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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB99/01772 (22) International Filing Date: 4 June 1999 (04.06.99) (30) Priority Data: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">9812161.9</td> <td style="width: 40%;">5 June 1998 (05.06.98)</td> <td style="width: 30%;">GB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>98309609.0</td> <td>24 November 1998 (24.11.98)</td> <td>EP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9825723.1</td> <td>24 November 1998 (24.11.98)</td> <td>GB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9902052.1</td> <td>29 January 1999 (29.01.99)</td> <td>GB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9902648.6</td> <td>5 February 1999 (05.02.99)</td> <td>GB</td> </tr> </table> (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BRISCOE, Robert, John [GB/GB]; Home Farm, Parham, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 9NW (GB). RIZZO, Michael [MT/GB]; 12 Dewar Lane, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 2GJ (GB). (74) Agent: EVERSHED, Michael; BT Group Legal Services, Intellectual Property Dept., 8th floor, Holborn Centre, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TE (GB).		9812161.9	5 June 1998 (05.06.98)	GB	98309609.0	24 November 1998 (24.11.98)	EP	9825723.1	24 November 1998 (24.11.98)	GB	9902052.1	29 January 1999 (29.01.99)	GB	9902648.6	5 February 1999 (05.02.99)	GB	(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, 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, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, 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), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
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(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (57) Abstract In a communications network, which may be a federated data network such as the Internet, use of network resources is measured locally at customer terminals, for example by counting the number of packets sent and received. The resulting data may be aggregated and sent to a network accounting object. Accounting data may subsequently be passed between network subdomains.																	