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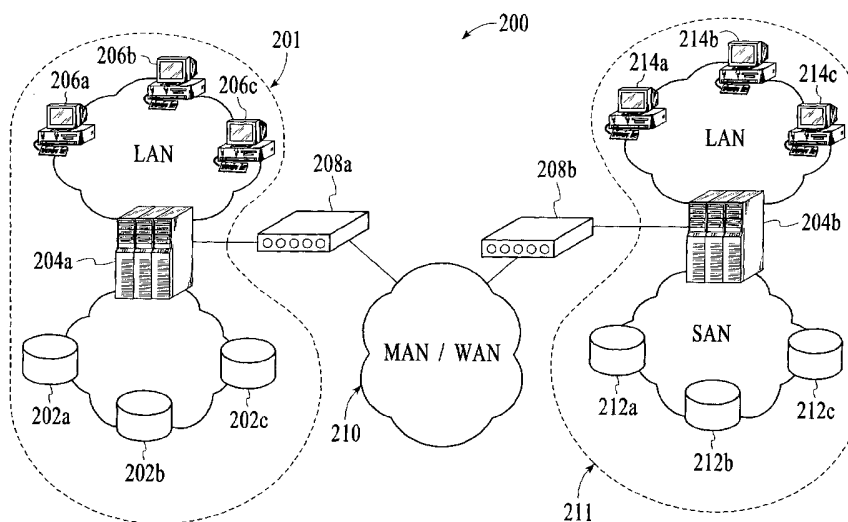
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CREDIT MANAGEMENT FOR DATA FLOW BETWEEN TWO NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A method for communication between a first device and a second device (212), wherein the communication occurs across a fabric (210) and the first device (202) is coupled to the fabric (210) by a first gateway (208) and the second device (212) is coupled to the fabric (210) by a second gateway (208). The method includes adjusting, at a first gateway, upon receipt of a readiness signal, a first device readiness indicator to indicate an increase in a number of frames the first device is ready to accept, and sending, from the first gateway to the second gateway, a first gateway readiness signal indicative of an increase in an amount of frames the first gateway is ready to accept. The method then includes: receiving, at an input buffer of the first gateway from the second gateway, a first device frame; sending, from the first gateway to the first device, the first device frame; and adjusting the first device readiness indicator upon sending the first device frame to the first device to indicate a decrease in the number of frames the first device is ready to accept.



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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/07160

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :G06F 15/16

US CL :709/232

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/232, 235-237, 246, 248 and 203

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

STN

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y,P -----	US 6,335,803 B1 (CHIMURA et al) 01 January 2002, see columns 1-2 and 12.	1-37 -----
Y	US 6,084,856 A (SIMMONS et al) 04 July 2000, see abstract and claims (claim 4, in particular).	1-37



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
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