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| <b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> :</b><br><b>H04B 7/26</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>A1</b> | <b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 98/09391</b><br><b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 5 March 1998 (05.03.98)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US97/12917<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 25 July 1997 (25.07.97)<br><b>(30) Priority Data:</b><br>08/697,598 ✓ 27 August 1996 (27.08.96) ✓ US<br><b>(71) Applicant:</b> ERICSSON INC. [US/US]; 7001 Development Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (US). ✓<br><b>(72) Inventor:</b> HASSAN, Amer, A.; 412 Key West Mews, Cary, NC 27513 (US). ✓<br><b>(74) Agent:</b> GRUDZIECKI, Ronald, L.; Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P., P.O. Box 1404, Alexandria, VA 22313-1404 (US). |           | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, 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, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).<br><br><b>Published</b><br>With international search report. |

**(54) Title:** FAST ASSOCIATED CONTROL CHANNEL TECHNIQUE FOR SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

**(57) Abstract**

A method and system for transmitting control information, such as Fast Associated Control Channel (FACCH) information in a digital TDMA communication system. Control information, when required, is transmitted over every other TDMA frame, and speech and data are transmitted over the remaining TDMA frames. Coding protection is reduced during transmission of the control information.

