

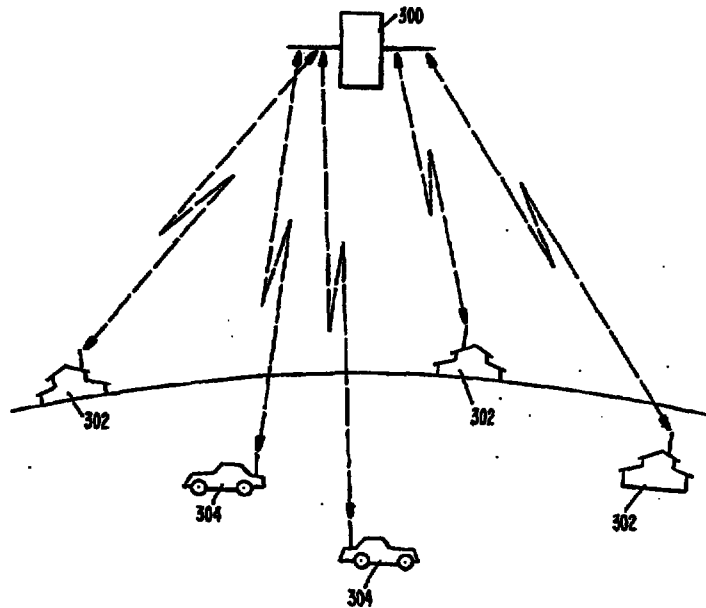


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US96/13597 (22) International Filing Date: 26 August 1996 (26.08.96) (30) Priority Data: 08/519,943 28 August 1995 (28.08.95) US (71) Applicant: ERICSSON INC. [US/US]; 7001 Development Drive, P.O. Box 13969, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (US). (72) Inventors: DENT, Paul, W.; Stehags Prästgård, S-240 36 Stehag (SE). HASSAN, Amer, A.; 412 Key West Mews, Cary, NC 27513 (US). (74) Agents: GRUDZIECKI, Ronald, L. et al.; Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P., P.O. Box 1404, Alexandria, VA 22313-1404 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), 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). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

(54) Title: OPTICAL SATELLITE FEEDERLINKS**(57) Abstract**

A cellular communications satellite system is disclosed which comprises a plurality of ground-based base stations, mobile stations, and at least one orbiting satellite for relaying signals between the base stations and mobile stations. A plurality of feederlinks are used between the base stations and the satellite for transmitting signals and power from the ground stations to the satellite.