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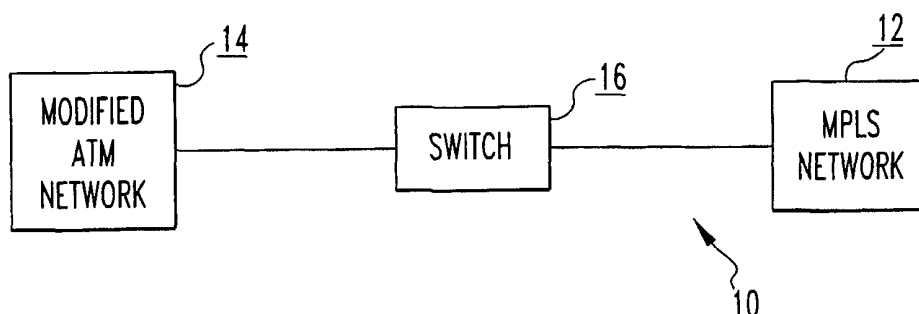
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- (71) Applicant: **MARCONI COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**
[US/US]; 1000 Marconi Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **SANZI, Rich**; 2659 Ravenwood Court, Wexford, PA 15090 (US). **WIMER, Walt**; 165 Winterbrook Drive, Cranberry, PA 16066 (US). **BUJOSA, Curt**; 623 Water View Drive, Cranberry, PA 16066 (US). **BIANCHINI, Ronald, P., Jr.**; 326 Olde Chapel Trail, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 (US).
- (74) Agent: **SCHWARTZ, Ansel, M.**; Suite 304, 201 N. Craig Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (US).
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(54) Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND SWITCH FOR AN MPLS NETWORK AND AN ATM NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A communication system. The system includes an MPLS network (12) and a modified ATM network (14) connected to the MPLS network (12) on which MPLS packets can travel. A switch (16) for switching MPLS packets and ATM cells in a network. The switch includes input ports (23) for receiving MPLS packets and ATM cells from the network. Each MPLS packet has a first label for directing the packet to a desired switch and a second label for directing the packet to a desired output port (24) in the switch. The system includes output ports for sending MPLS packets and ATM cells to the network. The system includes a mechanism for reviewing the second label while maintaining the first label with the packet. The reviewing mechanism is connected to the input ports and the output ports.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04L 12/64

US CL : 370/401

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. : 370/401, 389, 392, 352, 353, 354, 466, 467, 473, 474, 422, 426, 410.

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ----- Y	US 5,568,477 A (GALAND et al) 22 October 1996, col. 4, lines 3 to col. 12, line 35.	1-6,9-14 & 17 -21 ----- 7-8 & 15-16
Y	US 5,991,300 A (TAPPAN) 23 November 1999, col. 3, lines 31-47.	7-8 & 15-16

☐ 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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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"A" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

HUY D. VU

Telephone No. (703) 308-6602