

**(12) United States Patent**  
**Schwab et al.**

**(10) Patent No.: US 6,381,323 B1**  
**(45) Date of Patent: Apr. 30, 2002**

**(54) CALL PROGRAMMING APPARATUS AND METHOD**

**(75) Inventors:** Eileen Cecilia Schwab, Schaumburg; Gayle Roberta Ekstrom; Gisele Arlette Marcus, both of Chicago; Edward Alan Ossello, Chicago Heights, all of IL (US)

**(73) Assignee:** Ameritech Corporation, Hoffman Estates, IL (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.:** 09/250,686

**(22) Filed:** Feb. 16, 1999

**(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... H04M 3/46; H04M 7/00; H04Q 7/24

**(52) U.S. Cl.** ..... 379/211.02; 379/221.03; 379/913; 379/216.01; 379/211.04; 455/461

**(58) Field of Search** ..... 379/201, 207, 379/210, 211, 216, 219, 220, 229, 230, 913, 201.01, 201.02, 207.02, 211.01, 211.02, 211.03, 211.04, 216.01, 220.01; 455/461

**(56) References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,313,035 A	1/1982	Jordan et al. ....	379/207
5,060,255 A	10/1991	Brown .....	379/211
5,243,645 A	9/1993	Bissell et al. ....	379/211
5,249,219 A	9/1993	Morganstein et al. ...	379/197 X
5,369,686 A	11/1994	Dutra et al. ....	379/93.24
5,452,347 A	9/1995	Iglehart et al. ....	379/199
5,475,748 A *	12/1995	Jones .....	379/211
5,487,111 A	1/1996	Slusky .....	379/211
5,506,888 A	4/1996	Hayes et al. ....	379/210 X
5,548,636 A	8/1996	Banister et al. ....	379/201
5,555,292 A	9/1996	Eckhart .....	379/211 X
5,579,375 A	11/1996	Ginter .....	379/211 X
5,586,169 A	12/1996	Pinard et al. ....	379/201 X
5,588,037 A	12/1996	Fuller et al. ....	379/201 X
5,592,541 A	1/1997	Fleischer, III et al. ....	379/211
5,598,464 A	1/1997	Hess et al. ....	379/213

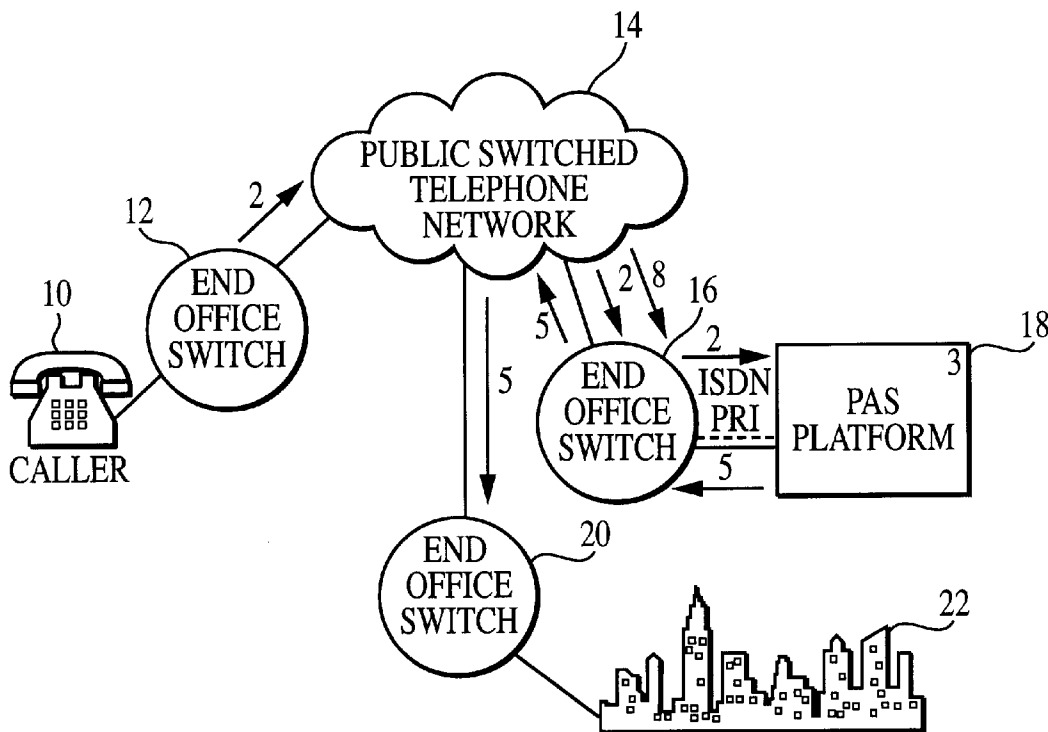
\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—Harry S. Hong  
**(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

**(57) ABSTRACT**

A method of routing incoming telephone calls and programming routing options and apparatus that allows incoming calls to be routed according to various criteria programmed by a subscriber.

**15 Claims, 58 Drawing Sheets**



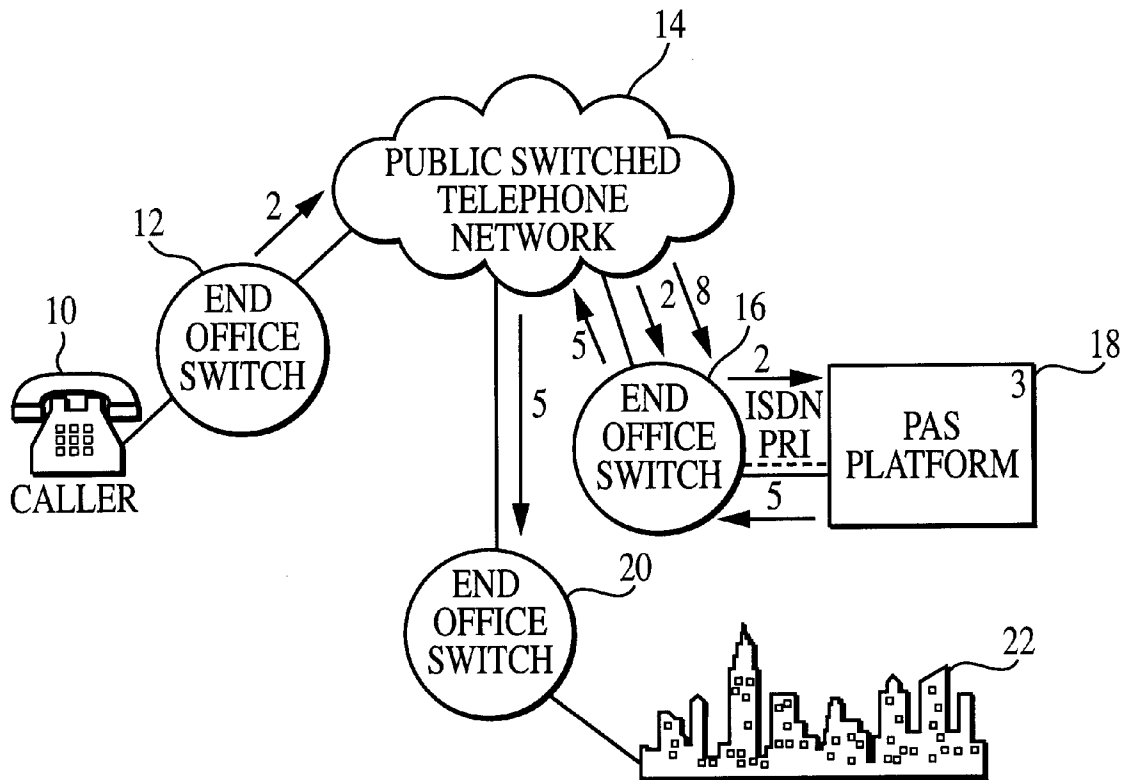


FIG. 1

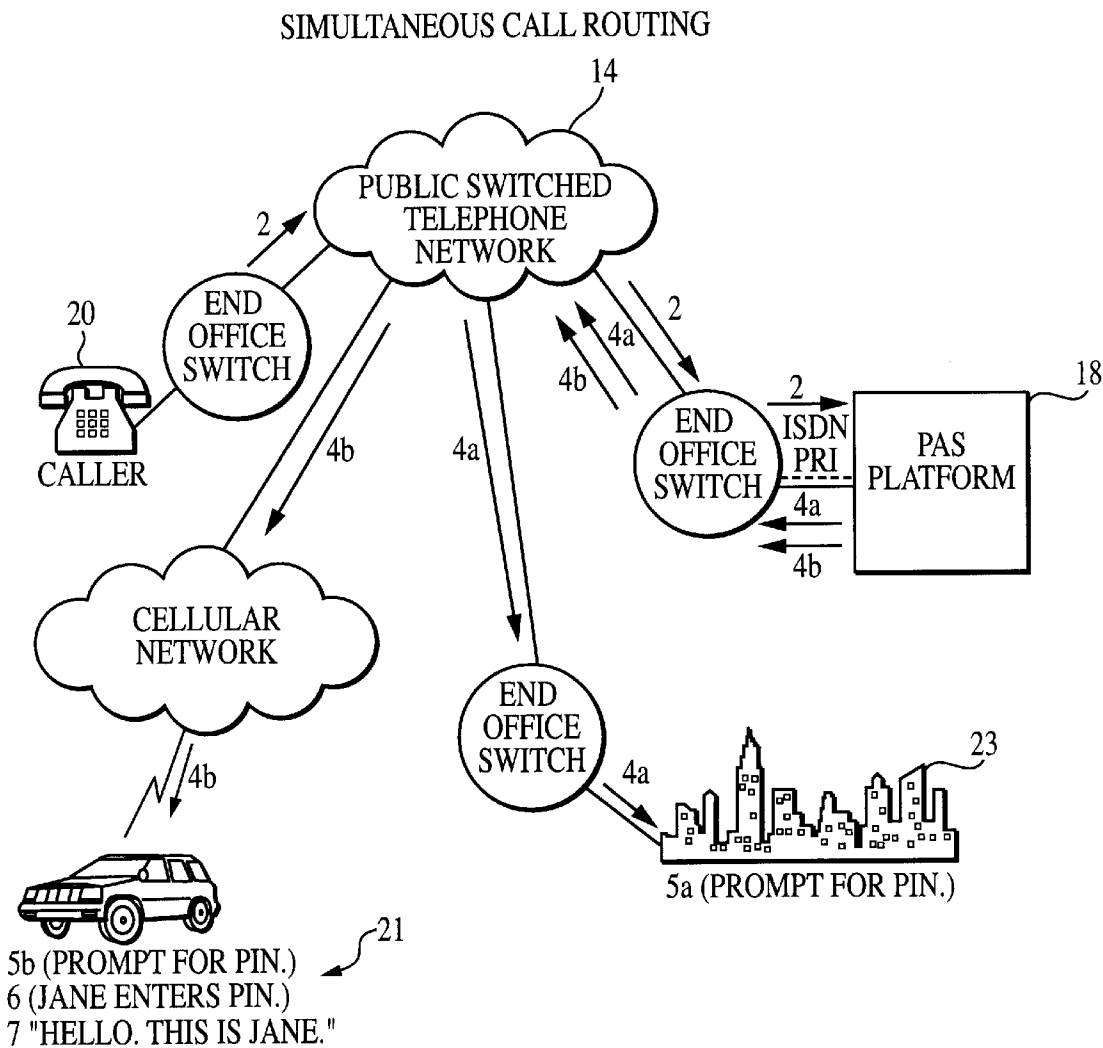


FIG. 2

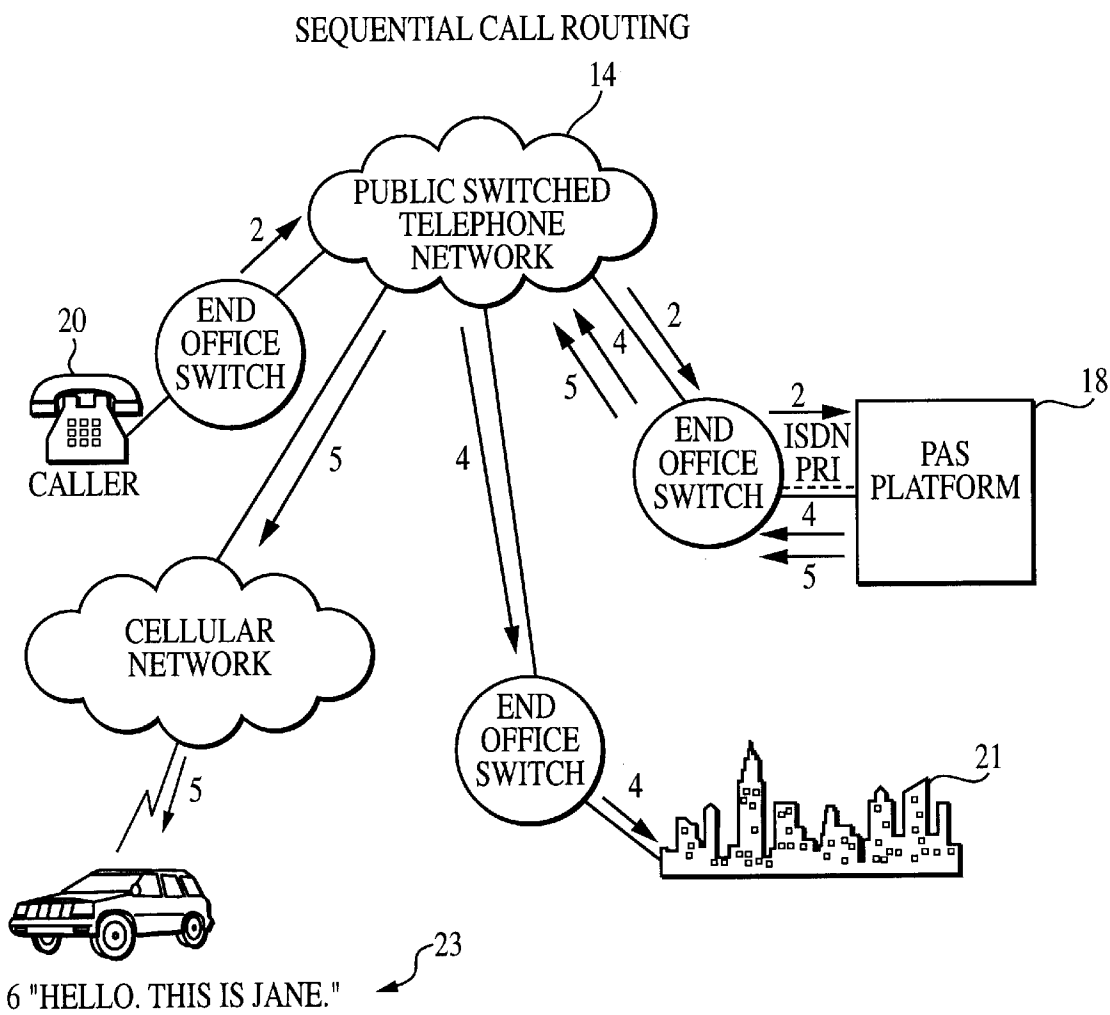


FIG. 3

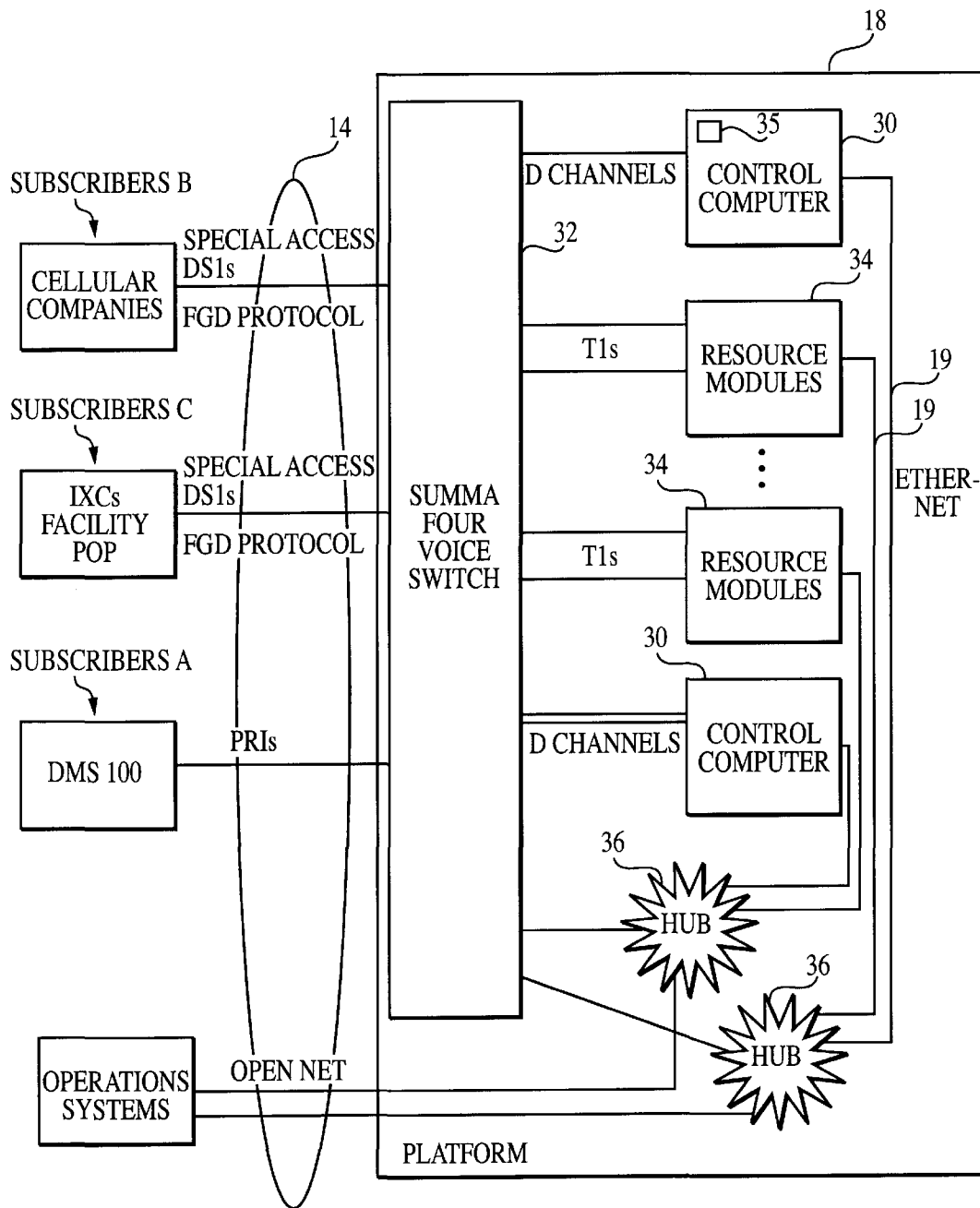


FIG. 4

# 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.