

- [54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS PERMITTING NOTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF BLOCKED INCOMING CALLS OVER A DATA NETWORK**
- [75] Inventor: **William P. McMullin**, Bedford, Canada
- [73] Assignee: **Interactive Telecom Inc.**, Bedford, Canada
- [21] Appl. No.: **742,052**
- [22] Filed: **Nov. 1, 1996**
- [51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **H04M 11/00; H04M 3/42**
- [52] **U.S. Cl.** **379/215; 379/93.35; 379/211; 370/352**
- [58] **Field of Search** **379/215, 93.35, 379/93.01, 201, 209, 211; 370/352**

5,608,786	3/1997	Gordon	370/352
5,610,910	3/1997	Focsaneanu et al.	
5,651,060	7/1997	Cohn et al.	379/93.35
5,706,336	1/1998	Kikinis	379/93.35

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

0732835 A2	9/1996	European Pat. Off.	
9609714	3/1996	WIPO	H04M 11/00
9620553	7/1996	WIPO	H04M 3/50
WO 96/38018			
A1	11/1996	WIPO	
WO 97/20424			
A1	6/1997	WIPO	

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin vol. 37 No. 9 pp. 101-104 Sep. 1994.
 IEEE Nov. 1989 Tencon '89, pp. 10-14, Shankar et al.
 IEEE Jan. 1993 Communications Magazine, pp. 15-19, Burson et al.

Primary Examiner—Ahmad F. Matar
Assistant Examiner—Scott Wolinsky
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Bennett, Jones, Vercheve

[56] **References Cited**

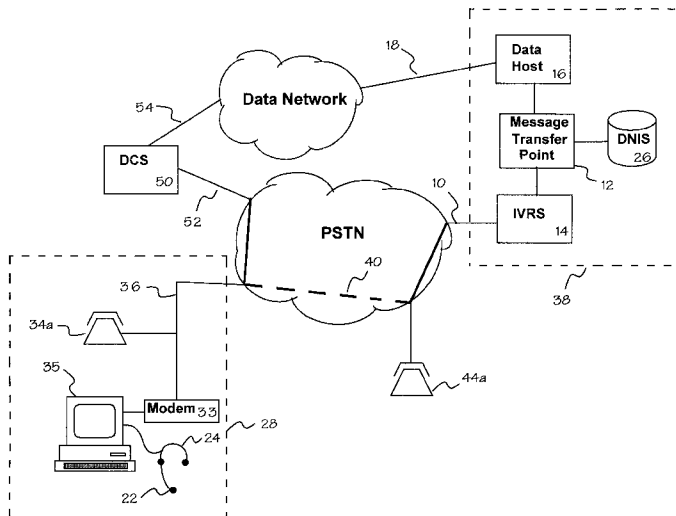
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

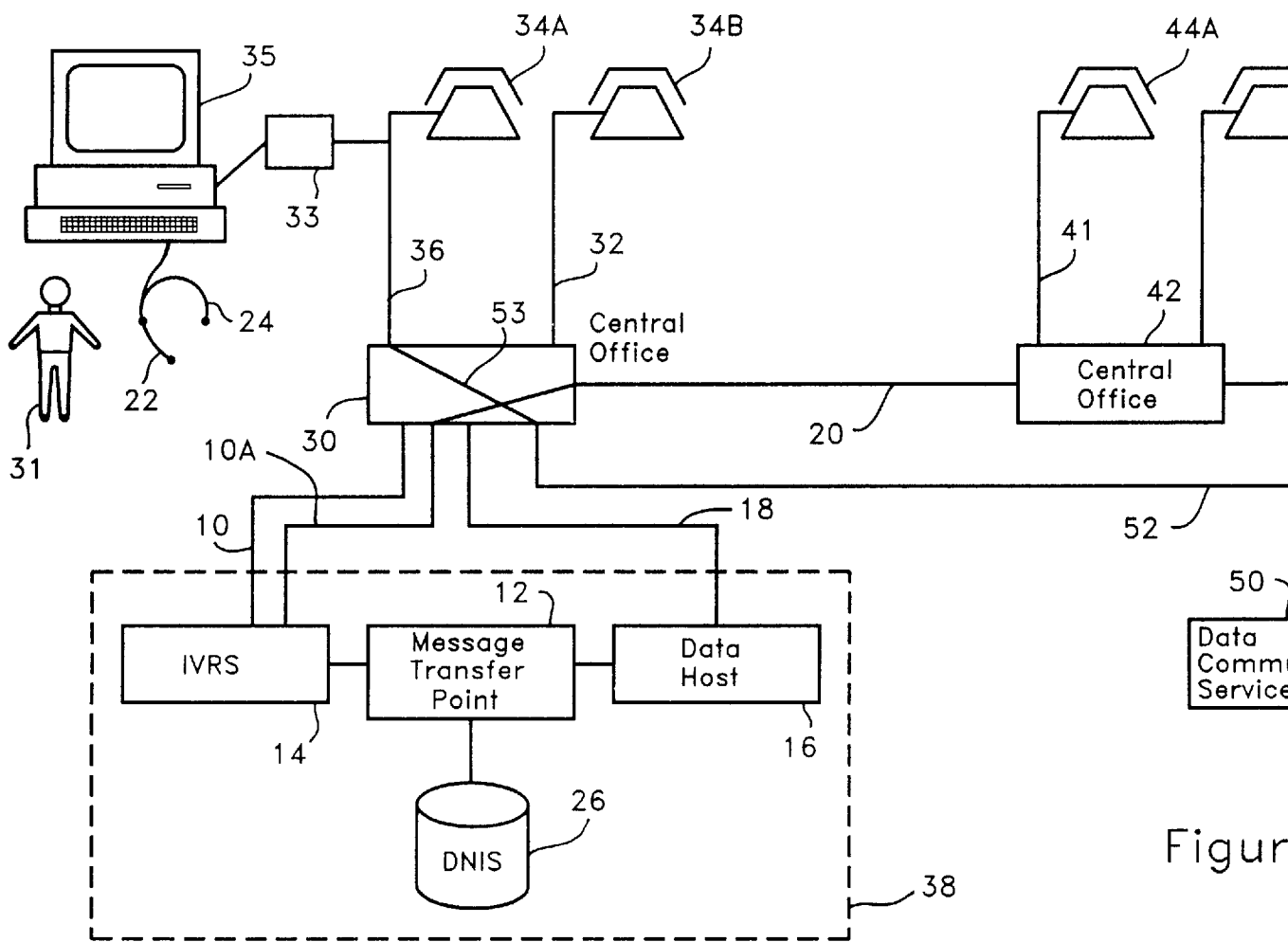
4,852,151	7/1989	Dittakavi et al.	379/93.35
4,873,719	10/1989	Reese	379/215
4,876,711	10/1989	Curtin	
4,947,421	8/1990	Toy et al.	379/215
4,969,184	11/1990	Gordon et al.	379/100.13
4,995,074	2/1991	Goldman et al.	
5,046,188	9/1991	Molnar	
5,195,130	3/1993	Weiss et al.	
5,263,084	11/1993	Chaput et al.	379/215
5,287,401	2/1994	Lin	
5,309,512	5/1994	Blackmon et al.	379/215
5,343,516	8/1994	Callele et al.	
5,363,431	11/1994	Schull et al.	
5,425,092	6/1995	Quirk	
5,425,097	6/1995	Pula	379/215
5,432,616	7/1995	Fukao et al.	379/215
5,475,746	12/1995	Miller et al.	
5,491,744	2/1996	Kikinis	379/215
5,513,251	4/1996	Rochkind et al.	379/93.35
5,519,767	5/1996	O'Horo et al.	379/93.35
5,533,102	7/1996	Robinson et al.	379/215
5,533,110	7/1996	Pinard et al.	379/201
5,604,796	2/1997	Yamazaki	379/215

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Methods and apparatus are disclosed for providing automatic redirection of an incoming voice telephone call from a caller to a subscriber proxy when an attempt by the caller to connect to a telephone link of a public switched telephone network (PSTN) is blocked due to the telephone link being occupied by a subscriber using the telephone link to establish communications between the subscriber's personal computer and a computer network. The subscriber proxy is connected to both the PSTN and the computer network, and produces audio interaction with the caller. The subscriber proxy also notifies the subscriber of the incoming call via the subscriber's computer. The subscriber's computer can optionally be used by the subscriber to control and interact with the incoming call by communicating with the computer proxy while the subscriber continues to occupy the telephone link.

50 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets





Figure

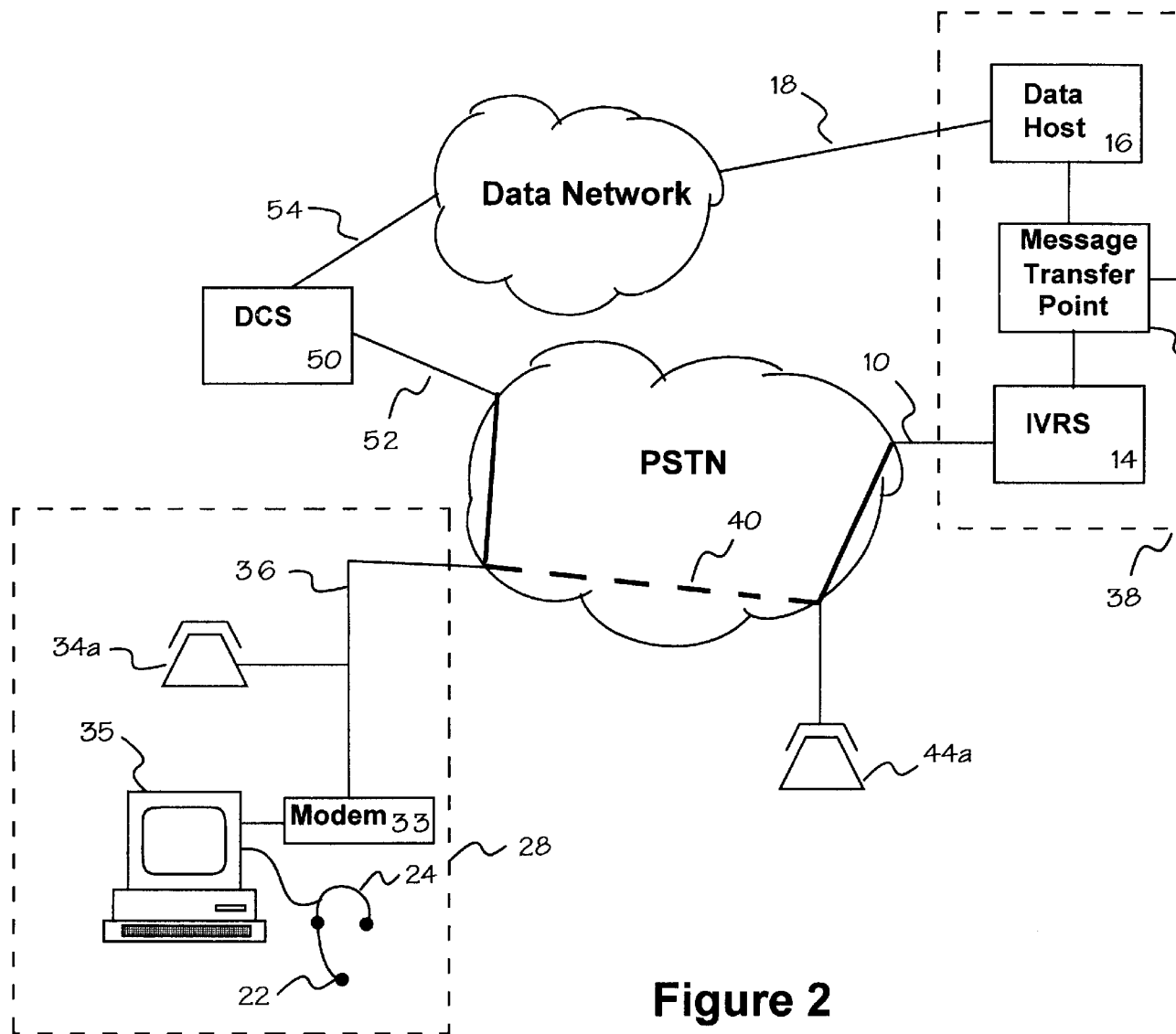


Figure 2

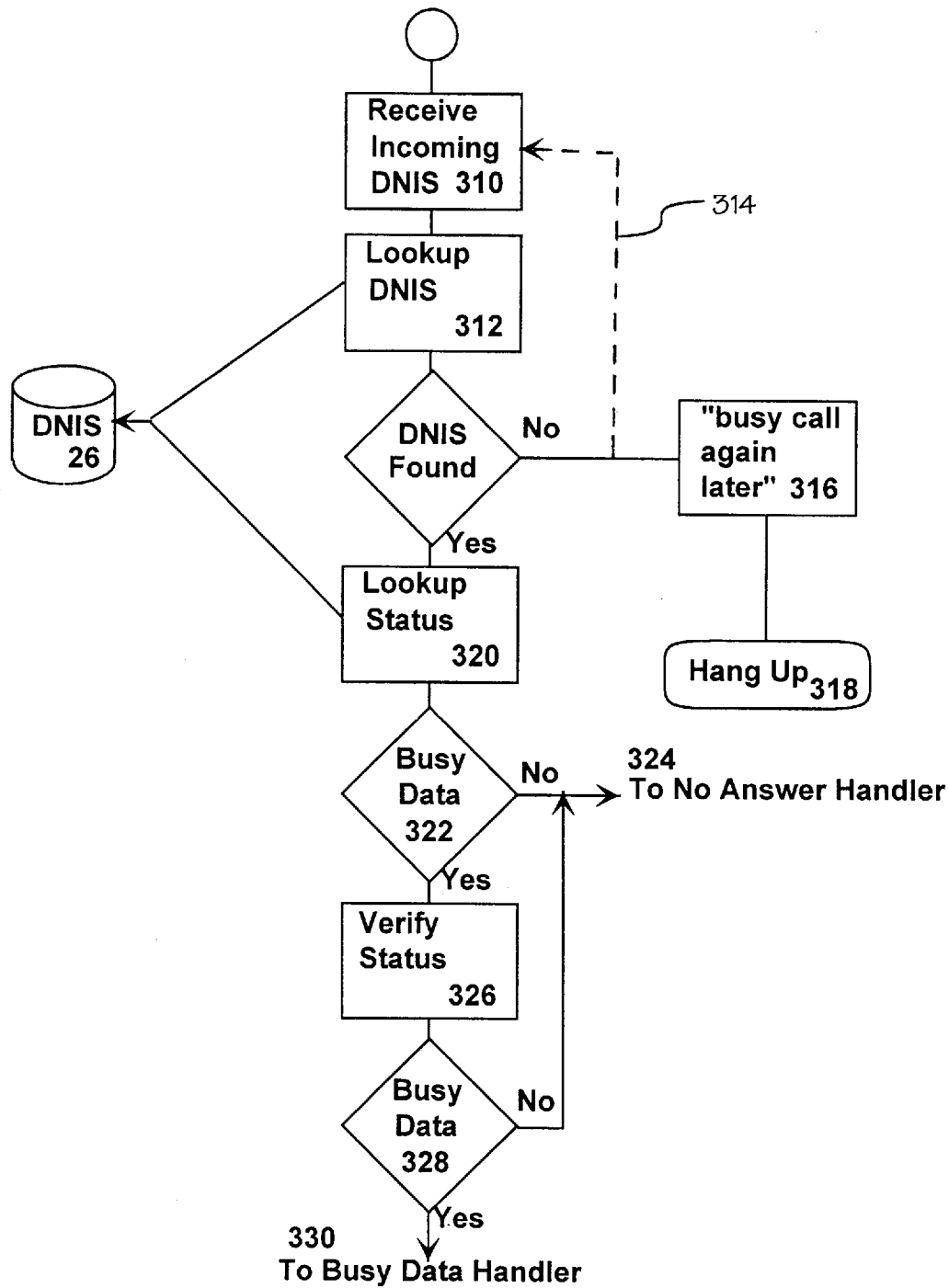


Figure 3

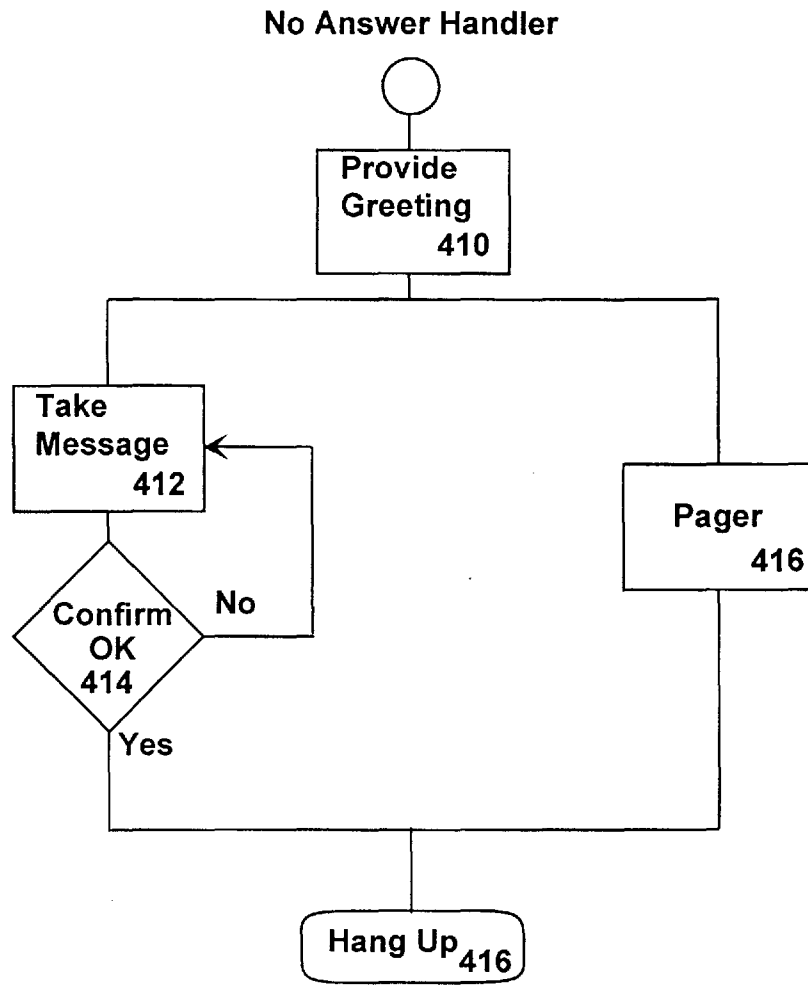


Figure 4

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.