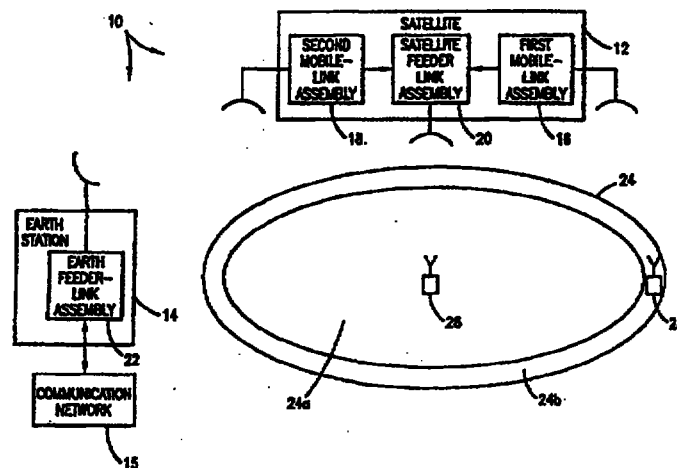


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(54) Title: A MOBILE-LINK SYSTEM FOR A RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM WITH DIVERSITY RECEPTION OF SELECTED UPLINK SIGNALS

**(57) Abstract**

A mobile-link system (10) for a radio communication system includes a first mobile-link assembly (16), a second mobile-link assembly (18), and a satellite feeder-link assembly (20) located on satellite (12); and an earth feeder-link assembly (22) located in earth station (14). The first and second mobile-link assemblies (16 and 18) operate in combination to transmit downlink signals to mobiles in both the central zone (24a) and the edge zone (24b) of the coverage area (24). The first mobile-link assembly (16) receives uplink signals from both the central zone (24a) and the edge zone (24b) whilst the second mobile-link assembly (18) only receives uplink signals from mobiles in the edge zone (24b) of the coverage area (24). In this manner the first mobile-link assembly (16) and the second mobile-link assembly (18) provide diversity reception of edge uplink signals transmitted from mobile stations located in the edge zone (24b).