



**VIDEO CONFERENCING DIRECTORY SERVICES SYSTEMS AND
METHODS THEREFOR**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Systems for providing videoconferencing services over a wide area network, such
as the Internet, are disclosed. Each system comprising a web site accessible to users of
the network, with the site having a directory of entities which are available for
videoconferencing over the network. The web site permits the users to initiate a
videoconference with a desired entity in the directory by selection of the entity. The
10 systems according to the present invention further include a server for connecting the
videoconference equipment of a user with the video conference equipment of the entity
selected by the user, and for transmitting videoconference data between the user's
videoconference equipment and the entity's videoconference equipment using the
network. In a preferred embodiment, the entities are arranged in a plurality of categories,
15 with each category relating to a corresponding subject matter. Methods for providing
these videoconferencing services are also disclosed.