Abstract

"System and Method for Transferring Credit Between Subscribers of Differing Telecommunications Carriers"

A system for transferring credit between subscribers of differing telecommunications carriers. The system involves a first subscriber sending a communication message, via a first communication device, to a destination address associated with a payment facilitator possessed by a first telecommunication carrier. The communication message includes the unique identifier of a second communication device possessed by a second subscriber of a second telecommunication carrier and the amount to be transferred. The payment facilitator of the first telecommunication carrier determines the identity of the first subscriber by ascertaining the unique identifier of the first communication device. With this knowledge, the payment facilitator then operates to debit the credit balance the first subscriber has with the first communication device by a total transfer cost amount, which factors in the amount to be transferred in the communication message. At the same time the payment facilitator of the first telecommunications carrier interfaces with the payment facilitator of the second telecommunications carrier and instructs the payment facilitator of the second telecommunications carrier to credit the credit balance the second subscriber has with the second communication device by a total transferred amount, which also factors in the amount to be transferred in the communication message.

Figure 1