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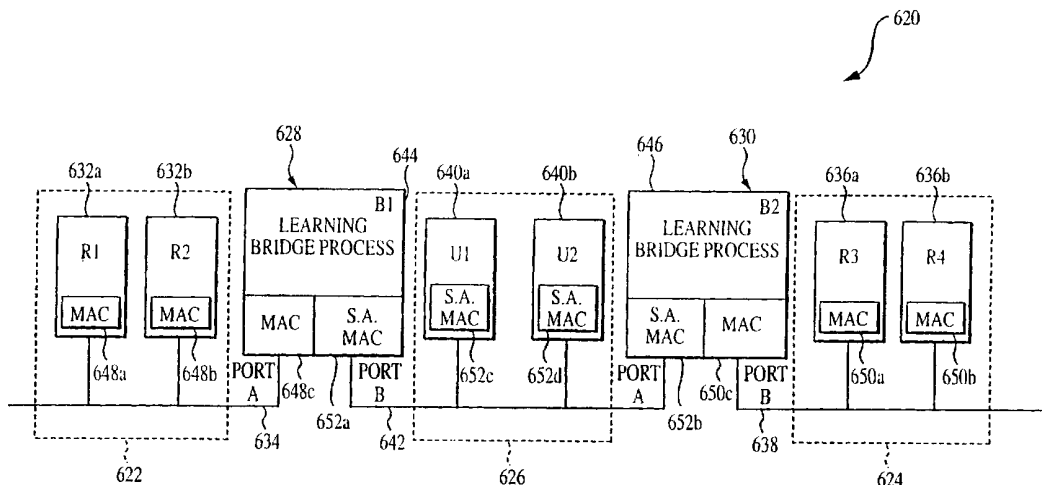
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(54) Title: SELF-CONFIGURING SOURCE-AWARE BRIDGING FOR NOISY MEDIA



(57) Abstract: A source-aware bridging scheme for supporting bridging between an unreliable network (626) and reliable network (624). Each device connected to the medium (642) of the unreliable network includes a source-aware MAC (652) that maintains BPDAlist information, a BPDAlist (666) in each station (640) and a BPDAlist (668) in a bridge (630). The bridge serves as a proxy with respect to the destination addresses and thus maintains its own list of the destination addresses for which it serves as proxy or IAPlist (664). If the device receives a frame intended for transmit and the destination address is a bridged address, the destination address is replaced with the appropriate bridge address and the frame is encapsulated with bridge information that enables the bridge reconstruct the original frame. If the device a bridge, the source address is replaced with the address of the bridge and the IAPlist is updated with the source address.



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— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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US CL :370/392, 401
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. : 370/389, 392, 401, 445, 447, 450, 474

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
~~searched~~
NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST
search terms: source routing bridge

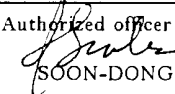
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,214,646 A (YACOBY) 25 May 1993, col.4 , line 46-col.5, line 40.	1-17
A	US 5,280,480 A (PITT et al) 18 January 1994, col. 6, line 26-col. 8, line 27.	1-17
A	US 5,448,565 A (CHANG et al) 05 September 1995, col. 5, line 11-col. 6, line 61.	1-17

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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