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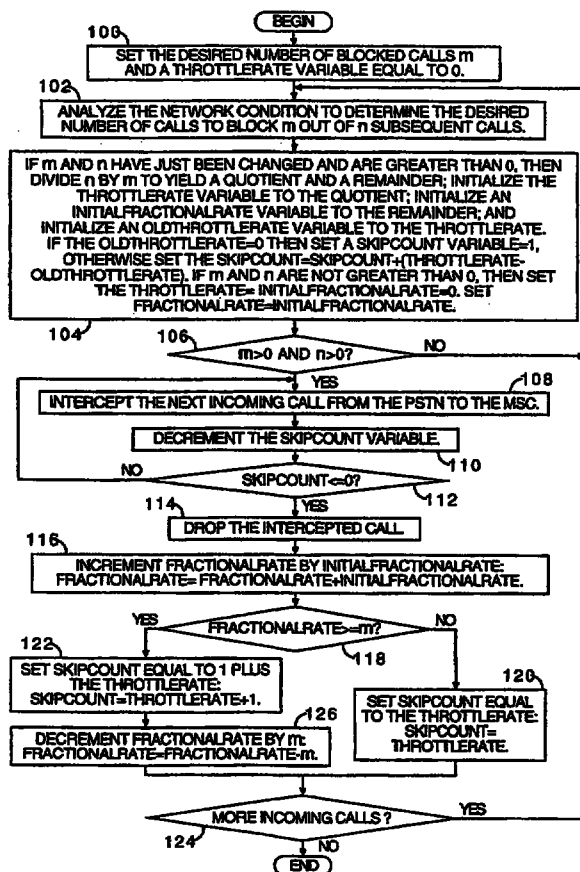
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY BLOCKING OR DROPPING CALLS IN A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A system (10) for selectively blocking or dropping calls in a telecommunications network. The system (10) includes a first mechanism that monitors usage of the telecommunications network and provides a gauging signal in response thereto when the network usage exceeds a predetermined threshold. A second mechanism determines a percentage of calls to block by the network in response to the gauging signal. The percentage of calls to block corresponds to a desired number of blocked calls out of a certain number of calls. A third mechanism automatically blocks the percentage of calls out of the certain number of calls.

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