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DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the amendment filed 31 January 2020. Claims 1, 2, 8-12, 14-17, 19, and 20 are pending in this application.

Notice of Pre-AIA or AIA Status

The present application is being examined under the pre-AIA first to invent provisions.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(b):

(b) CONCLUSION.—The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor regards as the invention.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 2, and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(b) or 35 U.S.C. 112 (pre-AIA), second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the inventor or a joint inventor, or for pre-AIA the applicant regards as the invention.

For Claim 1 (penultimate line), “EPC network” appears to have antecedent basis in the claim.

Remaining claims are rejected as depending from a rejected claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, 2, 10-12, 14, 15, 17, and 19 is/are rejected under pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnsson et al. (US 2014/0036793) in view of Mgrdechian et al. (US 2011/0276412), Fodor et al. (US 2014/0122607), and Yu et al. (US 2011/0098043).

For Claim 1, Johnsson teaches a method, performed by a proximity service (ProSe) function operating in an evolved packet core (EPC) network, for establishing a wireless local area network (WLAN) proximity service (ProSe) connectivity between a first WLAN ProSe capable wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) and a second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see abstract), the method comprising:

receiving, at the ProSe function, a request from the first WLAN ProSe capable WTRU, for EPC support to establish a WLAN ProSe connection to the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU, the request including at least an identification of the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see paragraph 30: the second WTRU is identified);

transmitting, by the ProSe function, a configuration message with configuration information associated with the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU, wherein the configuration information includes: a WLAN ProSe ID that is associated with at least the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU, and timing information (see paragraphs 33, 34); and

wherein the configuration message with configuration information associated with the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU is an indication from EPC network to establish the WLAN ProSe connection (see paragraphs 33, 34).

Johnsson as applied above is not explicit as to, but Mgrdechian teaches a request including an application layer identification (ID) that is an identification of the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see paragraphs 28, 41: request from first device includes id of second device; paragraphs 45, 50, 75, 107: the id is used at the application layer).

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include an identifier as in Mgrdechian when requesting to establish the connection as in Johnsson. The motivation would be to ensure that information needed for desired functionality is provided.

Though Johnsson indicates that security information is obtained (see paragraph 27), the references as applied above are not explicit as to, but Fodor teaches that a security key is provided to the devices for a D2D link (see paragraph 100).

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to provide the key as in Fodor when implementing the method of Johnsson. The motivation would be to ensure that communications over the D2D link are secure.

The references as applied above are not explicit as to, but Yu teaches that a frequency or channel number is provided (see paragraphs 74, 83, and 91).

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include channel information as in Yu when implementing the method of Johnsson. The motivation would be to ensure that information needed for desired functionality is provided.

For Claim 2, Johnsson further teaches the method, further comprising: determining WLAN ProSe capabilities of the first WLAN ProSe capable WTRU and the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see paragraphs 27, 45).

For Claim 10, Johnsson further teaches the method, further comprising: receiving address information of the second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU at the first WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see paragraph 46: first WTRU is informed of other WTRUs).

For Claims 11 and 16, Johnsson teaches a method and a first WLAN ProSe capable wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU), comprising a receiver and transmitter (see paragraphs 53, 54) for establishing direct wireless local area network (WLAN) proximity service (ProSe) connectivity with a second WLAN ProSe capable WTRU (see abstract), the method comprising:

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