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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office



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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20503, and to the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
Michael L. Edwards

9-24-01
09960318

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation

Address: 824 Market Street

Suite 510

City: Wilmington

State/Prov.: DE

Country: USA

ZIP: 19801

Additional names(s) of conveying party(ies) Yes No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment Merger
- Security Agreement Change of Name
- Other

Execution Date: September 21, 2001

Additional name(s) & address(es) Yes No

4. Application number(s) or registration numbers(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: September 21, 2001

Patent Application No.

Filing date

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: James M. Ross

Registration No. 42,115

Address: SHAW PITTMAN LLP

1650 Tysons Boulevard

City: McLean

State/Prov.: VA

Country: USA

ZIP: 22102

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41):.....\$ 40.00

Enclosed - Any excess or insufficiency should be credited or debited to deposit account

Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

50-1390

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

James M. Ross

Name of Person Signing

James M. Ross

Signature

09/24/2001

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and

4

PATENT

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Michael L. Edwards, residing at 467 Fairfield Drive, Madison, MS 39110, (hereinafter "Assignor") has invented certain new and useful improvements in

**SYSTEMS AND METHODS TO COMPARE OPERATIONAL STATUSES OF SWITCH
FEATURE PACKAGES**

for a full description of which, reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America

Executed concurrently herewith

Executed on

Serial. No. , filed

in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and to U.S. provisional patent application(s)

Serial. No. , filed

in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; and

WHEREAS, BellSouth Intellectual Property Corporation a corporation of the State of Delaware, having its principal office and place of business at 824 Market Street, Suite 510, Wilmington, Delaware 19801 (hereinafter "Assignee") is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in, to, and under said invention and application above identified, and in, to, and under any Letters Patent that may be obtained for said invention, together with all foreign rights corresponding thereto, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that, for good and valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by Assignor from Assignee is hereby acknowledged, Assignor has agreed to sell, assign, and transfer and by these presents does hereby, sell, assign, and transfer unto Assignee the entire right, title and interest in, to, and under said invention and application above

identified and Letters Patent of the United States of America that may be obtained in respect thereof; any corresponding applications for Letters Patent and Letters Patent therefor in all other areas of the world; and any reissues, extensions, substitutions, confirmations, divisions, and continuations of any of the foregoing (hereinafter "Invention Rights"), to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of Assignee forever.

Assignor hereby covenants and agrees, for himself and for his respective legal representatives, to assist and cooperate with Assignee in the preparation and prosecution of any applications included within the Invention Rights and in the prosecution or defense of any interference, opposition, or other proceeding that may arise in connection with any applications or Letters Patent included within the Invention Rights and further to execute and deliver to Assignee any and all additional papers that may be requested by Assignee for the purpose of implementing the terms of this ASSIGNMENT.

Assignor hereby authorizes and empowers Assignee to invoke and claim for any applications or Letters Patent included within the Invention Rights the benefit of any rights to which Assignor might be entitled under international law or under the laws of any particular country (such as, without limitation, the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended) and to invoke and claim said rights without further written or oral authorization from Assignor.

Assignor hereby consents that a copy of this ASSIGNMENT shall be deemed a full legal and formal equivalent of any assignment, consent to file, or like document that may be required in any particular country for any purpose and more particularly in proof of the right of Assignee to claim the aforesaid benefit of the right of priority provided by the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, as amended.

Assignor covenants and agrees that this ASSIGNMENT and all of the terms hereof shall inure to the benefit of the successors, assigns, legal representatives, or nominees of Assignee, without further written or oral authorization from Assignor.

Assignor hereby authorizes and requests Assignee to fill in the following blanks specifying the United States Serial No. and filing date for said application above identified:

U.S. Serial No.:

Filed:

but Assignee's failure to do so shall have no bearing whatsoever upon the validity or legal effect of this ASSIGNMENT.

Assignor hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and the United States Patent and Trademark Office to issue Letters Patent to Assignee in accordance with the terms of this ASSIGNMENT.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said Assignor has hereunto set his hand this 21st day of September, 2001.

SIGNATURE: Michael L. Edwards
NAME: MICHAEL L. EDWARDS

STATE OF Mississippi
COUNTY OF Hinds

I, Bertina Fayon Dubra, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that MICHAEL L. EDWARDS, personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed, and delivered the said instrument as his free and voluntary act for the use and purposes therein set forth.

21st IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Notarial Seal, this day of September, 2001.

(SEAL)

Bertina Fayon Dubra
Notary Public
MISSISSIPPI STATEWIDE NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG. 7 2004
BONDED THRU STEGALL NOTARY SERVICE