

<b>Invention Title:</b>	Monetized 'gray list' for voice services
<b>Invention Summary:</b>	This invention describes a voice firewall where callers can be billed for connecting calls
<b>Invention Description:</b>	Even with the national "Do Not Call" list, marketers, politicians, and survey takers still inundate consumers with unwanted calls. With SIP and WebRTC technologies, we can do better. In this invention, incoming calls are routed to a voice firewall. The firewall compares the call metadata to a white list of contacts that should always be allowed to connect (e.g., family and friends), a black list of callers that should always be blocked, and a gray list for everyone else. If a call is routed through the gray list, the caller is prompted to enter a credit card number and billed a nominal amount specified by the customer (e.g., \$1) prior to connection - the thought is that many telemarketers will hang up. If the caller enters a credit card, the call is connected. Revenues can be split between the subscriber and the service provider. The subscriber can reverse the charge retroactively if the caller should be on the white list. Firewall policies can also be changed for different times of day.
<b>Invention Commercial Value/Customers:</b>	This invention gives operators the opportunity to launch a new service for customers. Providers could charge customers a monthly fee to enable the service and share revenue on any gray list calls. Customers get much more flexibility in how to set up their voice services. This is applicable to wireline, wireless, and Internet-based phone services.
<b>Invention Differences:</b>	I'm not aware of anything similar.