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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:	Eggleston et al.	EXAMINER:	Luu, L.
SERIAL NO.:	N/A	ART GROUP:	2756
FILED:	04/16/98	DOCKET NO.:	PD05517AWC01
APPLICATION:	Method and Apparatus for Prestage Filtering Communications		

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Date: April 15, 1998

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment is submitted with a request for a continuation application of prior US application No. 08/574,537, filed on December 19, 1995.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

B1

40. (New) A method of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host device via a communication server, the method comprising, at the communication server:

filtering data units based on a first set of user-selected criteria to produce filtered data units;

communicating the filtered data units to the client communication unit;

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B1 Cont.

receiving a second set of a plurality of user-selected criteria, wherein the second set of the plurality of user-selected criteria has been previously prepared at the client communication unit and, when completed, has been sent to the communication server in a virtual session;

filtering subsequent data units based on the second set of the plurality of user-selected criteria to create subsequent filtered data units; and

communicating the subsequent filtered data units to the client communication unit.

2 1
41. (New) The method according to claim 40 further comprising truncating a filtered data unit if the filtered data unit exceeds a first filter size.

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42. (New) The method according to claim 40 further comprising truncating a subsequent filtered data unit if the subsequent filtered data unit exceeds a second filter size.

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43. (New) The method according to claim 40 further comprising:

maintaining a summary index of data units that did not pass the first set of user-selected criteria to produce unfiltered data units; and

automatically forwarding the unfiltered data units to the client communication unit that pass the second set of the plurality of user-selected criteria.

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44. (New) A method of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host device via a communication server, the method comprising, at the client communication unit:

communicating a set of a plurality of user-selected criteria to the communication server;

storing the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria locally in a memory;

receiving filtered data units from the communication server based on the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria;

reviewing the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria locally;

modifying the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria locally to produce a modified set of a plurality user-selected criteria;

storing the modified set of the plurality of user-selected criteria locally in the memory;

communicating the modified set of the plurality of user-selected criteria to the communication server; and

receiving filtered data units from the communication server based on the modified set of the plurality of user-selected criteria.

45. (New) The method according to claim 44 wherein the steps of communicating occurs when a virtual session is established between the client communication unit and the communication server.

46. (New) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of modifying comprises modifying the set of user-selected criteria at the client communication unit while on-line with the communication server.

47. (New) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of modifying comprises modifying the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria at the client communication unit while off-line from the communication server.

48. (New) The method according to claim 44 further comprising providing the client communication unit with several pre-defined groups of filter settings that are selectively communicable to the communication server.

49. (New) The method according to claim 44 further comprising providing the client communication unit with several groups of filter settings that are manually activated.

50. (New) A method of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host device via a communication server, wherein data units are filtered at the communication server based on a set of user-selected criteria and communicated to the client communication unit, the method comprising storing a predetermined number of user-definable filter attributes in a memory, wherein the predetermined number of user-definable filter attributes include granularity filters.

51. (New) The method according to claim 51 wherein the predetermined number of user-definable filter attributes are selectively communicable to the communication server.

52. (New) The method according to claim 51 wherein the predetermined number of user-definable filter attributes are retained at the client communication unit.

53. (New) An apparatus of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host server via a communication server, comprising, at the client communication unit:

a memory having a profile store for storing user-selected criteria;

a prestage filter unit, coupled to the memory, for filtering a data unit generated at the client communication unit using the user-selected criteria; and

a display, coupled to the memory, for reviewing and modifying the user-selected criteria.

54. (New) A method of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host device via a communication server, comprising, at the client communication unit:

filtering locally each data unit generated using a set of user-selected criteria;

forwarding the data units to the host device which satisfy the set of user-selected criteria via the communication server; and

retaining locally the data units which do not satisfy the set of user-selected criteria.

55. (New) A method of communicating data units over a wireless network between a client communication unit and a host device via a communication server, the method comprising:

filtering data units, at the communication server, based on a first set of a plurality of user-selected criteria to produce filtered data units;

communicating, at the communication server, the filtered data units to the client communication unit;

preparing, at the client communication unit, a second set of a plurality of user-selected criteria and, when completed, communicating the second set of the plurality of user-selected criteria to the communication server in a virtual session;

filtering subsequent data units, at the communication server, based on the second set of the plurality of user-selected criteria to create subsequent filtered data units; and

communicating, at the communication server, the subsequent filtered data units to the client communication unit.

Remarks:

The Applicants have canceled claims 1-39 and added new claims 40-55 in the present application. Support for the new claims are found on the following pages of the specification: claim 40-page 15, line 17 to page 17, line 12; claim 41-page 17, lines 22-23; claim 42-page 17, lines 22-23; claim 43-page 17, lines 8-12; claim 44-page 17, lines 2-6; claim 45-page 17, lines 6-7; claim 46-implied on page 17, lines 6-8; claim 47-page 17, lines 6-8; claim 48-page 16, lines 25-26; claim 49-page 16, lines 25-26; claim 50-page 14, line 15-29; claim 51-page 16, lines 25-31; claim 52-page 16, line 33 to page 17, line 2; claim 53-page 16, lines 15-18 and page 17, lines 1-4; and claim 54-page 16, lines 16-20.

Neither the Vaudreuil reference (USPN 5,621,727) nor the Emery reference (USPN 5,506,887) nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests previously

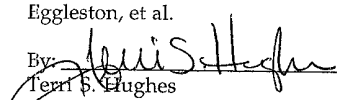
preparing a set of a plurality of user-selected criteria at a client communication unit and, when completed, communicating the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria to the communication server in a virtual session.

Moreover, neither the Vaudreuil reference nor the Emery reference nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests allowing a user to store and review the set of the plurality of user-selected criteria locally at his unit. Such a feature is advantageous over the prior art because it allows the user to remember which parameters were previously selected and allows the user to easily modify the set of the plurality user-selected criteria in its entirety or partially.

Further, the Examiner acknowledges that the Vaudreuil reference does not explicitly teach providing filtered data in response to the communication unit being logged onto the communication server in a wireless system. As a result, the Examiner relies on the Emery reference to teach delivering such information. The Emery reference, however, does not teach or suggest filtering data units generated locally at the client communication unit using a set of a plurality of user-selected criteria. In fact, the Emery reference is concerned with only applying a screening anaylsis to limit what is received at the cellular handset, not to limit what is transmitted from the handset. Thus, filtering messages locally at the unit and retaining the messages which do not satisfy the set of the plurality of user-criteria locally teaches away from the Emery reference.

In the event that the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment in particular or this application in general, the Examiner is urged to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Eggleston, et al.

By: 
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