

NETWORK ACCESS METHOD

ABSTRACT

A network access system and method are described the system comprising the steps of: identifying the hardware identifier of the connecting device; comparing the hardware identifier of the network device to previously stored hardware identifiers by providing some free network services for the user to have access to. The network access system then identifies a class to which a known previously stored hardware identifier belongs. The classes comprising: a first class where the hardware identifier has been previously stored and the user of the connecting device has provided details including payment details. A second class where the hardware identifier has been previously stored but the user of the device has not provided details. The network access system then permits access to the first class of hardware identifiers to a first class of network services (and/or web sites) and access to the second class of hardware identifiers to a second class of network services and web sites. The second class of service being a sub-set of the first class of services. The system stores unknown hardware identifiers and permits access to unknown hardware identifiers to the second class of services.

Figure 1