

(12) **United States Patent**
O'Neal et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,463,145 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 8, 2002**

(54) **COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED CALL FORWARDING OPTIONS AND METHODS THEREFOR IN A UNIFIED MESSAGING SYSTEM**

(75) Inventors: **Stephen C. O'Neal**, San Francisco, CA (US); **John Jiang**, Danville, CA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/239,584**

(22) Filed: **Jan. 29, 1999**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H04M 3/42**; H04M 7/00

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **379/211.02**; 379/201.12; 379/221.01

(58) **Field of Search** 379/201, 210, 379/211, 212, 219, 220, 221; 709/229; 455/461

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,837,798	A	6/1989	Cohen et al.	379/88
4,850,008	A *	7/1989	Berg et al.	358/400
5,467,390	A *	11/1995	Brankley et al.	379/229
5,608,786	A *	3/1997	Gordon	370/352
5,610,910	A *	3/1997	Focsaneanu et al.	370/351
5,729,599	A *	3/1998	Plomondon et al.	379/211
5,742,905	A *	4/1998	Pepe et al.	379/210
5,828,666	A *	10/1998	Focsaneanu et al.	370/389
5,870,549	A	2/1999	Bobo, II	395/200.36
5,892,819	A	4/1999	Stumer	379/211
5,915,008	A *	6/1999	Dulman	379/201
5,958,016	A *	9/1999	Chang et al.	709/229
6,014,379	A	1/2000	White et al.	370/389
6,185,288	B1 *	2/2001	Wong	379/219

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Jfax.com —Fax, voice mail, email, downloaded from www.jfax.com on Dec. 18, 1998.

General Magic/Portico —what it is, overview, features, MagicTalk Technology, network operations, FAQs, downloaded from www.genmagic.com on Dec. 18, 1998.

Michele Shannon, "The Best Telephone System for Your Business May Not Look Like a 'Phone System' At All", Undated Advertisement, Technology Watch, AltiGen Communications, Inc.

International Search Report dated May 09, 2000.

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Ahmad F. Matar

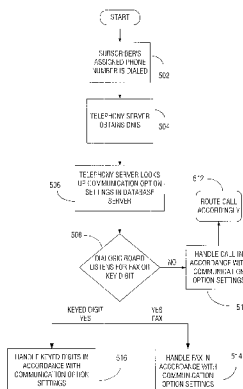
Assistant Examiner—Hector Agdeppa

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Senniger, Powers, Leavitt & Roedel

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A computer-implemented method for permitting a subscriber of a call forwarding service to customize call forwarding parameters associated with the call forwarding service. The call forwarding service being configured to permit the subscriber to specify whether a call received at a telephone number associated with a given account of the call forwarding service be forwarded to a forwarding telephone number. The call forwarding parameters includes a call forwarding enable option and the forwarding telephone number. The method includes providing a subscriber communication profile database. The subscriber communication profile database has therein the account pertaining to the subscriber. The account includes the call forwarding parameters for the subscriber. The method further includes visually displaying the call forwarding parameters on a display terminal coupled to a data-centric network, using a computer server coupled to exchange data with the subscriber communication profile database, when the subscriber employs the display terminal to access the account. There is also included receiving from the subscriber via the display terminal a first change to the call forwarding parameters. The first change to the call forwarding parameters pertains to at least one of the call forwarding enable option and the forwarding telephone number. Further, there is included updating the first change to the account in the subscriber communication profile database, wherein subsequent calls to the given account are handled in accordance with parameters present in the subscriber communication profile database after the update.

35 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



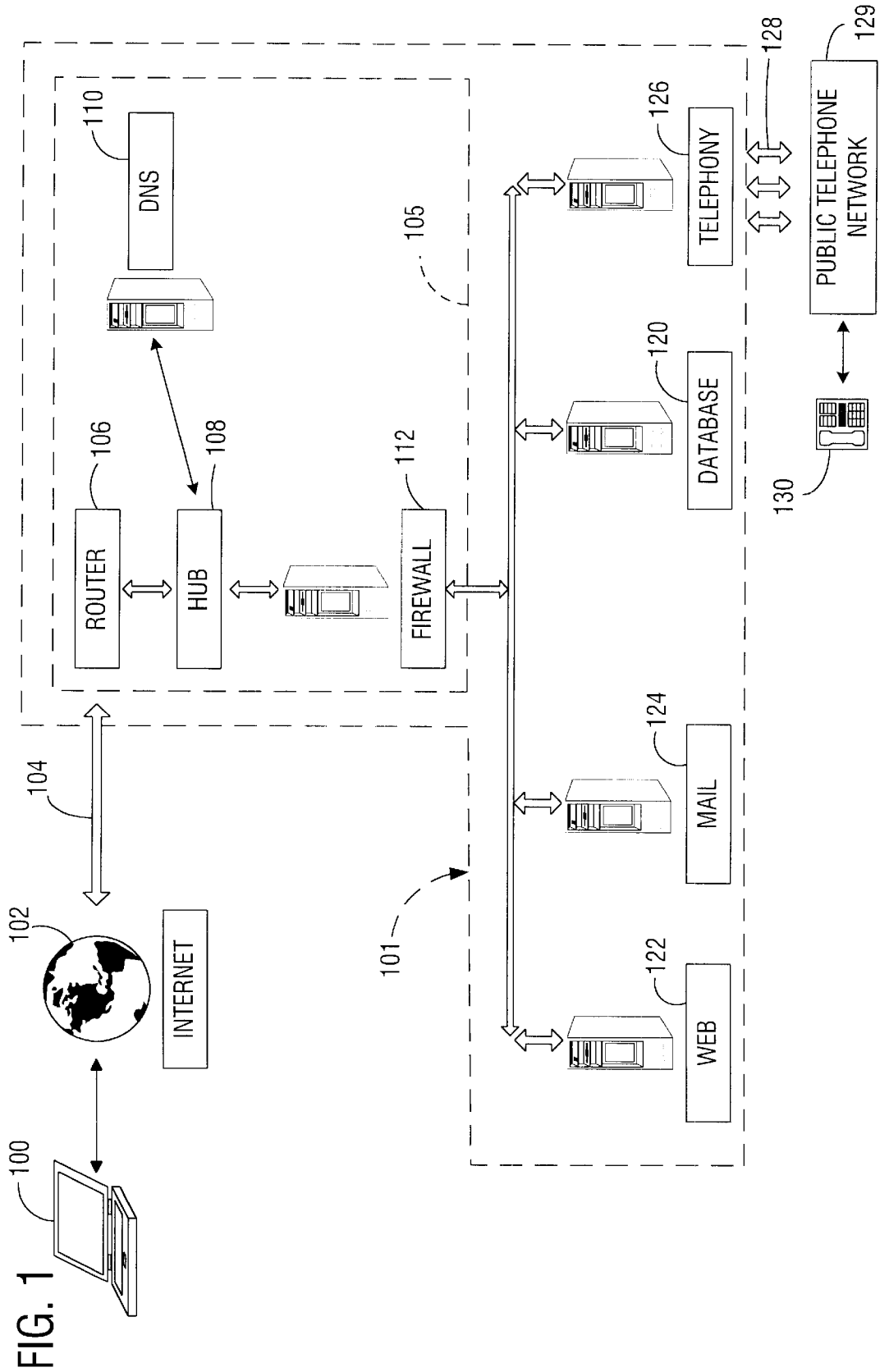


FIG. 2

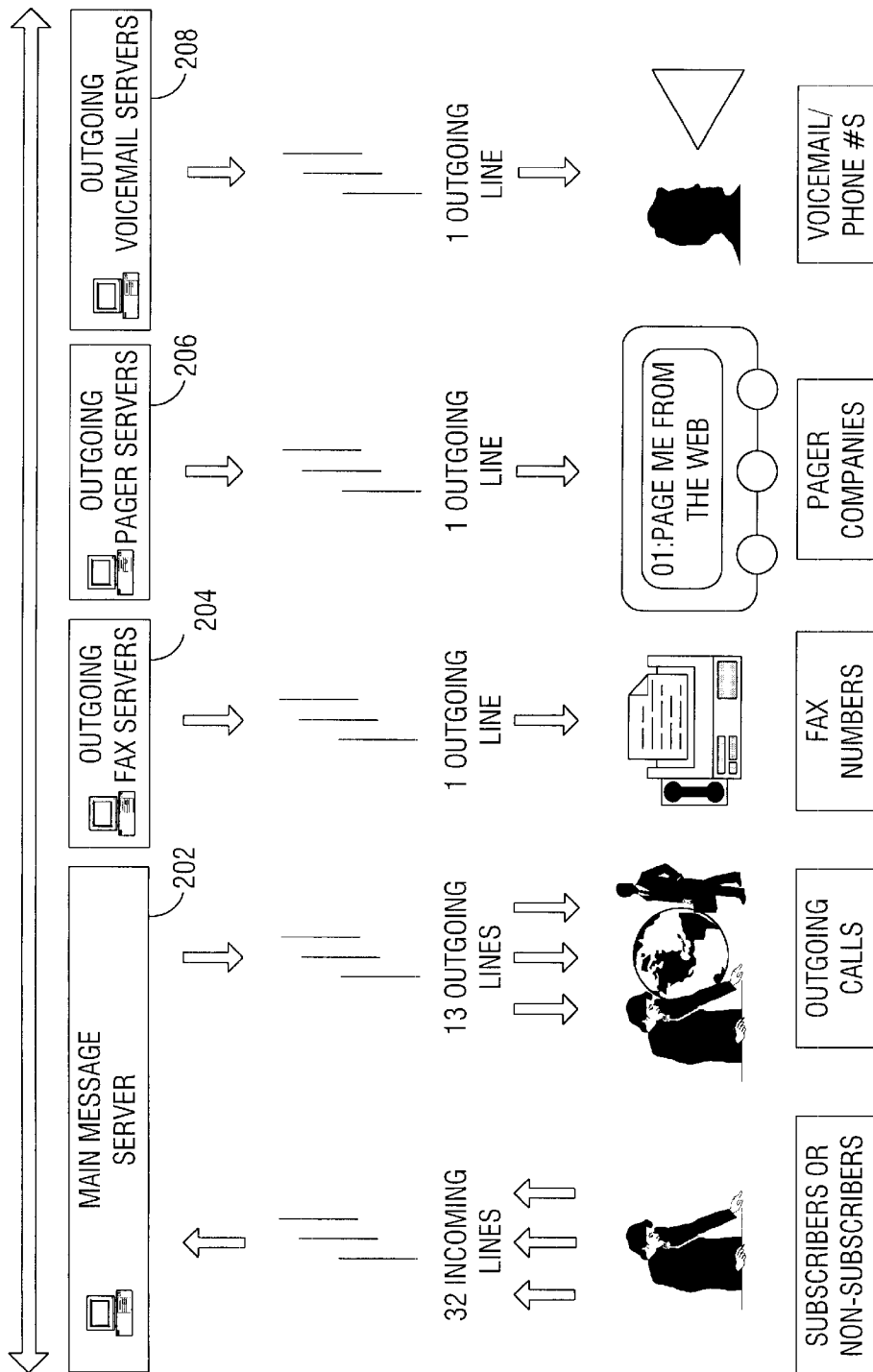


FIG. 3

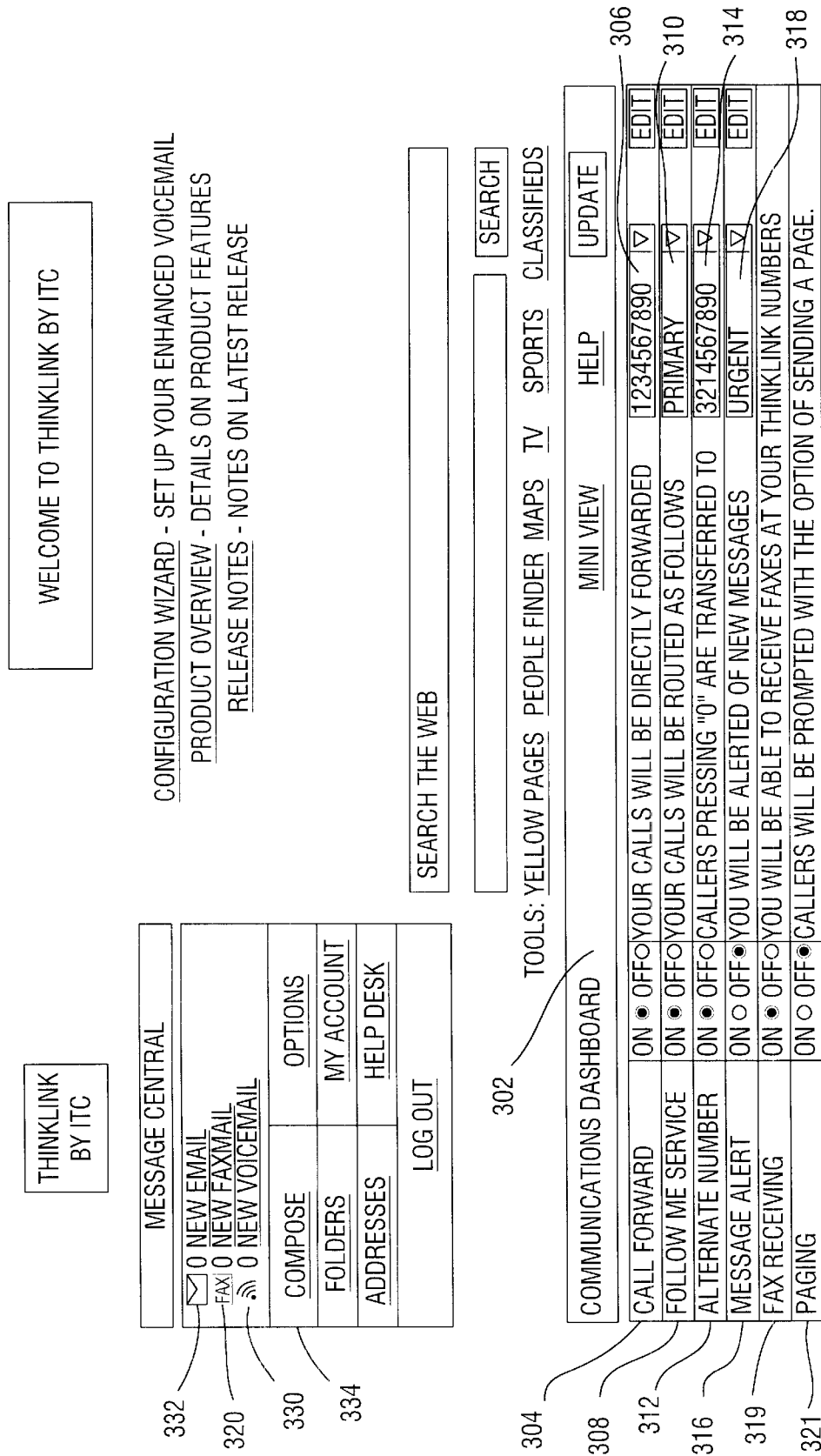


FIG. 4

<input type="checkbox"/> FAX		OPTIONS		HELP	
ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SETTINGS					
HOME COMPOSE FOLDERS ADDRESSES OPTIONS MY ACCOUNTS HELP DESK LOG OUT	CALL FORWARD	SECONDARY ON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OFF <input type="radio"/>	SAVE AND CLOSE	ON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OFF <input type="radio"/>	HELP
	FORWARD CALL TO	(123)456-7890 (H) (CELL) (W) (1) (2)	FAX RECEIVING	FORWARD FAXES TO	(HOME FAX) (WORK FAX)
	FOLLOW ME	ON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OFF <input type="radio"/>	FAX SENDING	SEND ATTEMPTS	<input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="5"/>
	FOLLOW ME CALL ROUTING	<input type="text" value="PRIMARY"/> <input type="text" value="SECONDARY"/>	MESSAGE ALERT	YOU WILL BE PAGED FOR:	<input type="text" value="URGENT MESSAGES"/> <input type="text" value="INBOX"/>
	PRIMARY	1. (123)456-7890 2. (123)789-4560 3. (321)456-7890	INCLUDES:	-NEW VOICEMAIL -NEW FAXES -NEW EMAIL	(IN THE FOLDERS SELECTED AT RIGHT)
	SECONDARY	1. (123)456-7890 2. (123)456-7890 3. (321)456-7890	URGENT MESSAGES	<input type="text" value="URGENT MESSAGES"/> <input type="text" value="INBOX"/>	
	ALTERNATE NUMBER	ON <input checked="" type="radio"/> OFF <input type="radio"/>			
	"0" FORWARDS TO	(321)456-7890 (H) (CELL) (W) (1) (2)			
	PAGING	ON <input type="radio"/> OFF <input checked="" type="radio"/>			
	NUMBER <input type="text"/> PIN <input type="text"/>				
	(NOTE: YOU MUST ENTER PIN IF REQUIRED BY YOUR PAGER SERVICE)				
	[PERSONAL NUMBERS]				
	(NOTE: WHEN BOTH CALL FORWARD AND FOLLOW ME ARE TURNED ON THE CALLER IS FORWARDED FIRST. IF THERE IS NO ANSWER AT THE FORWARD NUMBER, THE CALLER IS GIVEN THE OPTION TO USE THE FOLLOW ME FEATURE.)				

304

308

306

310

402

312

321

314

404A

406

319

408

404B

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.