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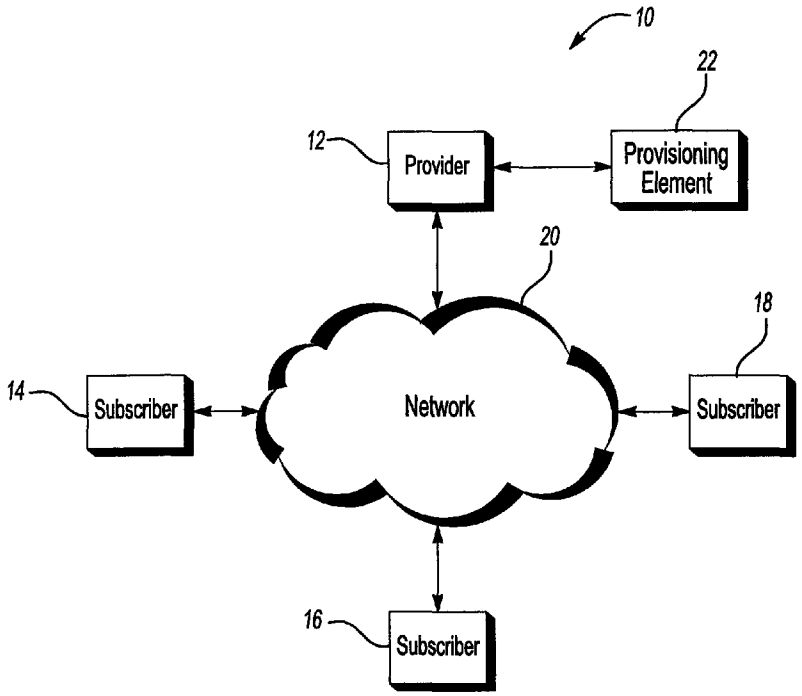
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PROVISIONING NETWORK ELEMENTS



(57) **Abstract:** Provisioning of network element with a provisioning element having a number of provisioning servers. Each provisioning server being active to support its own provisioning and to actively backup the provisioning of the provisioning servers such that operations of the provisioning servers is maximized while providing redundancy in the event that one of the other provisioning servers is lost or disabled.

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(U))*

— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(Ui))*

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USPC - 370/229
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)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC 370/229,252,254,259, 709/220 223

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
PubWEST (PGPB ,USPT EPABJPAB), Google Scholar
Search Terms provisioning network, issue instruction provisioning instruction network element, network client request, persistently issue persistently reissue, persistently reissue network address, network Identification, network ID without knowledge, without knowing

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 2002/0032766 A 1 (XU) 14 March 2002 (14 03 2002), abstract and para [0079], [0091]-[0092], [0102]-[0103], [0106], [0108], [01 13] [0124], [0129], [0143]-[0144], [0147], [0166], [0175] [0230], [0247]	1 8, 10-1 1 and 13-14 ---------- 9 and 12
X --- Y	US 2006/0159100 A 1 (DROMS et al) 20 July 2006 (20 07 2006), abstract and para [0025]-[0026], [0029]-[0030], [0034], [0036], [0038]-[0039], [0041] [0047]-[0049] [0054]-[0055], [0061]	15-26 ---------- 9 and 12
A	US 2006/0080424 A1 (SUN et al) 13 April 2006 (13 04 2006), entire document, especially abstract and para [0018]-[0025], [0028]-[0033] [0035]-[0039], [0049]-[0053] [0056] [0058] [0062]-[0063], [0067]-[0072], [0081]	1-26

D Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☐

*	Special categones of cited documents	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or pπonry date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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'E'	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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
'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)	'Y"	document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the an
O '	document refemng to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P'	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority dale claimed	'&"	document member of the same patent family

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