module **172** is in turn in communication with the SMS/MMS routing system **160** for directing outbound data from the mobile device **16**.

[**0025**] In order to deliver the emergency data to the mobile device **16**, the data center **12** preferably sends a sequence of HTTP messages to the network gateway **14**. The preferred GET/POST parameters of the HTTP request are: USERNAME, PASSWORD, TEXT, PHONE, and PORT. The first two of these parameters provide access to the user's account and verify, in conjunction with the user's phone number, the identity of the user. The TEXT parameter of the HTTP request includes the emergency data to be provided, which may be divided into multiple SMS/MMS messages as described above. The PORT parameter identifies the port within the mobile device **16** through which SMS/MMS messages are routed.

[**0026**] Multiple SMS/MMS messages containing the emergency data are compiled and stored by the embedded application **162**. As the first incoming message always indicates the total number of SMS/MMS transmissions in the string, the embedded application **162** can ensure that the entire data transmission is received. Subsequent portions of each transmission contain identifying data for determining the proper order of the SMS/MMS messages such that the embedded application **162** can assemble them in the proper order.

[**0027**] An identical process is performed by the network gateway **14**, which may receive and compile multiple SMS/MMS messages from the mobile device **16** and convert them into one or more HTTP transmissions to the data center **12**. Each of the SMS/MMS transmissions is tagged with a short code at its beginning that specifies an account on the network gateway **14** as well as a unique URL to which the HTTP transmissions will be directed for storage, modification and viewing on the data center **12**. Conversely, as noted above, the network gateway **14** can be adapted for converting the SMS/MMS messages into divided HTTP transmissions for reassembly at the data center **12**.

[**0028**] The system **10** of the present invention insures that a user's emergency data is available on his or her mobile device **16**, and further that the emergency data is properly updated in a timely manner. A general schematic diagram of the system **10** of the present invention is shown in FIG. **2**, including the data center **12**, a website **20** or other network access to the data center **12**, and a plurality of mobile devices **16***a* . . . N. In preferred embodiments, the website **20** provides connection to or otherwise interfaces with the web user interface **120** described above. Similarly, the website **20** is usable by a user for accessing the data center **12**, which is in communication with the plurality of mobile devices **16***a* . . . N according to the methods described herein. The website **20** is accessible via the Internet through conventional means, including all types of networked computers, personal digital assistants and mobile telephones that are web-enabled.

[**0029**] In operation, the user can enter and update his or her emergency data on the system **10** either through the website **20** or directly onto his or her mobile device **16**. As the mobile device **16** is in regular, but not necessarily constant, communication with the data center **12**, the user is ensured of having up-to-date emergency data at his or her disposal at all times. Thus, if the user opts to enter data on his or her mobile device **16**, an SMS/MMS message containing the data will be forwarded to the network gateway **14**, converted into an HTTP format and then delivered to the data center **12**. Conversely, if the user accesses his or her data on the website **20** through the Internet, the updated data will be delivered to the network gateway **14** according to HTTP protocols, and subsequently converted into one or more SMS/MMS messages for delivery to the mobile device **16**. Alternatively, the website **20** can be configured to divide the HTTP message into multiple parts, each identifying its order of transmission, such that the network gateway **14** will convert the multiple HTTP transmissions into multiple SMS/MMS messages for delivery to the mobile device **16**.

[**0030**] According to an alternate embodiment of the present invention, the mobile device **16** can be configured with a WAP software suite that enables the mobile device **16** to have direct access to the website **20** through the Internet. As WAP is adapted for data transfer according to a protocol similar to HTTP, i.e. Wireless Session Protocol (WSP), and thus the mobile device **16** is capable of communicating with the data center **12** through the website **20** without support from the network gateway **14**.

[**0031**] As noted above, the embedded application **162** is operable on the mobile device **16**. Optionally, the embedded application **162** may be installed on the mobile device **16** at the discretion of the carrier to which the user subscribes. Alternatively, the embedded application **162** may be downloaded and installed on the mobile device **16** through the system **10** described above. That is, a user can access the data center **12** through an appropriately directed SMS/MMS message that will prompt the data center **12** to respond in kind with the embedded application **162** and associated download and installation protocols. The embedded application is preferably adapted to operate in the background of the mobile device **16** systems at all times. Additionally, under both MIDP 2.0 and Binary Run-Time Environment for Wireless (BREW) enabled mobile devices **16**, the embedded application **162** can be invoked remotely through an SMS/MMS message. Other suitable "push" technology, known to those skilled in the art of mobile networking, is also suitable for remotely invoking the embedded application **162**.

[**0032**] The embedded application **162** preferably conforms to the J2ME/MIDP specifications; and therefore it can be installed and operated on any J2ME/MIDP enabled mobile devices **12**. Such devices are commonly known to those skilled in the art. It should be understood however, that alternate software specifications and mobile device capabilities may be available through a variety of carrier services, and therefore the scope of the present invention is not limited to those configured for the preferred embodiments described herein. For example, a WAP-enabled embedded application **162** will necessarily conform to those standards and protocols that are known by those in the art for wireless Internet access.

[**0033**] In operation, the embedded application **162** may run continuously on the mobile device **16** in such a manner that the user can select and interface directly with the embedded application **162**, i.e. through an icon or menu item displayable on the display **170**. FIG. **3** is illustrative of a typical mobile device **16** that is presently operating the embedded application **162**. As previously noted, the mobile device **16** preferably includes at least a display **170** and a