

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

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

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

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(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

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Primary Examiner—Ahmad F. Matar

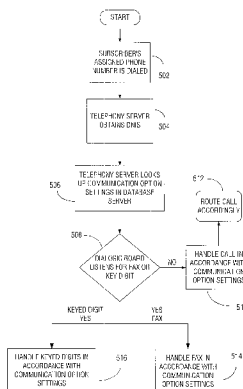
Assistant Examiner—Hector Agdeppa

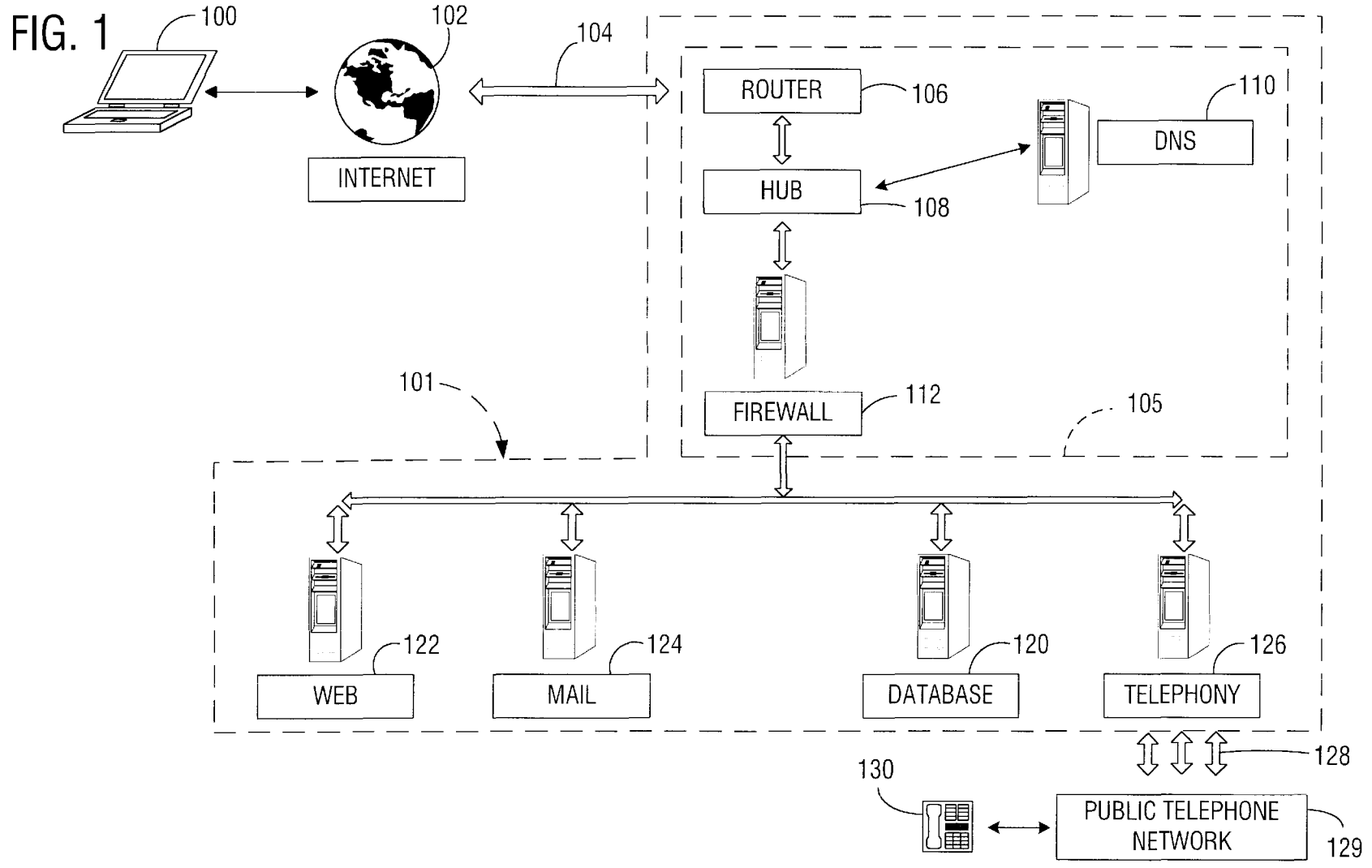
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

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





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FIG. 2

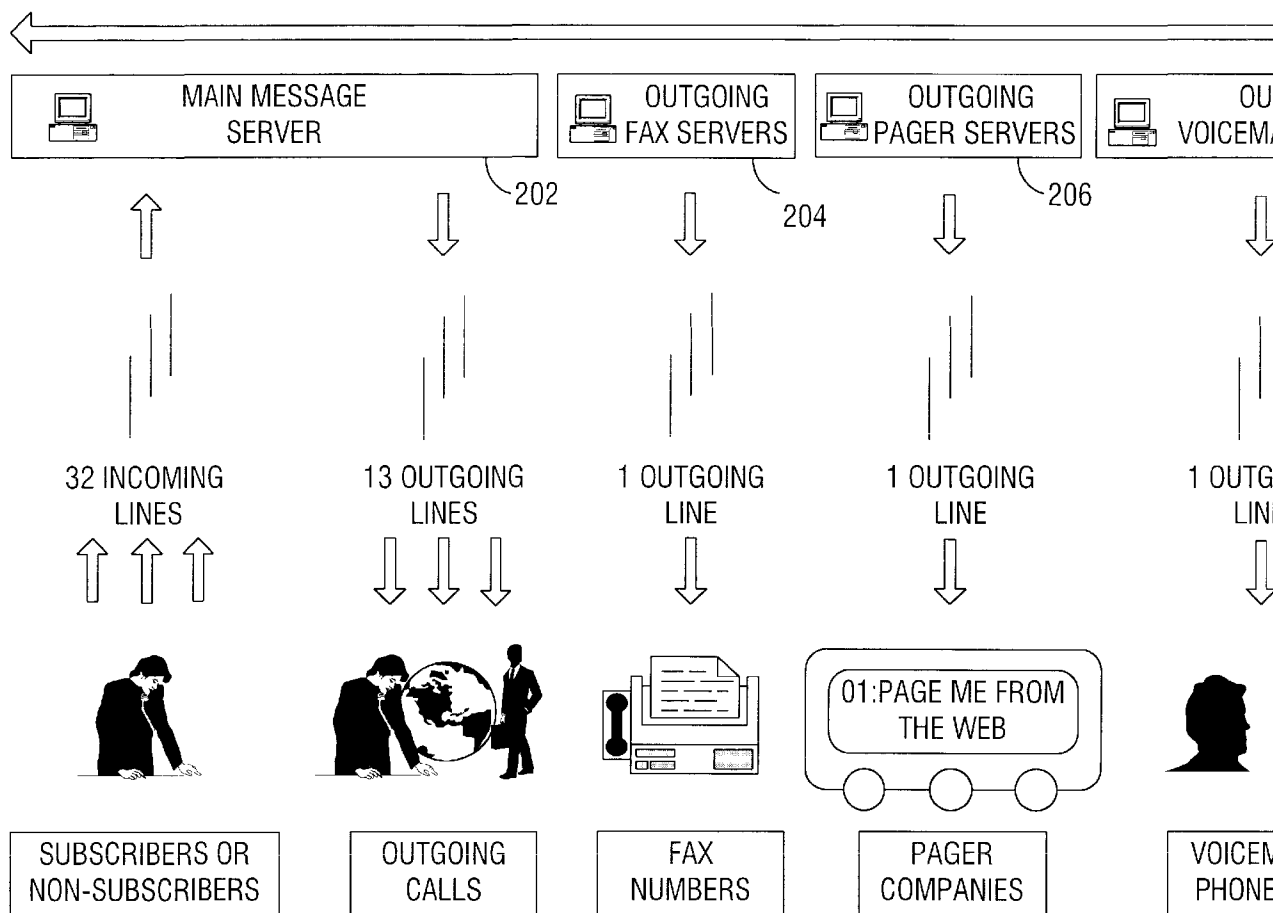


FIG. 3

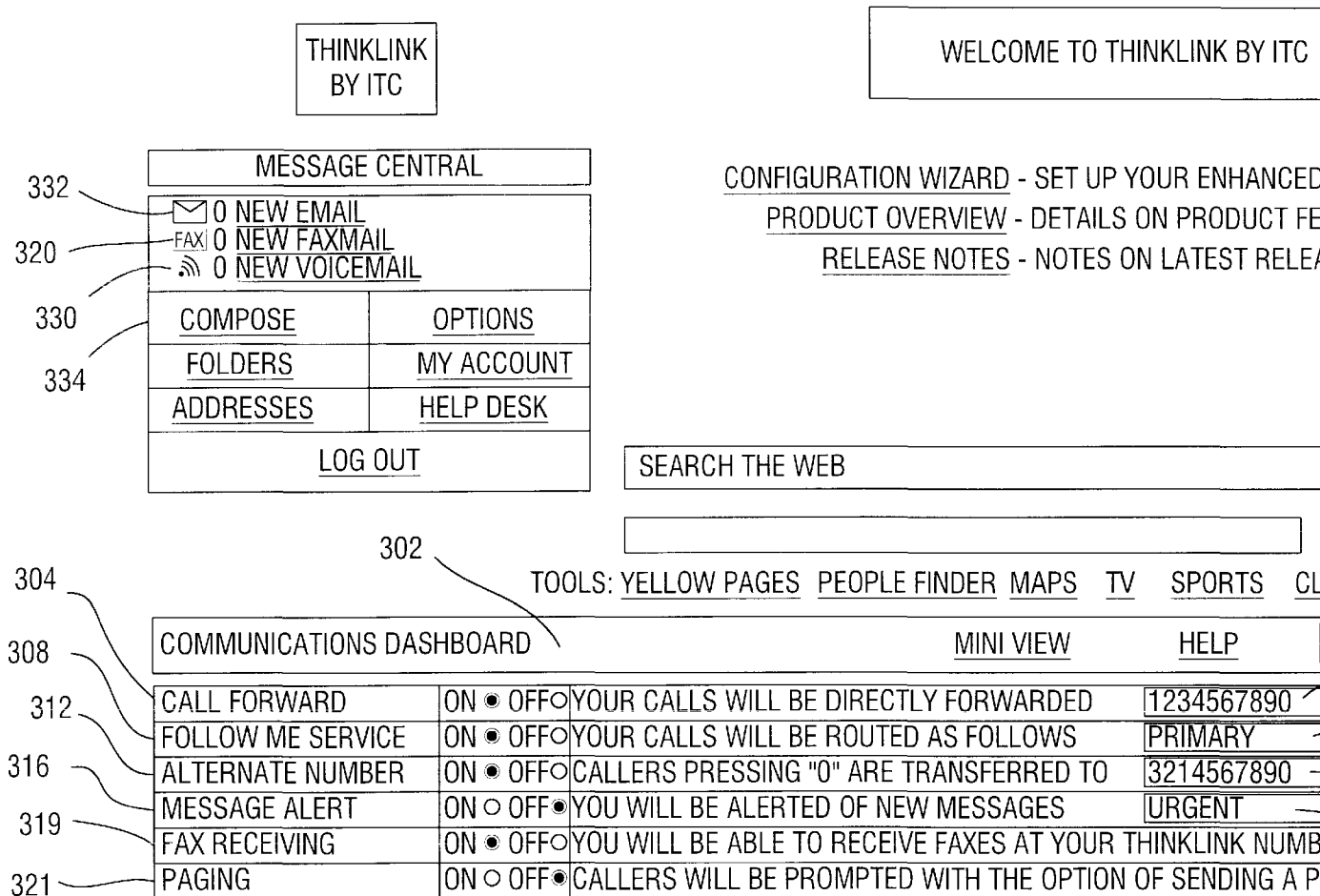


FIG. 4

304 308 306 406 319

FAX

HOME
 COMPOSE
 FOLDERS
 ADDRESSES
 OPTIONS
 MY ACCOUNTS
 HELP DESK
 LOG OUT

OPTIONS
ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SETTINGS SAVE A

CALL FORWARD SECONDARY ON OFF

FORWARD CALL TO (H) (CELL)
(W) (1) (2)

FOLLOW ME ON OFF

FOLLOW ME CALL ROUTING

PRIMARY	SECONDARY
1. <input type="text" value="(123)456-7890"/>	1. <input type="text" value="(123)456-7890"/>
2. <input type="text" value="(123)789-4560"/>	2. <input type="text" value="(123)456-7890"/>
3. <input type="text" value="(321)456-7890"/>	3. <input type="text" value="(321)456-7890"/>

VERRIDE

ALTERNATE NUMBER ON OFF

"0" FORWARDS TO (H) (CELL)
(W) (1) (2)

PAGING ON OFF

NUMBER PIN

(NOTE: YOU MUST ENTER PIN IF REQUIRED BY YOUR PAGER SERVICE)

[PERSONAL NUMBERS] (NOTE: WHEN BOTH CALL FORWARD AND FOLLOW ME ARE TURNED ON T
 FORWARDED FIRST. IF THERE IS NO ANSWER AT THE FORWARD NUMBER
 GIVEN THE OPTION TO USE THE FOLLOW ME FEATURE.)

FAX RECEIVING 319
 FORWARD FAXES TO (H)

FAX SENDING SEND ATT
 INTERVAL
 ATTEMPTS

MESSAGE ALERT
 YOU WILL BE PAGED FOR:

INCLUDES:
 -NEW VOICEMAIL
 -NEW FAXES
 -NEW EMAIL
 (IN THE FOLDERS SELECTE

310 402 312 321 314 404A 404B

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