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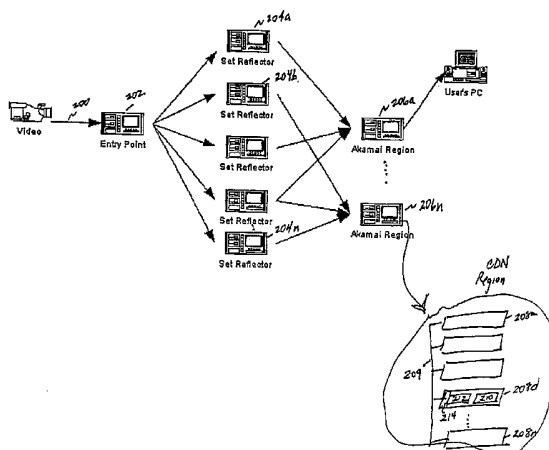
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(54) Title: STREAMING MEDIA SUBSCRIPTION MECHANISM FOR A CONTENT DELIVERY NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A reflector network is used within a content delivery network to enable requesting end users to subscribe to live streams that have been published to CDN entry points. A reflector is a generalized packet router program. The reflector network preferably comprises a hierarchy of reflectors that are located at the various entry points into the CDN, at each edge node at which requesting users may be directed by the CDN to obtain live streams, and at various "reflector" nodes located within at least one intermediate layer (in the hierarchy) between the entry points and the edge nodes. The edge nodes and each reflector node also include a manager program that arranges for feeds. When an end user is directed to an edge node that is not yet receiving the desired stream, the edge node's manager issues a subscription request to a set of reflector nodes. If the reflector node(s) are already receiving the desired stream, their reflector(s) begin sending it to the requesting edge node. If, however, the reflector node(s) are not already receiving the desired stream, their manager programs issue the subscription request to the entry point(s) to start the feed.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int ☐ lional Application No

PCT/US 01/50144

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04L29/06 H04L29/12

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)

IPC 7 H04L

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 006 264 A (NAIR RAJ KRISHNAN ET AL) 21 December 1999 (1999-12-21) abstract column 6, line 64 -column 10, line 39 ---	1-9
A	WO 99 40514 A (BALTER JAMES A ;FARBER DAVID A (US); GREER RICHARD E (US); SWART A) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) abstract page 4, line 8 -page 5, line 24 page 12, line 16 -page 16, line 21 page 19, line 19 -page 23, line 27 --- -/--	1-9



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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