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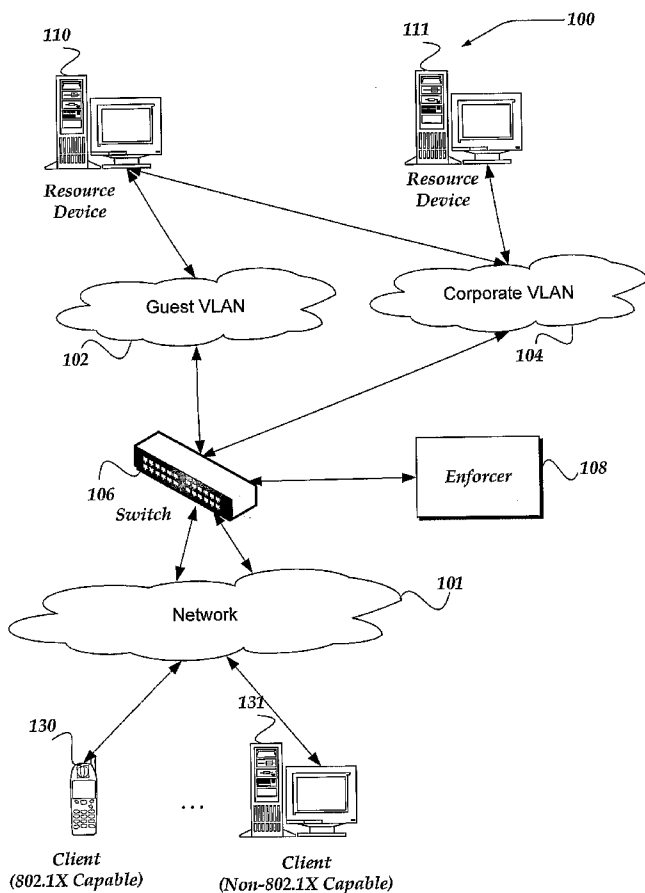
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(54) Title: ENABLING DYNAMIC AUTHENTICATION WITH DIFFERENT PROTOCOLS ON THE SAME PORT FOR A SWITCH



(57) Abstract: The invention enables a client device that does not support IEEE 802. 1X authentication to access at least some resources provided through a switch that supports 802. 1X authentication by using dynamic authentication with different protocols. When the client device attempts to join a network, the switch monitors for an 802. 1X authentication message from the client device. In one embodiment, if the client fails to send an 802. 1X authentication message, respond to an 802. 1X request from the switch, or a predefined failure condition is detected the client may be deemed incapable of supporting 802. 1X authentication. In one embodiment, the client may be initially placed on a quarantine VLAN after determination that the client fails to perform an 802. 1X authentication within a backoff time limit. However, the client may still gain access to resources based on various non-802. 1X authentication mechanisms, including name/passwords, digital certificates, or the like.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 USPTO WEST (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB); DIALOG PRO; GOOGLE
 Search Terms Used: authentication, backup, alternative, different, multiple, protocol, isolate, quarantine, network, client, port, switch, 802.1X

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2004/0255154 A1 (KWAN et al.) 16 December 2004 (16.12.2004), entire document, especially para [0009] - [0069] and Fig 1-2	1-23
Y	US 6,487,600 B1 (LYNCH) 26 November 2002 (26.11.2002), entire document, especially col 3, ln 55-67, col 7, ln 38 to col 8, ln 26, col 14, ln 14-29, col 35, ln 20-40	1-23
A	US 2004/0158735 A1 (ROESE) 12 August 2004 (12.08.2004)	1-23

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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