

ABSTRACT

COMMUNICATIONS SERVER APPARATUS, METHOD AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR MANAGING ORDERS

A communications server apparatus for managing orders which, in response to receiving order data indicative of a scheduled order associated with a user, the order data including an item data field indicative of at least one item and a time data field indicative of a delivery time defined by the user for delivery of the scheduled order to the user, and in a batching cycle, generate, in one or more data records, batch data indicative of an order batch including the scheduled order and at least one unbatched order, quality data indicative of a quality indicator for the order batch, and if a batching efficiency condition is satisfied based on the quality indicator, release data indicative of a release of the order batch for allocation of the order batch to a delivery agent for the scheduled order to be delivered by the agent to the user at the delivery time.

(Fig. 3)