

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for achieving reliable transmission of signalling messages in a cellular system in which the frequency plan, frequency/time slot allocation plan, code channel allocation plan, or dynamic/adaptive channel allocation rule of the system is violated by allowing adjacent base stations to reuse particular frequencies/time slots/channels for signalling a particular mobile station. In situations where signalling messages, such as handoff commands, which are communicated between a base station and a mobile station are not properly received by the mobile station, an alternate communications channel will be established to ensure the reception of these messages. The alternate channel is provided by repeating the message through a channel associated with a base station which has better radio characteristics. The channel selected for transmission of the message by the new base station will be on the same frequency/time slot/code as used by the established connection.