AlwaysHome

TM

Don’t Miss It When Opportunity Knocks!
The AlwaysHome™ System

1.0 Executive Summary

People today spend most of their time away from home – be it at their job, commuting, or for entertainment. If they happen to be out, they might miss the delivery of an important package or notice or even a visit from a friend or relative. Alternatively, even if they are home, people may not want to answer their door in person – they may be in the middle of an activity that they don’t want to interrupt, or located a significant distance from the door, or may have a security concern.

However, with the AlwaysHome™ System, when a visitor rings the doorbell, the system calls the owner/renter’s cell phone and provides a video and audio link that shows the owner/renter the visitor and allows them to directly interface with the visitor. Additionally, the owner/renter can remotely unlock the door from their cell phone – or even call police in case of emergency.

With the AlwaysHome™ System, the owner/renter never has to miss any visitor again. We have had answering machines and voicemail for decades now to ensure that we don’t miss a call. It’s high time that we had a system to make sure that we don’t miss opportunity knocking on our doors!
2.0 The AlwaysHome™ Interface

As you can see on the next page, the AlwaysHome™ System provides an attractive and useful interface for the owner/renter. The interface lets the owner/renter talk to the visitor while giving the owner/renter control over whether they want their own camera or microphone on. For example, some owners may only want to see the video of the visitor, but not let the visitor see video of them – and the same goes for the sound.

The interface also lets the renter know that the door is closed and gives them a button so that the can immediately call the police if necessary. The renter can also unlock the door if they want to let the visitor in.
INTERFACE
The AlwaysHome™ System

3.0 The AlwaysHome™ Door Module

The next page shows the AlwaysHome™ Door Module which fits into a standard size door opening and replaces the previous hardware. On the outside, the module has the door bell, a camera for taking video of the visitor, and a small LCD display to display the video from the owner.

On the inside, the module has a magnetic sensor that detects when the door is closed and a Bluetooth® system that communicates with the computer inside the home.

On the other hand, if the door dials the user and the user doesn’t pick up, then the door gives the visitor the opportunity to leave a voicemail on the user’s cell phone.
The AlwaysHome™ System

4.0  AlwaysHome™ Communication

The next page shows how the owner can send an “unlock” command from their iPhone to the door. As you can see, the command travels over the internet to the user’s computer and then to the door via Bluetooth®. To send and receive video, the system uses the video calling capabilities present in 3G Mobile phones. The computer essentially just calls the phone using VOIP video calling.

However, once Skype™ rolls out Skype mobile™ with video, we will be moving to a Skype™ platform. More information about Skype mobile™ can be found at this link.


5.0  The AlwaysHome™ Application

When a user buys the AlwaysHome™ System, in addition to the Bluetooth® dongle to set up the connection with the door, the user gets a software application to run on their local computer. The software application is used to confirm that communication with the door is OK, as well as to program the phone number that should be dialed when the door bell is pressed.

The camera in the door takes the video, compresses it using H.263, and then it is transmitted to the computer and to the phone.
6.0 Other Patented Systems

The CEO passed on your recommendation to search the PTO’s website, so I did. I made a list of the patents below. The CEO says that all of these patents look pretty close to what we came up with. However, the CEO says that you are the best patent attorney around and that you will be able to find a way to get us our patent without infringing on these other patents.

Patents:
US 7,593,512 B2
US 2009/0273670 A1
US 2009/0284600 A1
US 7,349,682 B1