

Mobile Device and Method for Receiving and Processing Program-accompanying Data

This invention relates to a mobile device and a method for receiving and processing program-accompanying data. In particular, this invention relates to
5 a mobile device and a method for receiving and processing program-accompanying digital data which are transmitted by a radio transmitter and at least certain of which contain location parameters.

Devices with a radio or television receiver for receiving program-accompanying data and with a display for showing received program-
10 accompanying data are known and are available on the market. Such devices are available, in particular, for DAB digital radio systems (Digital Audio Broadcasting) or for other radio systems such as FM-SWIFT or FM-DARC, or for television receivers with teletext, which typically all operate unidirectionally. Although information can be received and displayed with such devices, a user
15 cannot receive information, however, in a targeted way, relating to subjects selected by him alone and/or information relevant for his current location only.

Described in the European patent application EP 0 259 717 is a method in which program-accompanying data are provided with content-specific codes and are transmitted, for advertising purposes. A user can receive information
20 on one or more subject areas in a targeted way, for example real estate advertising, by programming a portable receiver with the corresponding codes. The method described in EP 0 259 717 offers a user no possibility, however, of receiving data, relating to his current location, with his portable receiver in a targeted way.

25 It is the object of this invention to propose a new mobile device and a new method of receiving and processing program-accompanying data which make it possible to receive and to process location-specific information in a targeted way.

This object is achieved, according to the present invention, in particular
30 through the elements of the independent claims. Further preferred embodiments follow moreover from the dependent claims and from the description.

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This object is achieved in particular by the invention in that a mobile device, for example a mobile radio telephone, a palmtop or a laptop computer, comprising a radio receiver, that can receive radio programs with program-accompanying digital data, at least certain of the received program-accompanying data including location parameters, includes a position locating module and a filter module, the filter module being able to filter location-specific information from the received program-accompanying data on the basis of a current position determined by the position locating module. This has the advantage that a user of this mobile device can be supplied with location-specific information in a targeted way.

In various embodiment variants, the position locating module includes a satellite-based positioning system, for example a receiver for the Global Positioning System (GPS), or a terrestrial positioning system, or it can obtain position indications from a mobile network, for example a GSM or UMTS network.

The mobile device preferably includes a memory module in which a user profile can be stored, on the basis of which user profile received program-accompanying data can be filtered by the said filter module. This has the advantage that the user of the mobile device can filter out certain information in a targeted way out of the received program-accompanying data, it being possible to implement this in combination with the filtering of location-specific information. The user can define, for example in the user profile, certain categories or subject areas in which he is interested, in a targeted way, so that location-specific information on these categories or subject areas can be filtered out for him from the received program-accompanying data. It can also be provided for that the area to be taken into consideration in the filtering of location-specific information can be defined in the user profile, for example the radius around the current location.

The mobile device preferably includes a display on which filtered program-accompanying data can be displayed.

The mobile device preferably includes operating elements by means of which filtered program-accompanying data can be selected and edited.

The mobile device preferably includes a communications module by means of which selected, filtered program-accompanying data can be

transmitted to a service center, for example in special short messages such as SMS (Short Message Service) or USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Services Data) messages via a GSM or UMTS network, the service center being, for example, a short message service center (SMSC). This has the advantage that
5 multidirectional communication can be thereby achieved, which is initiated by the unidirectional transmission of program-accompanying data.

In an embodiment variant, at least certain of the received program-accompanying data contain an order number, which includes a product identification and an associated supplier identification, and the said mobile
10 device includes a communications module, by means of which a selected order number is sent to the supplier identified by the said order number, the order number being transmitted to a service center, for example in special short messages such as SMS (Short Message Services) or USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Services Data) via a GSM or UMTS network, the service center
15 being, for example, a short message service center (SMSC), in which service center the order number is linked with user identification data of the user of the said mobile device, and the linked data are transmitted to the said supplier.

In an embodiment variant, at least certain of the received program-accompanying data contain an URL address, and the mobile device includes a
20 communications module, by means of which a resource in the Internet addressed by means of the URL address can be activated.

In an embodiment variant, at least certain of the received program-accompanying data contain executable program data files which can be executed in a processing module of the mobile device.

25 One embodiment of the present invention will be described in the following with reference to an example. The example of the embodiment is illustrated by the following attached figures:

Figure 1 shows an overall diagram with a radio transmitter and a mobile device, which device is connected to a mobile network, to which a service
30 center with access to service providers is linked.

Figure 2 shows a block diagram of a mobile device with a radio receiver, a position locating module, a filter module, a communications module, a processing module, a memory module, a display, and operating elements.

In the following embodiment example, the reference numeral 1 refers to a radio transmitter, which can transmit program-accompanying data, for example a transmitter of a national or local radio station, or a transmitter for covering a narrowly restricted geographic area, for example trade fair grounds or exhibition premises. The radio transmitter 1 is, for example, an FM transmitter, which can also transmit, in particular, program-accompanying digital data. The transmission of program-accompanying data in addition to the radio program is used above all in the DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting) radio system or in other radio systems such as FM-SWIFT or FM-DARC. The DAB technology, for example, makes it possible to transmit both radio programs and program-accompanying services (Program Associated Data, PAD). For example, transmission can be by means of DAB data in eight addressable channels with a capacity of 150 kbits each, the addressing of these channels making it possible to transmit data to a separately addressed receiver, to a defined group of several receivers (multicast) or to all receivers (broadcast).

According to the present invention, at least certain of the program-accompanying data transmitted by the radio receiver 1 include location parameters defining a geographic position and/or area for which the respective program-accompanying data are relevant and/or interesting. For example, the location parameters include geographic coordinates defining a particular stand on the grounds of a trade fair or an exhibition, or relating to a particular point of sale and/or sales agent for products and/or services.

As indicated by the unidirectional arrow 2, emerging from the radio transmitter 1, the program-accompanying digital data, for example advertising information on products and/or services or executable program data files, together with any possible audio programs, are disseminated by the transmitter 1 and are received by a mobile device 3 with a corresponding radio receiver 38 (see Figure 2), for instance. The radio receiver 38 is, for example, a DAB radio receiver or a radio receiver for receiving program-accompanying data according to FM-SWIFT, FM-DARC or another process.

In a possible embodiment, a transmitted and received audio signal is passed on by the radio receiver 38 to an amplifier (not shown), for example an audio amplifier known to one skilled in the art, is amplified thereby, and the

amplified electrical signal is applied to one or more loudspeakers (not shown) or to a connecting jack (not shown) for connecting headphones.

Although the embodiment example described relates to a radio transmitter and a radio receiver, it should be mentioned at the very beginning that, in another embodiment variant, instead of a radio transmitter, which transmits audio programs with program-accompanying data, a television transmitter can be used which transmits television programs with program-accompanying data, for example teletext information, which are received by a corresponding television receiver 38, it being possible for the video program to be displayed, for example, on a television screen 31 of a mobile device 3, for example a conventional electronic picture tube, an LCD or plasma display, or via a virtual retina display.

As shown in Figure 2, the radio receiver 38 passes on the received program-accompanying digital data, via a schematically indicated connection, to a filter module 37.

According to the present invention, the mobile device 3 has in addition a position locating module 39, which can determine the current geographic position (of the mobile device 3). A determination of position can be carried out, for example, periodically or upon demand, for example upon request of another module of the mobile device 3, for example the filter module 37, or upon request of the user of the mobile device, who enters this as a command by means of operating elements 32, for example, after which the determined current position is displayed for him on a display 31 of the mobile device 3. The position locating module 39 operates, for example, according to a known satellite-based positioning system, in particular the Differential Global Positioning System (GPS), and correspondingly includes a known GPS receiver. In an embodiment variant, the position locating module 39 operates according to a terrestrial positioning system, or it obtains position indications from a mobile network 4. In the latter case, the mobile device 3 is a mobile radio device, which includes a communications module 34 in order to communicate in a mobile network 4, for example a GSM or UMTS network.

As shown in Figure 2, the position locating module 39 passes on the determined current position to the filter module 37 via a schematically shown connection.

The filter module 37 is a programmed software module, for example, which is implemented in a processor of the mobile device 3 and is stored in a program memory of the mobile device 3. In an embodiment variant, the processor and the program memory for storing and implementing the filter module 37 are located on a chipcard 33 of the mobile device 3, for example an identification card 33 of the mobile device 3, for example a SIM (Subscriber Identification Module) card. The filter module 37 accepts the received program-accompanying data from the radio receiver 38 as well as the determined current position from the position locating module 39, and compares the location parameters contained in the program-accompanying data, for example geographic coordinates, with the current position. If the location parameters and the current position agree, the respective program-accompanying data can be passed on as location-specific information to a processing module 36. There is agreement if, for example, the geographic coordinates of the received location parameters and the determined current position are identical or their difference is within a predefined range that can also be set by the user in a user profile, which user profile will be described more closely below. Program-accompanying data, which contain no location parameters or whose location parameters do not coincide with the current position can be ignored by the filter module 37, for example.

The filter function of the filter module 37 can also be determined in addition by parameters of a user profile stored in a memory module 35. The user profile 35 is, for example, a table with key words, which define, for example, particular categories or subject areas of information in which the respective user is interested. The user profile 35 can also be contained, for example, in the information entered by the user which influences the filtering of location-specific information, for example, the user can define a geographic area, for example a geographic radius which is supposed to be taken into consideration by the filter module 37 in filtering location-specific information depending upon the current position, or the user can switch off the filtering of location-specific information, for example. The user profile 35 can be set up by the user, for example, by means of a corresponding software program in the processing module 36, this software program being able to receive commands entered by the user by means of the operating elements 32 and being able to show entered values, function menus and the contents of the user profile 35 on

a display 31 of the mobile device 3. The user profile 35 can also be integrated into an executable program applet, for instance a Java applet, and can be set up externally by the user, for example, and edited, e.g. in a personal computer, an externally defined and/or edited applet being able to be loaded into the
5 mobile device 3, for instance by means of special short messages, e.g. USSD or SMS short messages. As will be described later on, the said processing module 36 includes moreover further software programs and software functions, and is executed on a processor of the mobile device 3 and is stored in a program memory of the mobile device 3. In an embodiment variant, the
10 processor and the program memory for storing and implementing the processing module 36 are located on a chipcard 33 of the mobile device 3, for instance an identification card 33 of the mobile device 3, e.g. an SIM card.

The processing module 36, by means of a software function, receives the location-specific information filtered by the filter module 37, which are
15 moreover limited by the filter module to the information areas set up in the user profile 35, and shows them on the display 31 of the mobile device 3, for example. Corresponding software functions in the processing module 36 receive commands, entered by the user by means of operating elements 32, for browsing through, selecting and/or editing of the displayed, filtered information,
20 and respectively update the information shown on the display 31 corresponding to the entered commands. Depending upon the contents of the filtered program-accompanying data, the processing module 36 shows a menu for data selected by the user on the display 31 with possible further functions for the respective data, or, if only one particular function is up for selection, requires
25 from the user a confirmation as to whether the respective function should be carried out for the selected data.

In particular, received and filtered location-specific data can be passed on, for example by the processing module 36, to a communications module 34 of the mobile device for transmission to a service center 5. The
30 communications module 34 includes, for example, known components in order to communicate in a mobile network 4, for instance a GSM or UMTS network, and in order to transmit in this mobile network 4 special short messages, e.g. SMS or USSD messages. The service center 5 comprises, for example, a known short message service center (SMSC), which is linked to the mobile
35 network 4 and can receive and process short messages transmitted via this

mobile network 4. This makes possible, for example, an order or job processing between the communications module 34 and the service center 5 according to the SICAP method, described, inter alia, in the patent publication EP 0 689 368.

- 5 In a first application example, the location-specific data contain order numbers for products, services and/or information requests, which include a product identification of the respective products, services or information requests and an associated supplier identification for the respective supplier or service provider. The location-specific order numbers can be used in an
- 10 ordering method according to the published patent application WO 98/28900, the order number being transmitted by the communications module 34, as described above, to the service center 5, where the order number is linked to identification data, which relate to the user of the mobile device 3 and are obtained from a network database accessible to the service center 5, and being
- 15 passed on to the supplier 8, or respectively the service provider 8, indicated in the order number. Before transmission of the order number by the communications module 34 to the service center 5, still further information, of significance for the order, can be entered by the user, if applicable, for example the number of items to be ordered and/or indications about payment and mode
- 20 of payment, and can be transmitted to the service center 5 by the communications module 34 together with the order number. The passing on of the order data by the service center 5 to the service provider 8 can take place, for example, over a fixed network 9, e.g. the public switched telephone network (PSTN) or it can take place via an Internet vendor 6 over the Internet 7.
- 25 Ordered products and information, such as, for example, executable programs, e.g. Java applets, encrypted admission tokens, for instance for events and functions with automatic access control, as well as requested data from a database can be transmitted by the service provider (supplier) 8, for example directly via the mobile network 4, to the mobile device 3, and correspondingly
- 30 executed there, stored, or respectively displayed. A corresponding billing of the obtained products, information or services can be carried out via an account of the respective user, this account being located, for example, on a chipcard 33 of the mobile device 3 and containing, for example, a prepaid amount.

In a second application example, the location-specific data contain URL (Universal Resource Locator) addresses, which can be used by the communications module 34 to activate a resource 8 in the Internet 7 addressed through the URL address. This is, for example, a particular web page 8 or a particular home page 8 in the Internet, which is activated by the communications module 34 via the service center 5 and via an Internet vendor 6. The service center 5 includes, for example, a short message service center (SMSC), the respective URL address being transmitted together with corresponding instructions, as described above according to the SICAP method, for example, by the mobile device 3 to the service center 5, and from there through a special service by means of the Internet Protocol (IP) via an Internet vendor 6 to the addressed resource 8 in the Internet 7. The service center 5 can be connected, for example, to the signalling system of the mobile network 4, also by means of suitable components, for instance by means of a Home Location Register (HLR) to the signalling system number 7 (SS7), and have moreover suitable gateway and/or converting functions to activate the resource 8 in the Internet 7 addressed through the URL address by means of the Internet Protocol (IP) via an Internet vendor 6 protocol (IP). The activated resource 8 in the Internet 7 can be shown on the display 31 of the mobile device by means of suitable browser functions of the processing module 36, and can be navigated by the user of the mobile device 3 via the operating elements 32.

In a third application example, the location-specific data contain executable program data files, for example Java applets, which can be executed in the processing module 36 of the mobile device 3. The user of the mobile device can select, for example, via the above-mentioned menu functions, whether a received executable program data file is to be executed right away or whether it is to be just stored in the memory module 35 and is to be executed at a later point in time.

Depending upon the degree of confidentiality of the program-accompanying data, these data can be transmitted, for example with the aid of security services, by the radio transmitter 1 to the mobile device 3, respectively by the mobile device 3 to the service center 5; for this purpose the TTP (Trusted Third Party) method or a PTP (Point-To-Point) method can be used, for instance.

As already indicated above, the received and filtered location-specific data can contain, for example, advertising information concerning a particular stand on the grounds of a trade fair or exhibition premises, or can relate to a particular point of sale and/or sales agent for products and/or services, it being possible for the advertising information to also include described order numbers, for instance. In a further application, the location-specific information can also contain explanations and comments relating to items on exhibition in a museum, given in addition to acoustical information of the audio program or as a substitution for hearing-impaired persons. In a multistoried building, moreover, it can make sense for the program-accompanying data transmitted by the radio transmitter 1 to also include an indication of elevation in the location parameters, and for the position locating module 39 to also include a suitable elevation measuring device, in addition to the described position locating means, in order to also determine the current elevation, so that the filter module 37 described above can also take into consideration the current elevation for filtering location-specific information from the received program-accompanying data. The received and filtered location-specific data can of course also contain other location-specific information, such as, for instance, location-dependent fees, traffic information, orientation indications, for example for road networks and/or vacant parking spaces, weather data, timetables and connection times for public transportation, and much more.

The possibilities for application of the invention described as well as the contents and uses of location-specific information are almost limitless, and in no way restricted just to the examples given.

It should also be mentioned here that the specially equipped mobile device 3, as has been described here, can be achieved in a single comprehensive housing, but it can also be achieved in such a way that it includes a plurality of housings separable from each other, each containing certain modules of the described mobile device, which modules are removably connected to one another via interfaces installed in these housings. In one embodiment example, a first housing includes, for instance, such modules as are contained in a conventional mobile device, e.g. a communications module 34, a display 31 and operating elements 32, whereas a second housing includes modules such as a radio receiver 38 for receiving program-accompanying data, a position locating module 39 and a filter module 37. The

above-mentioned interface is, for instance, a suitable interface with contacts or a contactless interface, e.g. an inductive interface, an infrared interface, or in particular a high frequency interface, for instance a so-called "bluetooth" interface, which operates, for example, at 2.4 GHz. One skilled in the art will
5 understand that there are different possibilities for configuration of such modules.

Besides specially equipped mobile devices 3, as have been described here, also various suitable extension modules can be sold and/or rented to an interested user, which extension modules have at least certain of the described
10 special function modules and which can be connected to conventional mobile devices, or for an interested user, who has a mobile device with the suitable hardware modules, suitable software modules for execution of the described method could be loaded into the memory module of this mobile device, in exchange for cash payment.



Claims

1. A mobile device (3), which includes a radio receiver (38), which can receive radio programs with program-accompanying digital data, at least certain of the received program-accompanying data containing location
5 parameters, wherein
it includes a position locating module (39), and
it includes a filter module (37), by means of which, on the basis of a current position determined by the said position locating module (39), location-specific information can be filtered from the said at least certain received
10 program-accompanying data.
2. The mobile device (3) according to the preceding claim, wherein the said position locating module (39) includes a satellite-based positioning system.
3. The mobile device (3) according to claim 1, wherein the said position
15 locating module (39) includes a terrestrial positioning system.
4. The mobile device (3) according to claim 1, wherein it is a mobile radio device which can communicate in a mobile network (4), and the said position locating module (3) obtains position indications from the said mobile network (4).
- 20 5. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein it includes a memory module (35) in which a user profile can be stored, on the basis of which user profile said received program-accompanying data can be filtered by the said filter module (37).
6. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims,
25 wherein it includes a display (31) on which filtered program-accompanying data can be displayed.
7. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein it includes operating elements (32) by means of which filtered program-accompanying data can be selected and edited.
- 30 8. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein it includes a communications module (34), by means of which





selected, filtered program-accompanying data can be transmitted to a service center (5).

9. The mobile device (3) according to the preceding claim, wherein the said communications module (34) transmits said selected, filtered program-accompanying data in special short messages via a GSM and/or UMTS network to the said service center (5).

10. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein at least certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain an order number which includes a product identification and an associated supplier identification.

11. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein at least certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain a URL address, and the said mobile device (3) includes a communications module (34) by means of which a resource (8) in the Internet (7), addressed through the said URL address, can be activated.

12. The mobile device (3) according to one of the preceding claims, wherein at least certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain executable program data files which can be executed in a processing module (36) of the mobile device (3).

13. A method for receiving and processing program-accompanying digital data which are transmitted by a radio transmitter (1) and at least certain of which include location parameters, wherein

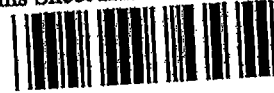
said program-accompanying data are received by a mobile device (3) according to claims 1 to 12 *<sic. one of the claims 1 to 12>*,

the said mobile device (3) determines its current position by means of a position locating module (39), and

the said mobile device (3), by means of a filter module (37), filters location-specific information from the said received program-accompanying data on the basis of the determined current position.

14. The method according to the preceding claim, wherein the said position locating module (39) determines the said current position by means of a satellite-based positioning system.





15. The method according to claim 13, wherein the said position locating module (39) determines the said current position by means of a terrestrial positioning system.

16. The method according to claim 13, wherein the said position locating
5 module (39) obtains indications about the current position from a mobile network (4).

17. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 16, wherein said received program-accompanying data are filtered by the said filter module (37) on the basis of a user profile stored in a memory module (35) of the said mobile
10 device (3).

18. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 17, wherein filtered program-accompanying data can be displayed on a display (31) of the mobile device (3).

19. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 18, wherein filtered
15 program-accompanying data can be selected by means of operating elements (32) of the said mobile device (3).

20. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 19, wherein selected, filtered program-accompanying data can be transmitted to a service center (5) by means of a communications module (34) of the said mobile device
20 (3).

21. The method according to the preceding claim, wherein the said communications module (34) transmits said data in special short messages via a GSM or UMTS network (4) to the said service center (5).

22. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 21, wherein at least
25 certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain an order number, which includes a product identification and an associated supplier identification, wherein a selected said order number is linked to user identification data of the user of the said mobile device (3), and wherein the linked data are sent by a communications module (34) of the said mobile
30 device (3) to the supplier (8) identified through the said order number.

23. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 22, wherein at least certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain a URL address, and wherein a resource (8) in the Internet (7), addressed through a



selected said URL address, is activated by a communications module (34) of the said mobile device (3).

24. The method according to one of the claims 13 to 23, wherein at least certain of the said received program-accompanying data contain executable
5 program data files, and wherein a selected said executable program data file is executed in a processing module (36) of the said mobile device (3).

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