communication resources were released.

15. The access network of claim 10, wherein the circuit-switched network and the packet-switched network include distinct radio access networks.

16. A controller for a packet-switched network included in a hybrid network that also includes a circuit switched network, comprising:

a signaling processor configured to:

provide circuit services notifications to a mobile station while the mobile station is in the packet switched

network, by encapsulating the circuit services notifications within messages conforming to an air interface for said packet switched network, as distinct from an air interface for said circuit switched network, wherein said hybrid network combines said packet switched network and said circuit switched network with different signaling protocols and different air interfaces;

receive an event notification from the circuit switched network indicative of a change in the status of the mobile station; and

manage communication resources used for said packet data communications responsive to said event notification message.

17. The controller of claim **16** wherein the event notification comprises a notification message indicating that the mobile station is present in the circuit switched network.

18. The controller of claim **16** wherein the event notification comprises a notification message indicating that the mobile station has powered down.

19. The controller of claim **16** wherein the signaling processor is further configured to release communication resources used for packet data communications with said mobile station responsive to said event notification.

20. The controller of claim **19** wherein the signaling processor is further configured to notify an accounting application accounting for the packet data communications that the communication resources were released.

21. The controller of claim **16**, wherein the circuit-switched network and the packet-switched network include distinct radio access networks.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 9,271,144 B2
APPLICATION NO. : 12/551073
DATED : February 23, 2016
INVENTOR(S) : Julka et al.

Page 1 of 1

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Specification

In Column 1, Line 7, delete "2005," and insert -- 2005, now Pat. No. 7,606,197, --, therefor.

In Column 5, Line 58, delete "to F the" and insert -- to the --, therefor.

Claims

In Column 8, Line 38, in Claim 10, delete "interfaces," and insert -- interfaces; --, therefor.

Signed and Sealed this
Twenty-sixth Day of July, 2016



Michelle K. Lee
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office