



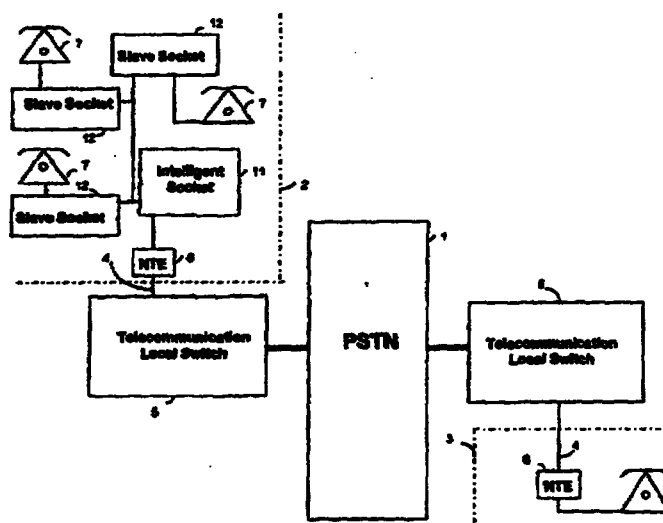
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(54) Title: A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SWITCH



(57) Abstract

A switching system for inclusion in domestic premises (2) includes a master socket (11) for connection to network termination equipment (e.g. wall socket) (6) and for connection to a plurality of slave sockets (12) each of which may be connected to normal communications apparatus such as telephone (7), fax or answering machines not shown. On receipt of an incoming telephone call from the network the master socket uses signals which identify the source of the call (calling line identity (CLI)) signals to determine which of the slaves is to be called. Using only four wires (i.e. the normal extension wiring pattern) the master socket can signal individual slave sockets (12) to switch in or out of circuit so that a normal domestic telephony arrangement may be simply and economically converted to include switching. Various protective options and alternative calling patterns in event of non-answer can also be provided by the master socket including options for allowing communication between two individual extensions without utilising the main exchange line system.