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(54) Title: A COMMUNICATIONS GATEWAY FOR PILOTS OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for providing communications between remote pilots of unmanned aircraft and air traffic controllers is disclosed. The apparatus includes a gateway having a user management unit configured to receive a user message from a software application corresponding to a remote pilot, and to authenticate the remote pilot based on the user message or the corresponding data connection; an application programming interface configured to generate an access token if the remote pilot is authenticated, and to make a call to an application programming interface endpoint of an air traffic controller communications network; a Controller Pilot Data Link Communications emulator configured to parse the user message and to convert it into a Controller Pilot Data Link Communications compliant format; and a datalink connector configured to push the converted user message and the access token to the application programming interface endpoint. The datalink connector also receives a message from the air traffic controller communications network and the user management unit communicates the message to the software application.

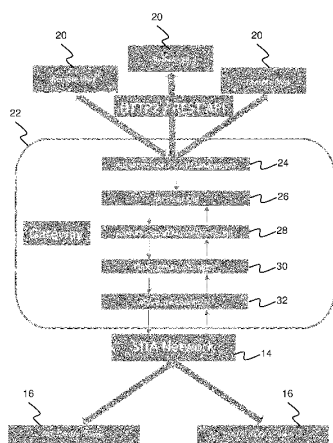


FIG. 2

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i))*
- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
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