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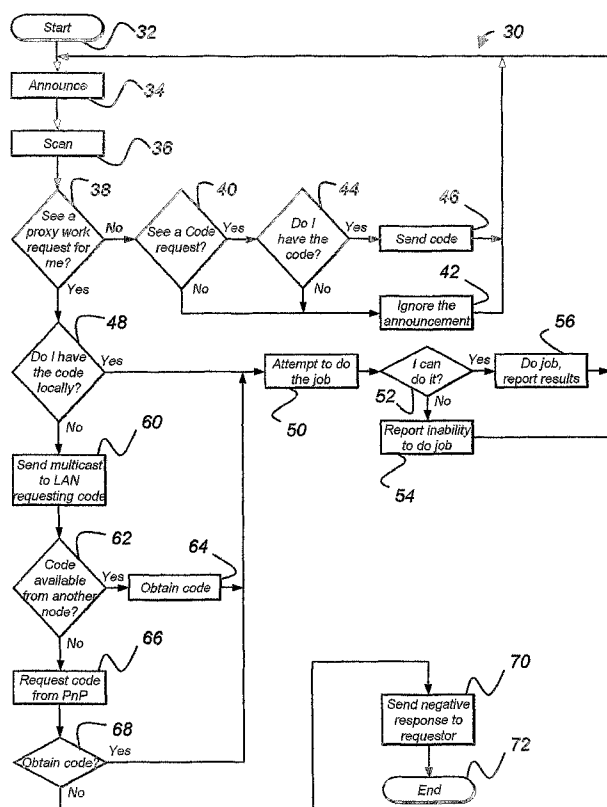
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: COLLABORATION BUS APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: Each node on the network is in collaboration with each other node through a protocol. The protocol at each node passively observes the network traffic. Upon specific predetermined patterns in the network traffic being recognized by the protocol at any one node, a report is generated based on such pattern at such node. This report may then be shared with each other node, which should have recognized the same pattern. If the report at any two nodes does not match, an error is generated based on the discrepancy contained in the mismatched report. The protocol at the node at which the error occurs can now access a knowledge base to determine if such similar error has occurred in the past. If such error is found, the protocol at the node in error can reconfigure the node to eliminate such error.



— *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

IPC: **G06F 15/177**(2006.01);**G06F 15/173**(2006.01)

USPC: 709/220,224

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. : 709/220,224

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	US 7, 184, 421 B1 (LIU et al) 27 February 2007 (27.02.2007), col. 5, line 63 – col. 6, line 32;	46, 59, and 67-71
---	col. 6, lines 22-34; col. 7, lines 44-59; col. 9, lines 4-16; col. 10, lines 7-17; col. 11, line 55 –	-----
Y	col. 12, line 20; col. 12, lines 43-60; col. 13, line 41 – col. 14, line 7; col. 14, lines 11-28; col.	7, 13, 20, 24, 31-41,
	15, line 66 – col. 16, line 15; col. 19, lines 64-67; col. 20, lines 5-8; col. 30, lines 41-62.	42-45, 47, 48 and 60-66
X	US 6,484,203 B1 (PORRAS et al) 19 November 2002 (19.11.2002), col. 3, line 2 – col. 4,	49-58
---	line 4; col. 4, line 18 – col. 5, line 9; col. 6, lines 5-6; col. 9, lines 40-47; col. 10, lines 15-20;	-----
Y	col. 10, lines 35-58; col. 11, lines 15-61; col. 12, lines 5-23.	7, 13, 20, 24, 31-41,
		42-45, 47, 48 and 60-66
Y	US 7,209,898 B2 (PFEIFFER et al) 24 April 2007 (24.04.2007), col. 2, lines 8-32.	26-30 and 42



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