



US006829231B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Wilson

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,829,231 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 7, 2004**

(54) **INTERNET PHONE SYSTEM AND
DIRECTORY SEARCH ENGINE USING
SAME**

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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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(21) Appl. No.: **08/777,824**

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(22) Filed: **Dec. 31, 1996**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H04J 12/66; H04M 11/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **370/352; 379/90.01**

(58) **Field of Search** **370/352, 353, 370/354, 355, 356; 379/93.27, 93.01, 96.01, 93.05, 93.07, 93.08, 93.09; 709/245; 375/222**

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Duc Ho
Assistant Examiner—Phuongchau Ba Nguyen

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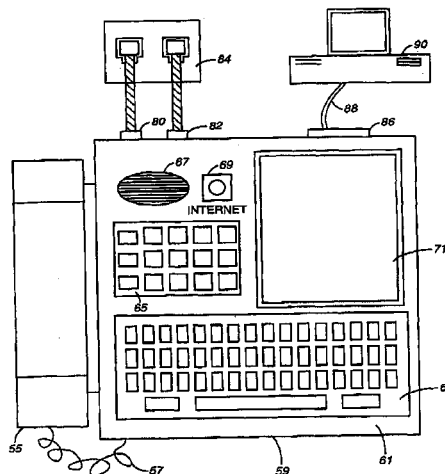
(57) **ABSTRACT**

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An Internet compatible dialer pad is used to dial into an Internet server to provide services similar to those found on the Plain Old Telephone System ("POTS"). The dialer pad has an integrated modem set, an extended keypad with alphanumeric entry keys and function keys, display screen and display electronics that renders visual call progress information to the user as well as other communications indicators and related information about the current Internet connection. The dialer uses the Public Switched Telephone System ("PSTN") and standard LAN/WAN technology to give the user entry into a plurality of Internet calling functions. An Internet database is maintained and permits the dialing party to obtain callee information by entering alphanumeric characters via the dialer. Links from the PSTN to an Internet data base are not restricted to a specific digital data protocol.

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28 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



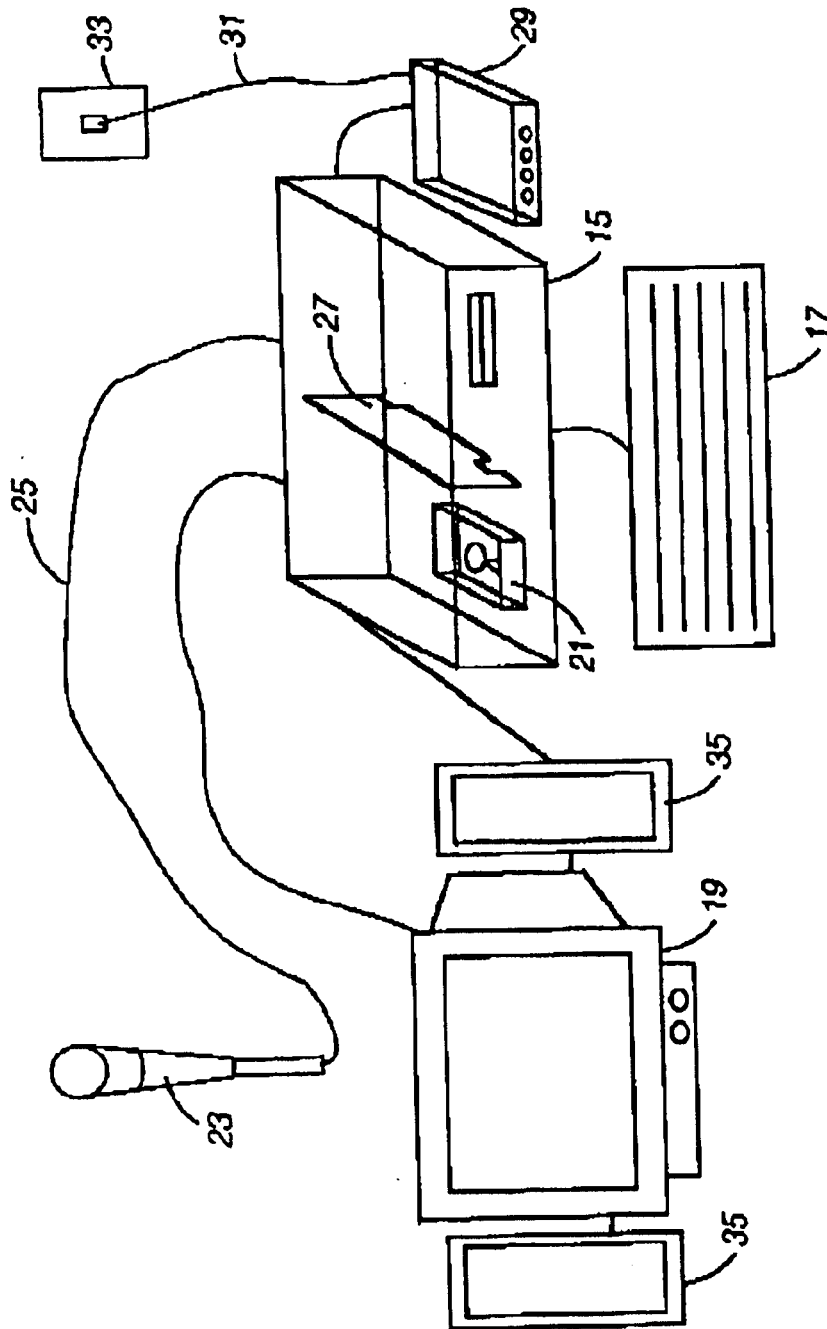


FIG. 1
Prior Art



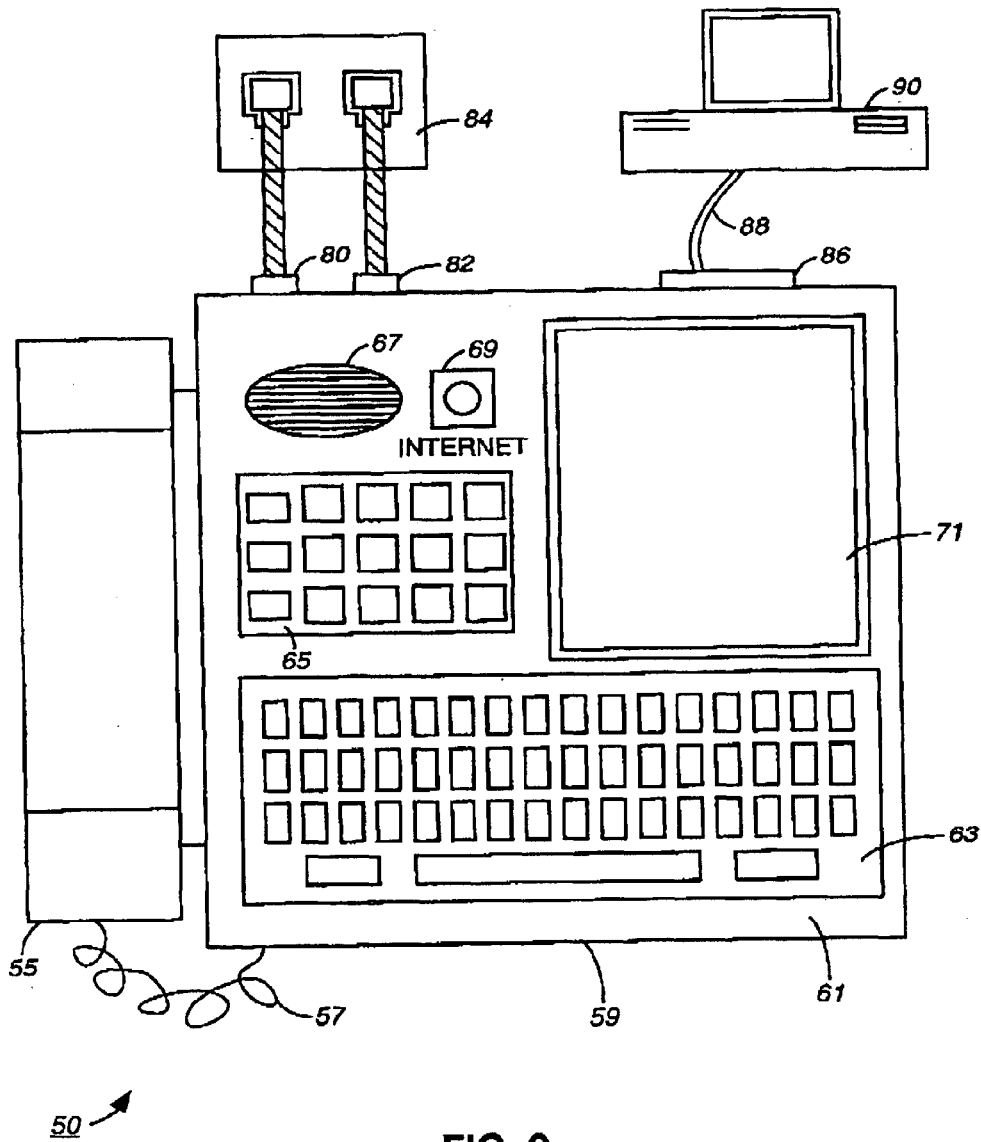


FIG. 2

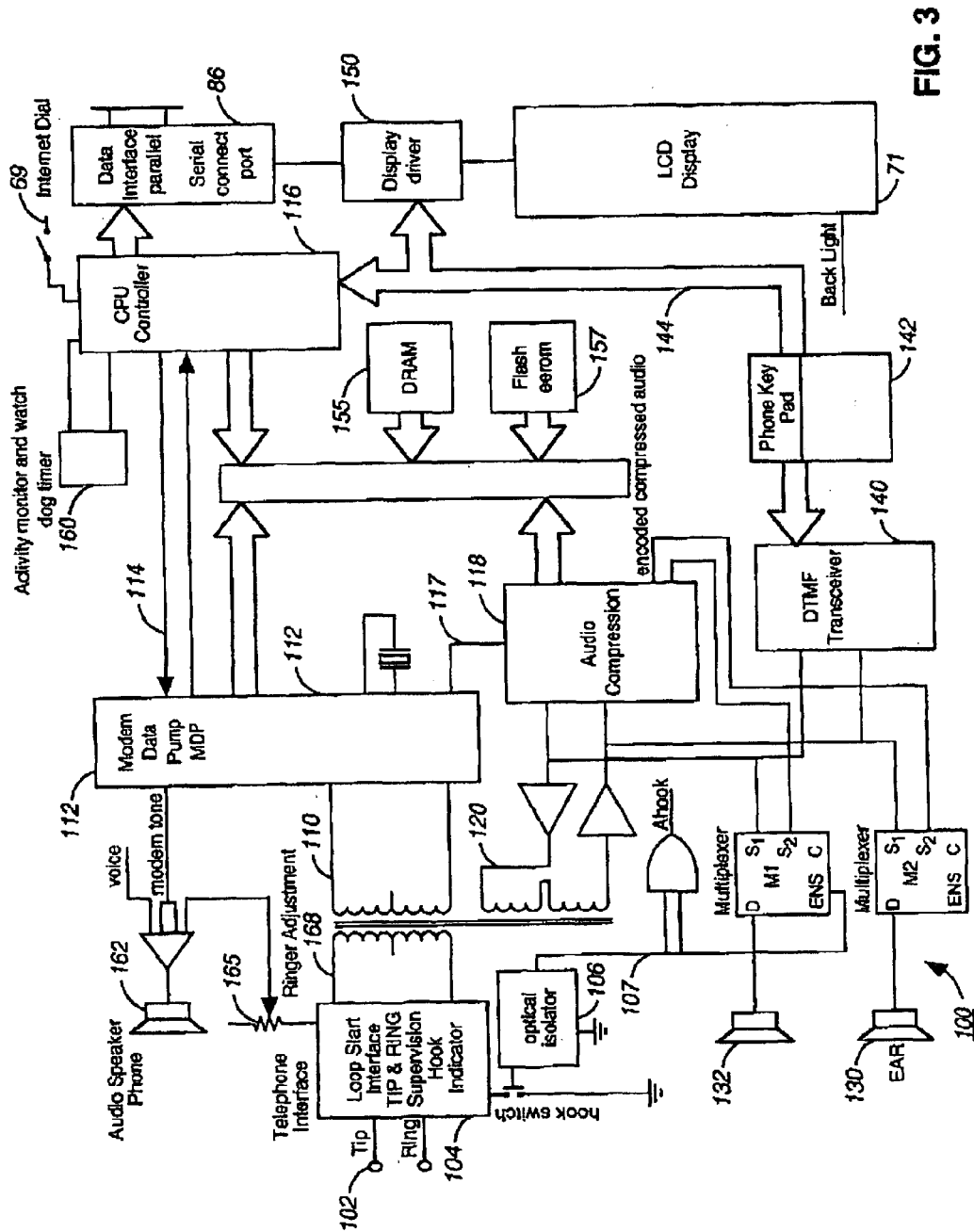


FIG. 3

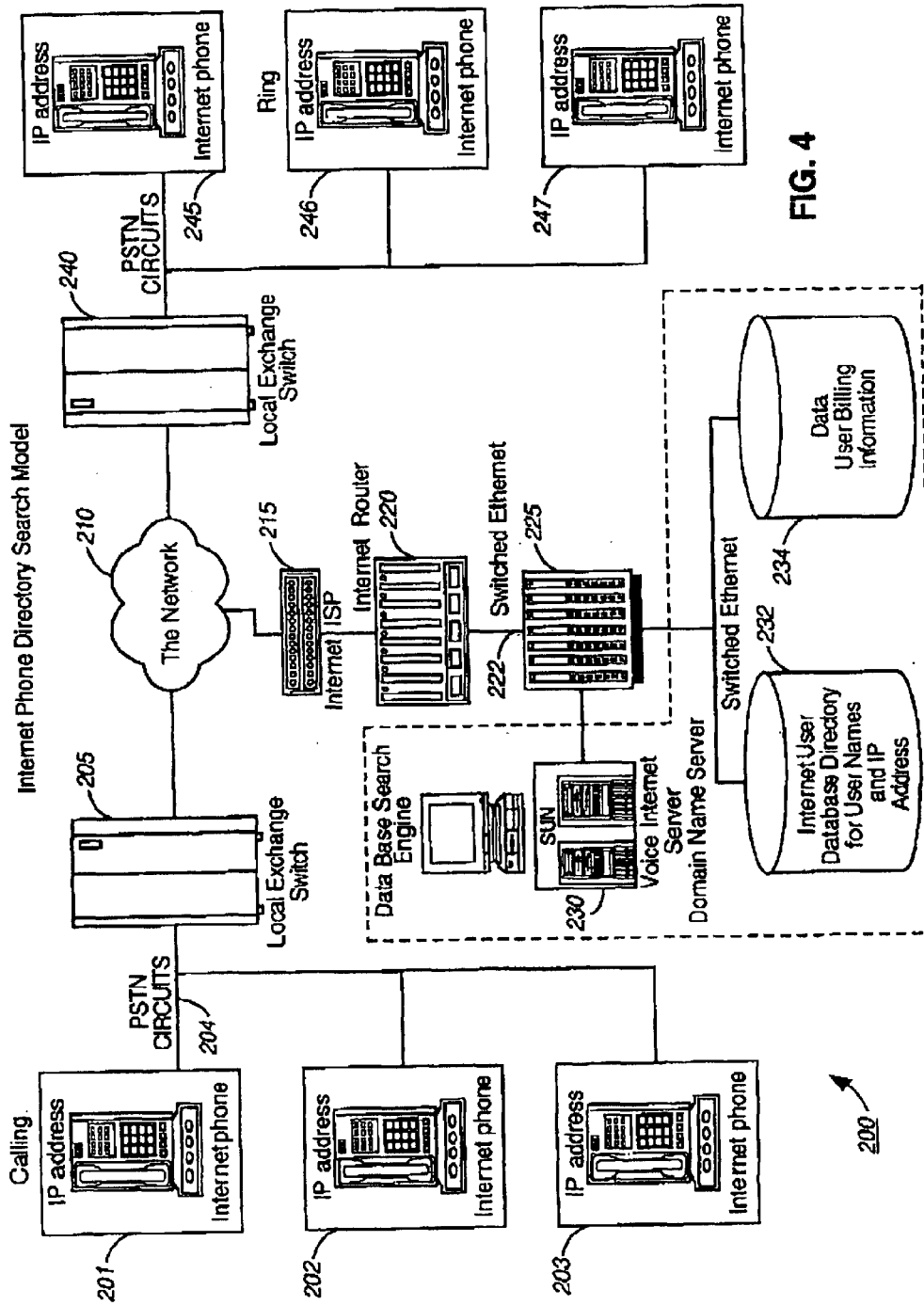


FIG. 4

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