



US 20040183833A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2004/0183833 A1**

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(43) **Pub. Date: Sep. 23, 2004**

(54) **KEYBOARD ERROR REDUCTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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In a mobile telephone (10) with a virtual keyboard and a touch screen (12), with individual virtual keys (22) having their own representative positions. During a selection operation to select a key (22), where the touch screen is touched becomes the selected position. The distance between the selected position and adjacent representative positions is used to decide a first set of candidate keys. These candidate keys are then used to provide a set of potential words that would result from the input of any one of those keys. A list of candidate words is then produced and displayed on a display area (26) based on the frequency of use of the words in the set of potential words and the distances between the selected position and the representative position of the keys (22). Once a key (22) is confirmed as having been selected, the offset between the selected position and the representative position of that key is used to re-calibrate that representative position.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/391,867**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 19, 2003**

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G09G 5/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **345/773**

