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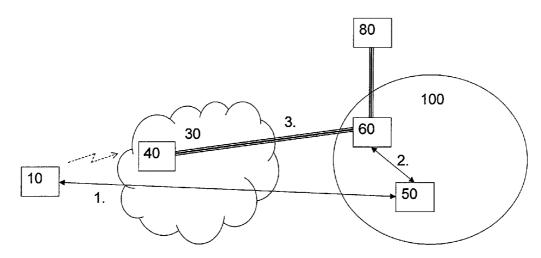
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ESTABLISHING A CONNECTION VIA AN ACCESS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method and system for establishing a connection via an access network (30) communicating with at least one user terminal, and at least one backbone network (100) comprising at least user terminal authentication and authorization means (50) and at least one user data processing node (60, 62), wherein the connection of a user terminal (10) is authenticated to the access network (30) and one of the at least one user data processing nodes (60, 62) is selected based on a selection information transferred in the authentication signaling. Then, a tunnel parameter information of the selected user data processing node is signaled to the access network (30) and a tunnel connection is created between the access network (30) and the selected user data processing node (60) based on the tunnel parameter information. By creating a tunnel connection based on a network signaling with both endpoints of the tunnel, the tunnel connection can be created between two network elements originally unknown to each other. Thus, cellular packet-switched services can be accessed over access networks which do not provide a context activation procedure or corresponding control plane signaling function.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04Q7/38 H04Q H04L12/28 H0407/30 H04L29/06 H04L12/56 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04Q H04L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category o Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. WO 02/19617 A (RIEGEL MAXIMILIAN; LUPPER Υ 1 - 36ALFRED (DE); SIEMENS AG (DE); MORPER HANS J) 7 March 2002 (2002-03-07) abstract; claims 1,12,16; figures 3-5 page 6, line 19 - line 29 page 16, line 24 - page 17, line 34 EP 0 912 027 A (LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC) 1 - 3628 April 1999 (1999-04-28) abstract; figures 3-6,35,36 page 33, line 39 - page 34, line 37 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. ° Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 02/02/2005 21 January 2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Danielidis, S

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