

Title (en)
Method and system for a notification system for use with vehicular transport

Title (de)
Verfahren und System für ein Ankündigungssystem für ein Transportfahrzeug

Title (fr)
Méthode et système pour un système d'annonce dans un véhicule de transport

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Abstract (en)
A method for and a notification system (10) are disclosed. The serves method for allowing a user to define a preset notification time period when a communication is to be initiated indicating that the vehicle (19) is near a vehicle stop. The notification system (10) comprises (a) a user telephone interface (29), (b) a computer system (14) for monitoring travel data associated with the vehicle (19), and (c) a system communications interface for establishing a communication between the computer system (14) and the user telephone interface (29) when the vehicle (19) is at a location that corresponds with the preset notification time period from the vehicle stop. The method comprises the steps of: (a) permitting the user to define the preset notification time period by the following steps: (1) establishing a communication link (29') with the system communications interface; and (2) receiving the preset notification time period at the computer system (14) during the communication link (29').
The method (10) includes an on-board vehicle control unit VCU (12) for each vehicle and a BSCU (14) which makes telephone calls to passengers to inform them when the vehicle is a certain predefined time period and/or distance away from the vehicle stop. The VCU compares elapsed time and/or travelled distance to determine if the vehicle is on schedule. If the vehicle is behind or ahead of schedule, the VCU calls the BSCU, which then adjusts its calling schedule accordingly. Significantly, a calling report generator (11) in the BSCU allows a subscribing passenger to solicit a calling report from the BSCU that indicates the time and outcome of any previous notification attempt by the BSCU to the passenger telephone (29).

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