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located proximate said second cell so that communications in said first and second cells potentially interfere, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving channel usage requests at said first and second base stations, said channel usage requests requesting use of channels at said first and second base stations, and said requests being configured as handoff requests and new call requests;
- (b) performing pre-usage interference conflict checking at said first and second base stations in response to each of said channel usage requests;
- (c) monitoring call traffic at said first and second base stations to identify a greater call-traffic-carrying one of said first and second base stations and a lesser call-traffic-carrying one of said first and second base stations;
- (d) if, in response to said step (b), channels appear to be non-interfering, using said apparently non-interfering channels at said greater and lesser call-traffic-carrying base stations to support calls conducted in said first and second cells;
- (e) if, in response to said step (b), no channel appears to be non-interfering, refraining from using any channel in response to new call requests at said greater and lesser call-traffic-carrying base stations; and
- (f) if, in response to said step (b), no channel appears to be non-interfering, using apparently interfering channels at said greater call-traffic-carrying base station to support calls conducted in said first cell.

23. A method as claimed in claim 22, additionally comprising the steps of:

- (g) notifying said second base station of channels placed in use and removed from use at said first base station;
- (h) notifying said first base station of channels placed in use and removed from use at said second base station; and

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- (i) performing usage interference conflict checking at said lesser call-traffic-carrying base station, said step (i) being performed with respect to channels placed in use at said first and second base stations.

24. A method as claimed in claim 23, additionally comprising the step of:

- (j) if said step (i) identifies a usage interference conflict at said lesser call-traffic-carrying base station, performing an intra-cell handoff at said lesser call-traffic-carrying base station to resolve said usage interference conflict.

25. A system comprising:

- a plurality of neighbor base stations, each carrying an amount of call traffic; and
- a parent base station that is capable of communicating with each of the neighbor base stations to receive the amount of call traffic from each of the neighbor base stations, passing conflict resolution to a neighbor base station if the neighbor base station has a lesser amount of the call traffic than the parent base station, and resolving a conflict if the neighbor base station has a greater amount of the call traffic and the conflict exists.

26. A parent base station comprising:

- means for communicating with each of the neighbor base stations to receive an amount of call traffic of each of a plurality of neighbor base stations;
- means for passing conflict resolution to a neighbor base station if the neighbor base station has a lesser amount of the call traffic than the parent base station; and
- means for resolving a conflict if the neighbor base station has a greater amount of the call traffic than the parent base station and the conflict exists.

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