

[Abstract]

An object is to provide an environment in which communication with SMS, which has characteristic features such as a high message delivery ability and a high identify verification ability, or the like can be used more easily without impairing these convenience features. A message transfer apparatus is provided which comprises: an acceptance unit that accepts a client ID identifying one of a plurality of clients, a transmitted message from the client to be transmitted to a terminal, and a terminal ID identifying the terminal, the plurality of clients each belonging to one of groups each identified by a group ID; a database in which a correspondence among the group ID, the client ID, a sender ID, and the terminal ID is registered and a plurality of the sender IDs are associated with one of a plurality of the group IDs; a database control unit that updates and searches the database; a transmission unit that transmits, to the terminal identified by the terminal ID, the transmitted message to which is attached one of the plurality of sender IDs in the database associated with the group ID corresponding to the client ID; a reception unit that receives a reply message from the terminal having received the transmitted message, the reply message being a message in which the sender ID attached to the transmitted message is designated as a return destination and to which the terminal ID of the terminal is attached; and a delivery unit that delivers the reply message to the client identified by the client ID corresponding to a pair of the sender ID and the terminal ID registered in the database.

FIG. 1