

- remote communication unit requires emergency services;
- b) determining a location of the remote communication unit;
- c) determining, based on the location, whether at least one service center exists which the remote communication unit may contact to obtain the emergency services; and
- d) transmitting an access approved message to the remote communication unit containing a service center communication number which enables the remote communication unit to contact the at least one service center if the at least one service center exists.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- f) determining whether call services are blocked;
- g) when the call services are blocked, not performing steps c)–f) and transmitting an access denied message to the remote communication unit; and
- h) when the call services are not blocked, performing steps c)–f).
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step b) comprises the step of evaluating a location area code contained within the specialized service request message which indicates the location of the remote communication unit.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step c) comprises the steps of:
- c1) determining a service provider associated with the remote communication unit;
- c2) determining a service provider communication number based on the service provider;
- c3) determining a local entity based on the location of the remote communication unit;
- c4) determining a local entity communication number based on the local entity;
- c5) making a determination of which of the local entity communication number and the service provider communication number should be used by the remote communication unit; and
- c6) choosing the selected service center communication number based on the determination.
5. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the selected service center communication number by the remote communication unit.
6. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of initiating a call setup procedure for the specialized call between the remote communication unit and the selected service center communication number.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of initiating the call setup procedure through a visited gateway of the remote communication unit.
8. A method for performing a specialized call setup procedure comprising the steps of:
- a) determining by a remote communication unit whether a specialized call has been requested, wherein a request for the specialized call indicates that a user of the remote communication unit requires emergency services;
- b) when the specialized call has been requested, transmitting a specialized service request message to a gateway, wherein the specialized service request message indicates that the user requires the emergency services;
- c) waiting for receipt of a returned message from the gateway, wherein, when the remote communication

- unit is in a location where the emergency services are unavailable, the returned message is an access denied message and, when the remote communication unit is in the location where the emergency services are available, the returned message is an access approved message;
- d) when the returned message is the access denied message, ceasing the specialized call setup procedure; and
- e) when the returned message is the access approved message, initiating the specialized call using a service center communication number contained within the access approved message, wherein the service center communication number is a number which enables the remote communication unit to contact an entity which can provide the emergency services at the location of the remote communication unit.
9. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein step a) comprises the step of determining whether a user-defined specialized call number has been dialed.
10. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein step a) comprises the step of determining whether a particular indicator has been set.
11. The method as claimed in claim 8; wherein step c) comprises the steps of:
- c1) determining whether a timeout value has been reached;
- c2) when the timeout value has been reached, ceasing the specialized call setup procedure; and
- c3) when the timeout value has not been reached, continuing to wait.
12. A remote communication unit comprising:
- means for determining whether a specialized call has been requested, wherein the specialized call indicates that a user of the remote communication unit requires emergency services;
- means for generating a specialized call request message coupled to the means for determining, which generates the specialized call request message when the specialized call has been requested by the user;
- means for transmitting coupled to the means for generating, which transmits the specialized call request message to a gateway;
- means for receiving an access approved message from the gateway, wherein the access approved message indicates that the gateway determined that the remote communication unit is in a location where the emergency services are available, and the access approved message comprises a service center communication number which enables the remote communication unit to contact an entity which can provide the emergency services at the location; and
- means for setting up the specialized call coupled to the means for receiving, wherein the means for setting up the specialized call initiates a call setup procedure, using the service center communication number, between the remote communication unit and the entity which can provide the emergency services at the location.
13. A remote communication unit comprising:
- a processor for determining whether a specialized call has been requested, wherein a request for the specialized call indicates that a user of the remote communication unit requires emergency services and, when the specialized call has been requested, for transmitting a specialized service request message to a gateway,