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(54) Title: PROVIDING INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES IN A CELLULAR MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

(57) Abstract

In a cellular mobile communications network, routing decisions pertaining to supplementary services are made by a home location register (HLR). For calling subscriber supplementary services, such as private numbering plans, a mobile services switching center (MSC) requests that the HLR performs the necessary routing decisions, and the HLR responds accordingly. For called subscriber supplementary services, such as call forwarding on busy, the MSC sends a status information (such as the busy condition) to the HLR, and the HLR responds by determining supplementary call routing information, which is then sent to the MSC. Determining the supplementary call routing information may require that the HLR select from among several routing alternatives, in dependence on a condition such as time-of-day. In an alternative embodiment of called subscriber services, the HLR may recognize, upon initially being asked for a roaming number for a called subscriber, that a called subscriber condition exists that requires making a choice from among several possible routings. The HLR may solicit choice-determinative information from the MSC, which in turn prompts the calling subscriber for this information. The requested information may be returned to the MSC from the calling subscriber in the form of a dual tone multi-frequency (DTMF) signal. The MSC may convert the DTMF signal into a message containing the requested information, for transmission to the HLR.

