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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB98/03503 (22) International Filing Date: 24 November 1998 (24.11.98) (30) Priority Data: 97309810.6 4 December 1997 (04.12.97) EP (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): BEDDUS, Simon, Alexander [GB/GB]; 35 Grove Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 1NX (GB). BRUCE, Gary, Leslie [GB/GB]; 34 Haughgate Close, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1LQ (GB). (74) Agent: WELLS, David; BT Group Legal Services, Intellectual Property Dept., Holborn Centre, 8th floor, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TE (GB).		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, CN, JP, SG, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**(57) Abstract**

In a communications network, each of a number of users registers user profile data in a directory. The directory is available to other users. The user profile data includes identifiers for one or more of a plurality of call control protocols. Prior to establishing a call, a user retrieves user profile data for the called party from the directory. The call is then established using a call control protocol which was identified in the relevant user profile.

