

ABSTRACT

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

5 A communications receiver, such as a radiopager (10), has a
socket (22) into which a device, such as a card (24), can be
inserted in order to load into the receiver data relating to its
operation. The data may comprise a radio identity code (RIC) and
prepaid credit units which are cancelled by the receiver as they
10 are spent. Additionally the data may relate to frequency and
data rate information which is usable by the receiver to adapt it
to be able to receive messages transmitted by the respective
paging system. Once the data has been loaded in the device it is
removed from the receiver and is either discarded or re-used
15 after having the credit units recharged on payment of a fee.

The receiver may be adapted to any one of a number of paging
systems by simply inserting the appropriate card (24) and loading
in the operating information, RIC and credit units embedded in
it. A user can roam from country to country and by downloading
20 the relevant information from an insertable card be able to adapt
his receiver to the local paging system and pay for his usage of
his receiver as he goes.

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30 (Figure 1)

