

Claims:

1. A method of switching an active ongoing first electronic communication at a mobile device from a first network to a second network, where said first network is one of a mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network, using a switch device located remotely from said mobile device, and said switch device is configured to communicate with a mobile cellular communications network and a satellite communications network; said method comprising the steps of:

(1) said switch device receiving a notice from said mobile device, said notice operating to indicate that a switch is desired;

(2) said switch device initiating a second electronic communications directed to said mobile device, where said second electronic communication is configured to establish communications to said mobile device via said second network;

(3) said switch device switching said ongoing electronic communication from said first network to said second electronic communication established on said second network.

2. A method of transferring or switching an ongoing first electronic communication at a mobile device from a first network to a second network, where said first network is one of a mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network, and said mobile device comprises a mobile component configured to operatively communicate over said mobile cellular communications network and a satellite component configured to operatively communicate over said satellite communications network; said method comprising the steps of:

(1) determining at said mobile device the cellular signal strength of said mobile cellular communications network, and based on said cellular signal strength, determining to transfer from said first network to said second network;

(2) said mobile device sending a notice to a remotely located switch device, over said second network or said first network, said notice acting as a request to transfer;

(3) said mobile device receiving, from said switch device, notice that said ongoing communications is active on said second network;

(4) said mobile device transferring said ongoing communications from said mobile or satellite component associated with said first network, to the other of said mobile or satellite component associated with said second network.

3. A method of selecting, at a mobile device, a network over which to receive an incoming electronic communication, where said selection includes either a first network or a second network, where said first network is one of a mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) receiving at said mobile device a notice over said satellite communications system of a pending incoming electronic communication, said notice received from a remotely located switch device, where said switch device is configured to communicate with a mobile cellular communications network and a satellite communications network;

(2) receiving a notice at said mobile device over said mobile cellular communications network of a pending incoming electronic communication over said mobile cellular communications network, said notice received from a remotely located switch device;

(3) said mobile device determining if cellular signal strength is above or below a predetermined threshold limit;

(4) if said cellular signal strength is above said threshold limit, said mobile device answering said incoming electronic communication over said mobile cellular communications network;

(5) if said signal strength is below said threshold limit, said mobile device answering said incoming electronic communication over said satellite communications network.

4. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3 further including the step of termination of said first electronic communication over said first network by said switch device.

5. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3, where said mobile device further comprises a first SIM card and a second SIM card, where said switch device is in communication with said second SIM card, where said first and second SIM cards are associated with said mobile device.

6. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3 where said mobile device comprises a mobile smart phone.

7. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3 where said switch device comprises a computer processor and an associated memory device.

8. The method of claim 6 where said mobile device further includes a radio transceiver configured to operatively communicate with said mobile smart phone and a satellite transceiver configured to operatively communicate with said satellite communications network.

9. The method of claim 6 where said switch device further comprises a softswitch, said softswitch further comprising a computer processor and associated memory devices.

10. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3 wherein said mobile device comprises a radio transceiver configured to communicate with a mobile cellular communication network and a satellite transceiver configured to directly communicate with a satellite communications network.

11. The method of claim 1 or 2 or 3 wherein said mobile device further has an application program and a reinforcer, said reinforcer wirelessly communicating with said application

program, said reinforcer configured to receive and send data from said satellite transceiver and to receive and send data to said application program.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said mobile device further has a user interface, said user interface operatively communicating with said application program.

13. The method of claim 12 where said application program is configured to transfer data received from said user interface to said reinforcer.

14. The method of claim 13 where said user interface comprises a microphone and speaker.

15. The method of claim 13 where said user interface comprises a keyboard.

16. The method of claim 15 where said keyboard is a virtual keyboard displayed on a smart phone.

17. The method of claim 12 where said application program is adapted to transfer data routed to said radio transceiver, to said reinforcer.

18. The method of claim 11 where said reinforcer further comprises a SIP server.

CLAIMS

1. A method of switching an active ongoing first electronic communication at a mobile
5 device from a first network to a second network, where said first network is one of a mobile
cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second
network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite
communications network, using a switch device located remotely from said mobile device,
and said switch device is configured to communicate with a mobile communications cellular
10 network and a satellite communications network; said method comprising the steps of:
- (1) receiving a notice from said mobile device at said switch device, said notice
operating to indicate that a transfer is desired;
- (2) said switch device initiating a second electronic communications directed to
said mobile device, where said second electronic communication is configured to establish
15 communications to said mobile device via said second network;
- (3) said switch device moving said ongoing electronic communication through
said first network to said second electronic communication established through said second
network, where said switch device is in communication on said second electronic
communication.
- 20 2. The method of claim 1 further including the step (4) termination said first electronic
communication over said first network by said switch device.
3. The method of claim 1 where said mobile device further comprises a first SIM card
and said switch device in in communication with said second SIM card, where said first
and second SIM cards are associated at said switch device with said mobile device.
- 25 4. The method of claim 1 where said first mobile device comprises a mobile smart
phone.
5. The method of claim 1 where said switch device comprises a computer processor and
an associated memory device.
6. The method of claim 4 where said mobile device further includes a radio transceiver
30 configured to operatively communicate with a mobile communications satellite transceiver,
and a satellite transceiver configured to operatively communicate with a satellite
communications network.
7. The method of claim 4 where said switch device further comprises a softswitch, said
softswitch further comprising a computer processor and associated memory devices.

8. A method of transferring a switching an ongoing first electronic communication at a mobile device from a first network to a second network, where said first network is one of a mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network, and said mobile device comprises a mobile component configured to operatively communicate over said mobile cellular communications network and a satellite component configured to operatively communicate over said satellite communications network; said method comprising the steps of:

(1) determining at said mobile device the cellular signal strength of said mobile cellular communications network, and based on said cellular signal strength, determining to switch from said first network to said second network;

(2) sending a notice to a remotely located switch device, over said second network, said notice acting as a request to switch;

(3) receiving notice from said switch device that said ongoing communications is active on said second network;

(4) said mobile device transferring said ongoing communications from said mobile or satellite component associated with said first network, to the other of said mobile or satellite component associated with said second network.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said mobile component comprises a radio transceiver configured to communicate with a mobile cellular communication network and said satellite component comprises a satellite transceiver configured to directly communicate with a satellite communications network.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said mobile device further has an application program and a reinforcer, said reinforcer wirelessly communicating with said applications program, said reinforcer configured to receive/send data from said satellite transceiver to said applications program.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said mobile device further has a user interface, said user interface operatively communicating with said applications program.

12. The method of claim 11 where said applications program is configured to transfer data received from said user interface to said reinforcer.

13. The method of claim 12 where said user interface comprises a microphone and speaker.

14. The method of claim 12 where said user interface comprises a keyboard.

15. The method of claim 14 where said keyboard is a virtual keyboard displayed on a smart phone.

16. The method of claim 11 where said applications program is adapted to transfer data routed to said radio transceiver, to said reinforcer.

5 17. The method of claim 10 where said reinforcer further comprises a SIP server.

18. A method of selecting at a mobile communications device, a network over which to receive an incoming first electronic communication from two networks, where said first network is one of a mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network and said second network is the other of said mobile cellular communications network or a satellite communications network, the method comprising the steps of:

10

(1) receiving at said mobile communications device a notice over said satellite communications system of a pending incoming call, said notice from a remotely located switch device, where said switch device is configured to communicate with a mobile communications cellular network and a satellite communications network;

15 (2) receiving a notice from said mobile communications device over said satellite communications system of a pending incoming call over said satellite system;

(3) said mobile communications device determining if cellular signal strength is above or below a predetermined threshold limit,

(4) if said signal strength is above said threshold, routing said incoming call over said satellite network to said mobile communications device;

20

(5) if said signal strength is below said threshold, said mobile communications device sending a request to said remotely located switch to route said incoming call over said mobile communications device.