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(54) Title: OPERATING APPARATUS WITH PAYMENT FOR USAGE

(57) Abstract

pemethod of operating apparatus for value, the apparatus being connected to a telecommunications channel, comprising the steps of: transmitting a forward message from a monitor device comprising a communications device and a programmable processor oeprating under the control of a stored program to a remote location via said telecommunications channel; receiving a corresponding return message from said remote location via said telecommunications channel; verifying said return message to determine whether it is authentic; and, if so permitting the operation of said apparatus; and, if not; inhibiting the operation of said apparatus, the program being arranged to monitor the operation of the apparatus and to perform the above steps whenever the apparatus is in use.

