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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : H04Q 7/00		A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/21375
			(43) International Publication Date: 29 April 1999 (29.04.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE98/01921		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, 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, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, 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).	
(22) International Filing Date: 23 October 1998 (23.10.98)			
(30) Priority Data: 9703872-3 23 October 1997 (23.10.97) SE 60/063,024 23 October 1997 (23.10.97) US 09/169,731 9 October 1998 (09.10.98) US			
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(54) Title: RANDOM ACCESS IN A MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM			
(57) Abstract A novel format is provided for an uplink common physical channel in a random access mobile communications system (100), whereby a mobile station (116) transmits a first packet including a predetermined signature pattern (206, 210) in parallel with a second packet including the data part (212, 216, 220) of the random access request. Consequently, in addition to its attendant advantages, the signature part of a random access request can also function as a Pilot by providing additional energy for channel estimation during the data part of the request, while reducing the amount of overhead signalling involved. This additional energy is especially useful for ensuring sufficiently high quality coherent detection of the data part in a rapidly varying radio channel environment.			