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Alexander Faaborg

Alejandro Kauffmann

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METHOD FOR STARTING GROUP CHAT AMONG USERS IN PROXIMITY

ABSTRACT

A method for starting group chat among users using proximity sensing in a communication device is disclosed. The application will allow quick formation of a group using proximity sensing that can be used for communication among the group members. The application for creating groups using the method illustrated can be implemented in any communication device such as phone, computer, laptop etc. or any wearable communication device such as a watch.

BACKGROUND

It is common for a group of people to communicate virtually through a group chat or chat room application. However, currently, the user is required to manually send invitations to a set of people individually for adding them into the chat room. There is therefore need for an easy method for forming a group chat for any group of members in proximity.

DESCRIPTION

The goal is to create a method for starting group chat among users using proximity sensing in a communication device. The application will allow quick formation of a group that can be used to communicate among the group members.

The method for group formation in a communication device involves setting up an application in all the devices in the group, followed by:

- Placing the devices for forming a group in proximity or in touch with one another

- Sending a user signal to the application – this may be audio or a gesture or other suitable signal
- Identifying the group of people using nearby co-presence or body area network
- Creating the group chat on identification of group members in the application

The application for creating groups using the method illustrated can be implemented in any communication device such as phone, computer, laptop etc. or any wearable communication device such as a watch. The application could be used to form groups for chat in an ad hoc manner between groups of people for any purpose.

The advantage of using the method is that the user may avoid the extra manual efforts and input for implementing step by step process for creating a group of members in proximity. Further, this method can be easily integrated or leveraged into existing communication software applications in any communication device.