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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
FLIGHT FOCUS PTE. LTD. [SG/SG]; 17 Changi Business Park Central 1, #06-09 Honeywell Building, Singapore 486073 (SG).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **CABOS, Ralf**
 [AU/SG]; c/o 17 Changi Business Park Central 1, #06-09 Honeywell Building, Singapore 486073 (SG).

(74) Agents: **SCHWEIGER, Martin** et al.; Schweiger & Partners (Singapore) LLP, 105 Cecil Street, #03-02 The Octagon, Singapore 069534 (SG).

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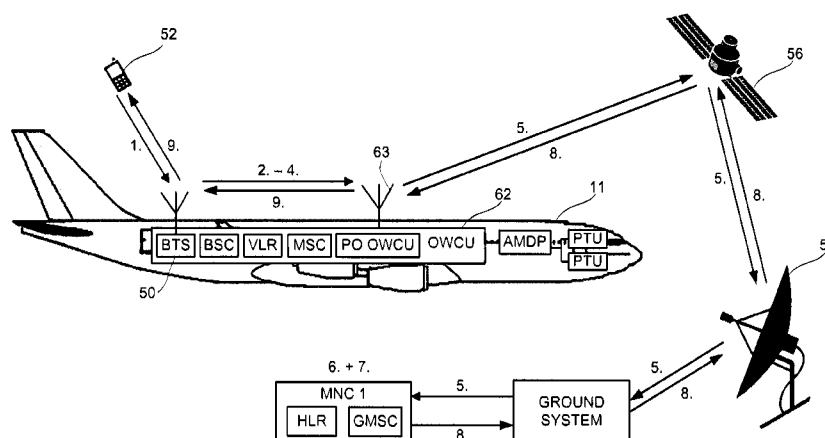


FIG. 7

(57) Abstract: The application discloses a message transmission device for transmitting an SMS message of a mobile device from an aircraft to a ground system. The device comprising an onboard antenna which is connected to a base transceiver station for receiving the SMS message from the mobile device, means for forwarding the message to a mobile switching centre onboard the aircraft and means for emulating status messages. Furthermore, the message transmission device comprises means for transferring the status messages to the mobile device, a splitter for splitting the message into data packets and means for transmitting the data packets to the ground system.