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(54) Title: HANDOFF OF DATA ATTACHMENT POINT

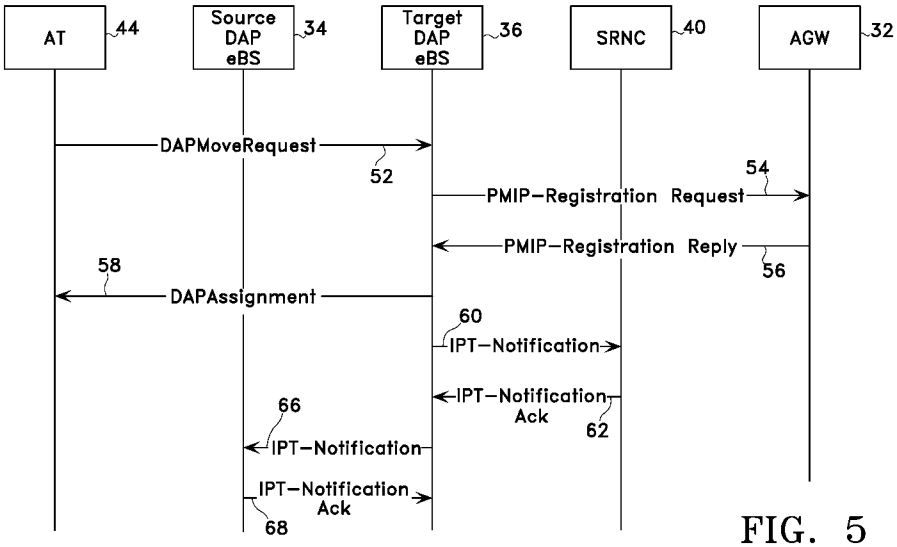


FIG. 5

(57) Abstract: In a communication system in which a gateway entity (32) is linked to a plurality of infrastructure entities which in turn are operable to communicate with an access terminal (44), the access terminal needs first to establish a data attachment point (DAP) with one of the infrastructure entities (34). Handoff of the DAP from one infrastructure entity (34) to another infrastructure entity (36) is initiated by the access terminal (44). The access terminal weighs factors such as the link conditions with the various infrastructure entities, the time since the last DAP handoff, and time duration communicating with the current infrastructure entity before proceeding with the DAP handoff.

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