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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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12/912,488

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Thomas F. Doyle

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EXAMINER

D AGOSTA, STEPHEN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/19/2013

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 12/912,488	<b>Applicant(s)</b> DOYLE, THOMAS F.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Stephen D'Agosta	<b>Art Unit</b> 2643	<b>AIA (First Inventor to File) Status</b> No

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7-11-2013.  
☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-34 is/are pending in the application.  
5a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-34 is/are rejected.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 9) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

\* If any claims have been determined allowable, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see [http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init\\_events/pph/index.jsp](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp) or send an inquiry to [PPHfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:PPHfeedback@uspto.gov).

### Application Papers

- 10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

#### Certified copies:

- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |                                                                                                            |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                           | 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                                                |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed 7/11/2013 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

1. The applicant has made some very minor amendments (eg. editorial) to the claims and the examiner has modified his office action accordingly.

2. The amendments made by the applicant do not add any substantive technical limitations, hence the claims all stand rejected again.

First and foremost, the claims presented must be given their broadest, most reasonable interpretation. He notes that the claims merely put forth communicating between two different portions of a vehicle (eg. such as a truck/cab with trailer) and transmissions to/from a dispatcher. In the examiner's opinion, Hays teaches the majority of the claim limitations with the secondary art being provided to add the subtle design nuance not explicitly taught in Hays

The examiner rebuts the arguments as follows:

a. The applicant argues (pages 11-13) that the prior art does not teach a "confirmation signal" that the request was received. This is a broad concept and can be either something displayed for visual confirmation OR the support of a (manual) phone call. The prior art teaches at least supporting data/voice communications.

b. The examiner disagrees with the applicant's arguments (pages 13-14) that wired and/or wireless communications cannot be interchanged. It is a clear design choice as to which one is easier to use in different applications, the cost, the complexity, the weight, etc.. The prior art teach both can be used.

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c. The examiner disagrees with arguments (pages 14-15) that the prior art teach does not combine nor motivation exist to combine. The prior art clearly solves problems from the same field of endeavor and provide rationale as to why one skilled would seek to modify Hays with their teachings. One skilled can see that the prior art applies multiple manners in which to provide communications between two devices using wired/wireless communications and multiple networks/protocols/systems.

d. The examiner disagrees with arguments (page 15) that the prior art does not properly reject the claims since they (again) put forth many different design choices/alternatives as to HOW one skilled can implement networks using different wired/wireless technologies, protocols, systems, etc.. There are clear advantages and disadvantages to all. A design choice exists when one skilled would attempt different "obvious to try" designs with "predictable results" being the outcome. Also, "simple substitution" allows for one to replace wired with wireless networks (or vice versa) and/or how many different transceivers exist (eg. one in the cab, one in the trailer, only one overall, more than two, etc.).

3. Note that claims 17 and 19 do not have USC 112 6<sup>th</sup> issues since the "means for" put forth concepts that are a) described/limited in the spec and b) well known (eg. receivers, transmitters, displays).

4. The examiner invites the applicant to amend the claims with more technical limitations in order to set itself apart from the prior art of record.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claim 1-5 and 7-34** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hays and further in view of Smith, Umstetter and {Moore or Wortham}.

As per **claims 1, 3, 5, 7-13, 15 and 17-34**, Hays teaches a wireless communications apparatus (Abstract teaches calling device and mobile unit/called device and cellular/paging systems), the system comprising:

a first wireless communication device available to the user of a vehicle (mobile unit in figure 1) comprising a display indicator (figure 1 shows a mobile phone which inherently have display(s) for indicators, eg. incoming call, missed call, email waiting, SMS message waiting, battery level, signal strength level, service provider, wallpaper, etc.);

a second wireless communication device coupled to a network (figure 1 shows calling device #12);

a data link connecting the first communication device and the second communication device (figure 1 shows multiple links connecting to mobile unit via either cellular or paging networks);

a first wireless communication network connecting the first wireless communication device to the "network switching" center (figure 1 shows links connecting to the MTSO and UMS "centers"); and

a second wireless communication network connecting the second wireless communication device to the dispatch center, wherein when the first wireless communication device is outside of the first wireless communication network, the dispatcher can alert the user of the first wireless communication device that the

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communication is waiting or wanted by causing the second wireless communication device to send a signal to the first wireless communication device causing the display indicator to indicate said alert (Abstract and pages 2-4 show that a called device can be connected via a first network and/or if out of range, then a second network can be used (eg. paging));

**but is silent on** a dispatch center being used and forwarding/transmitting a message from one mobile to another for two-way communications (eg. Hays teaches more of a page/data message than voice) AND the first wireless device located in the cab portion and coupled, via a wired data link (to second wireless communication system) ~~a second wireless device located in the trailer portion of the vehicle connected via wired link AND satellite communications being used.~~

The use of a manned dispatch center is well known and can also be viewed as a more “manual” automated switching network such as Hays’ MTSO/UMS components. Also the Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) discloses network communications using a manned dispatch center for truck or delivery vehicles (see spec. Para #'s 2-3). Furthermore, the AAPA teaches the communication can be voice or data over the wireless network (Para #2)

The concept of mobile-to-mobile “call relay” is well known in cellular, WLAN and short-range communication.

Since Hays clearly teaches a dual-mode transceiver device (figure 1 #19, also figure 2, paging and cellular supported), the examiner need only put forth art that teaches communicating with a vehicle (trailer), eg. in a relay connection and/or a direct connection. As far as relaying communications as based on a “cab and trailer” configuration, the examiner notes that this is a DESIGN CHOICE since the location of a transmitter/receiver is not novel unto itself (eg. there is no reason why a transceiver must be located in either the cab or trailer or both when a trunk, engine compartment or “other” location would suffice as well). The examiner puts forth the following to show different configurations/design choices:

a. **Moore** shows a relay between a police officer’s transceiver, the police car “relay” and a cell tower which can connect back to the police station (see figures 1-5),

note in figure 2 the "wired connection(s)" that exist and would connect to/from the different components be they located proximate or separated in the vehicle.

b. **Wortham ('689 patent)** clearly shows a truck (cab and trailer) with a cellular transceiver located on at least the trailer of the truck (see figure 1). Figure 2 shows the actual cellular transceiver system which can act as a "relay" since it can both receive and transmit data/voice. Note that one skilled can use either WIRED or wireless links between the cab and trailer AND that many different types of communications are supported to include CELLULAR, **SATELLITE**, etc (C3, L29-46).

Hence the examiner has shown that a design choice exists for both car/truck implementations and the "relay or second communications device" can be located anywhere in a vehicle (trailer, engine, hood/car top, trunk, etc). NOTE that the "relay" capability will allow a connection even when the user roams too far away from the coverage of the "primary/cellular" limit and thusly reads on the applicant's limitation of "if/when losing a connection to the dispatch center".

**Smith** teaches a similar design as Hays in which a mobile device can be contacted via multiple different wireless/wired networks, especially if the device is out of range of a "first" network (Abstract, figure 1, Para's #10-11). Smith alludes to Satellite communications not being required since cellular provides ubiquitous coverage, hence satellite communications are taught.

Clearly the prior art teaches the concepts of relays/repeaters and use of two different wireless network protocols (eg. cellular, bluetooth, WLAN, etc) whereby a relay/repeater (or dual mode device) can receive data from one network and translate/forward it to another network and ultimately on to another end-user.

**Umstetter** teaches relaying two-way **voice** communications (see Abstract and figure 1b whereby a cordless user connects through the PSTN to another phone user). Hence, the design can utilize one-or-two wireless networks in order to convey data as well as convey voice data (instead of only paging/text messages).

Note that Hays/Wortham/Moore teach systems that include coupling to/from multiple communication systems but Wortham (fig. 2) and/or Moore (fig. 5) teach wired coupling/buses for communicating to/from multiple communication systems, which

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reads on the claim. Furthermore, one skilled understands that a device can have multiple transceivers which are connected via wired coupling (within said device) via a bus (see Hays, Umstetter).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Hays, such that a dispatch service is supported and call relay/forwarding, to provide means for forwarding a call if a certain mobile unit is out of range when a dispatcher needs to communicate with said certain mobile/user.

***With further regard to claims 8, 10, 12, 20 and 22,*** the examiner notes that the prior art teach at least verbal communication for confirmation of received delivery (See Moore) and one skilled understands that auto-reply messages can be sent to confirm delivery (See Smith, Para #17) OR even an ACK/NAK protocol can be used (such as TCP/IP) to ensure delivery of messages/packets (see Wortham, C5, L1-14).

***With further regard to claims 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 and 33,*** the examiner notes that the prior art teach multiple communication systems whereby different ranges of coverage are provided (some smaller, some larger), such as short-range, cellular and satellite.

***With further regard to claims 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34,*** the examiner notes that the prior art teach sending/receiving data messages (eg. data, verbal, etc.) that would include dispatch data for instructing the person as to communication systems to use, etc..

As per **claims 2, 4, 14 and 16**, the combo teaches claim 1/3/13/15, wherein the display indicator is selected from the group of indicators consisting of: a light, a vibration, a text display, or a ring tone (Hays teaches a "alerting message" being sent to the phone/pager, which reads on at least a vibration and/or display, eg. Missed Page indicator, as is well known in the art. Similarly, mobile phones can ring, vibrate, light up and display a message).



***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen D'Agosta whose telephone number is (571)272-7862. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jinsong Hu can be reached on 571-272-3965. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen D'Agosta/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2643